

# **Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority**

Annual Performance Report

April 1, 2007 to March 31, 2008





Government of Newfoundland and Labrador  
Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority

## Chairperson's Message

September 11, 2008

Honourable Kathy Dunderdale  
Minister of Natural Resources  
Natural Resources Building  
P.O. Box 8700  
St. John's, NL A1B 4J6

Dear Minister:

In accordance with the provisions of the *Transparency and Accountability Act* for category 3 public bodies, I am pleased to submit the Annual Performance Report for the Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority based on its Activity Plan for the period April 1, 2007 to March 31, 2008.

The Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority was successful in achieving its goal for the reporting period. The Authority was also successful in furthering the Strategic Directions of the Minister of Natural Resources to improve sustainable resource development through focusing on land development.

My signature below is on behalf of the Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority and is indicative of the Authority's accountability for the preparation of this Report and for the results reported on its activities for 2007/08.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "C. MacDonald".

**Cynthia MacDonald**  
Chairperson

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## Overview

Section 3 of the Wooddale (Agriculture) Development Area Regulations under *the Lands Act* provides for the appointment of a Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority. The Authority is to be appointed by the Minister. The Authority must have at least five people which will include a Chairperson and a Secretary. The Authority may include the Regional Agricultural Supervisor (Director) as Chairperson, a representative from the Forestry Branch, Department of Natural Resources, representatives from the Agrifoods Branch, Department of Natural Resources, officers or staff from other resource Departments.

### **Authority Members:**

The Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority presently consists of the following members:

**Cindy MacDonald** – Chairperson, Director of Agriculture Business Development Division, Forestry and Agrifoods Agency, Department of Natural Resources.

**William Snow** – Secretary, Land Management Officer, Land Resource Stewardship Division, Forestry and Agrifoods Agency, Department of Natural Resources.

**Vacant** – Land Management Specialist, Land Resource Stewardship Division, Forestry and Agrifoods Agency, Department of Natural Resources.

**Bill Rowsell** – Agricultural Representative, Agriculture Business Development Division, Forestry and Agrifoods Agency, Department of Natural Resources.

**Frazer Butt** – Forest Ecosystem Manager, Forest Ecosystem Management Division, Forestry and Agrifoods Agency, Department of Natural Resources.

**Rodger Primmer** – Regional Lands Manager, Lands Branch, Department of Environment and Conservation.

### **Budget:**

The Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority receives extensive operational support from the Forestry and Agrifoods Agency. Employees of the Agency perform many day to day administrative functions. Budgetary support for operations is provided through the Agency as well.

### **Contact Information:**

Contact: Mr. William Snow, Land Management Officer, Pynns Brook. (T) 686-2702

**Mandate:**

The Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority was established to consider applications for land development in the Wooddale (Agriculture) Development Area as defined by *the Lands Act*. The Authority may approve and issues permits or notices of approval, refuse applications, cancel permits and exercise other powers necessary to assess land development applications under the regulations. For further details, please refer to Section 57 of the Lands Act; Wooddale Agriculture Development Area, Order in Council 96-181.

**Vision:**

Through assessment of applications to develop land in a manner consistent with agricultural purposes in the Wooddale Agricultural Development Area, the Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority contributes to the vision of the Department of Natural Resources, Forestry and Agrifoods Agency, as follows:

“The vision of the Forestry and Agrifoods Agency is of a province that is realizing the full benefit from its forestry and agrifoods resources in a sustainable manner.”

**Mission:**

Whereas the purpose of the Wooddale Agriculture Development Area is to protect agriculture land, the Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority’s review of development applications is consistent with the mission of the Forestry and Agrifoods Agency for the reporting period as it relates to sustainable resource management. The following is an excerpt from the Forestry and Agrifoods Agency Strategic Plan for 2006 to 2008:

“By March 31, 2011, the Forestry and Agrifoods Agency will have: implemented programs necessary to sustain the province’s forest ecosystems; identified and facilitated further opportunities for sustainable agriculture and agrifoods resource development; and optimized the benefits received from these resources.”

Through development of its Strategic Plan for 2008 to 2011, the Forestry and Agrifoods Agency amended aspects of its mission statement. A discussion of how the Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority contributes to the Agency’s revised mission is contained in the Authority’s Activity Plan for 2008 to 2011. A complete statement of the Agency’s mission is contained in its Strategic Plan.

## Outcomes of Activities

The Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority reviews applications for all proposed developments within the boundaries of the Development Area in accordance to the regulations. Applications are submitted on the appropriate forms. Applications are reviewed by the Authority provided there is a quorum of three members including the Chairperson and Secretary. All applications are given due consideration under the

regulations and are either approved or refused according to same. The applicant(s) are notified of the decision of the Authority in a timely manner. In the case of a refusal, the applicant may appeal in writing to the Minister within thirty (30) days after the applicant is notified of the decision by the Authority.

The activities of the Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority are consistent with the Strategic Direction of the Minister of Natural Resources to sustain agriculture and agrifoods development.

**Objective:** By March 31, 2008, the Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority will have carried out its functions under the applicable *Act* and Regulations.

**Measure:** Carried out responsibilities by reviewing all applications and decision rendered.

**Indicators:**

- All applications reviewed
- Applications registry updated to reflect decisions
- Decisions communicated to applicants

The Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority reviewed all six applications for farm related developments within the Wooddale area. All applications were approved. The applicants were informed of the decisions of the Authority in a timely manner. The Secretary of the Authority maintained and updated the registry of the applications.

## **Opportunities and Challenges**

The Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority expects an increase in applications based on the development of the Wooddale South Expansion Area; consequently, the number of applications for conveyances of Crown Land will likely increase, resulting in additional demands on the Authority.

## **Conclusion**

The Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority is committed to fulfilling its mandate and will continue to do its part to further the vision and mission of the Department of Natural Resources, Forestry and Agrifoods Agency.