

Humber Valley Regional Planning Advisory Authority Leadership Committee

**Activity Plan
2014-17**

Message from the Chair

I am pleased to present the three year activity plan for the Humber Valley Regional Planning Advisory Authority Leadership Committee (the “committee”), conforming to the requirements of the *Transparency and Accountability Act*. This plan will cover the period from April 1, 2014 to March 31, 2017. The committee is a category three government entity within the context of the province’s *Transparency and Accountability Act*.

In preparing this activity plan, careful consideration was given to the strategic directions of government, as communicated by the Minister of the Department of Municipal and Intergovernmental Affairs. In particular, the committee’s efforts in developing a regional land use plan for recommendation will contribute to the “community partnership” and “regional cooperation” components of the strategic direction “strengthened municipal capacity.”

As a committee, we look forward to advancing the regional land use plan for government’s consideration. My signature below is indicative of the committee’s accountability for the preparation of this three-year activity plan and for achieving the objectives of the plan.



Donovan F. Downer, PhD

Chairperson

Humber Valley Regional Planning Advisory Authority Leadership Committee

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Overview

The principal function of the Humber Valley Regional Planning Advisory Authority Leadership Committee (the “committee”) is to facilitate the development of a regional plan for the Humber Valley Regional area for recommendation to government. As such, the committee oversees the work and preparation associated with developing a Regional Land Use Plan which will help lead future growth and development in the region.

The committee was established pursuant to section 9 of the *Urban and Rural Planning Act, 2000*. In particular, the role of the committee is to:

- Identify the goals and objectives of the regional plan;
- Report back to each municipality;
- Approve and oversee the public consultation process;
- Provide municipal feedback; and
- Recommend approval of the completed regional plan to the Minister.

The committee comprises an independent chairperson and seven mayors or designates.

The current chairperson and members of the committee are:

Dr. Don Downer, Chairperson
Mayor Peter Rowsell, Steady Brook
Mayor Otto Goulding, Pasadena
Councillor Elmo Bingle, Deer Lake
Mayor Melvin Rideout, Cormack
Mayor Roger Barrett, Reidville
Councillor Mary Ann Murphy, Corner Brook
Mayor Gordon Davis, Massey Drive

Budget and Expenditures

The Province and municipalities share the cost of developing the regional plan. The Province contributed 80% of the funding and the municipalities shared the remaining 20% of the costs on a per capita basis.

Mandate

The mandate for the committee is to oversee the preparation of a regional land use plan for the Humber Valley regional planning area for government's consideration.

The mandate of the committee is prescribed in accordance with section 9 of the *Urban and Rural Planning Act, 2000*, which states:

9. (1) Where a regional authority for a regional planning area is the Minister,

(a) the preparation of a regional plan for that area shall include a procedure for consultation with the municipalities and other appropriate persons and organizations in the regional planning area; and,

(b) he or she may appoint persons to oversee the consultation procedure and development of the regional plan.

(2) Persons appointed under paragraph (1)(b) shall include representatives from each municipality and other persons and organizations that the Minister considers appropriate from the regional planning area.

To view the *Urban and Rural Planning Act, 2000* in its entirety, please visit:
<http://assembly.nl.ca/Legislation/sr/statutes/u08.htm>.

Primary Clients

The committee identifies its primary clients as those individuals, groups, or organizations who are the principal users and/or beneficiaries of the regional land use plan for the Humber Valley region. This includes: the Minister of Municipal and Intergovernmental Affairs, citizens, stakeholders and community organizations with an interest in the regional land use planning of the region.

Values

Values are the fundamental attributes that guide behaviour and decision-making. They explain the character the committee desires to promote. The value action statements ensure the core

values are visible throughout the committee by identifying specific actions that can be observed during the period of this activity plan.

The committee has chosen to adopt the values of the Department of Municipal and Intergovernmental Affairs and will communicate these values to its stakeholders through the following action statements:

Respect	Each individual accepts differences, embraces diversity and acknowledges the competencies and contributions of his or her colleagues.
Accountability	Each individual accepts responsibility for his or her actions and understands that, as public servants, they are ultimately responsible to citizens.
Innovation	Each individual focuses on finding inventive solutions and exploring best practices that benefit the overall support and delivery of the department's programs and services and advisory functions.
Collaboration	Each individual actively engages in open dialogue and collaborative efforts to achieve successful outcomes for all.
Professionalism	Each person takes initiative and demonstrates sound judgement, adaptability and excellence in meeting the challenges of the job.

Vision

The vision of the committee is of communities in the Humber Valley region with viable, sustainable municipal services led by strong local governments.

Mission

Given the committee's limited mandate, the development of a mission with accompanying measures and indicators would be redundant to the objectives which are already developed in the current Activity Plan.

Strategic Issue

Regional Land Use Plan

The Humber Valley region experienced significant growth and development in recent years. In 2009, in order to foster a more equitable system of development control in the region, the department recommended that a regional plan be developed for the area. The Humber Valley Regional Planning Advisory Authority was established to facilitate the development of the plan.

In developing the land use plan, the committee consulted with participating municipalities, as well as government representatives and other individuals and organizations with an interest in land use in the region. The committee hired a consultant to undertake various components of the development of the land use plan. A draft plan was submitted for government's consideration in winter 2011. After a comprehensive review of the draft plan, government responded to the committee requesting additional work be carried out and a finalized plan be submitted to government.

The development of a regional land use plan for the Humber Valley region supports the strategic direction "strengthened municipal capacity." The committee's efforts in developing a regional land use plan for recommendation to the Minister will contribute to the "community partnership" and "regional cooperation" components of this strategic direction. The committee will facilitate these components by engaging municipal stakeholders in the finalization of the regional land use plan that will benefit local governments, the Provincial Government and residents of the region.

Given the committee's mandate is to develop a regional land use plan for recommendation to the Minister, the committee has determined that a three-year goal is not applicable at this time.

Objective: By March 31, 2015, the committee will have submitted a revised draft regional land use plan for the Humber Valley region to the Minister.

Measure: Submitted a revised draft Regional Land Use Plan.

Indicators:

- Reviewed government's recommendations regarding the draft plan.
- Engaged consultant regarding recommended changes to the draft plan.
- Submitted revised draft plan to the Minister for consideration.

Strategic Directions

Strategic directions are the articulation of desired physical, social or economic outcomes and normally require action by more than one government entity. These directions are generally communicated by government through platform documents, Throne and Budget Speeches, policy documents, and other communiqués. The *Transparency and Accountability Act* requires departments and public bodies to take into account these strategic directions in the preparation of their performance-based plans. This action will facilitate the integration of planning practices across government and will ensure all entities are moving forward on key commitments.

The committee falls under the responsibility of the Minister of Municipal and Intergovernmental Affairs, and as such must take into consideration the strategic directions as communicated to the committee from the Minister. Each strategic direction is comprised of a number of components or focus areas. The committee must take these into consideration in the development of their 2014-17 activity plan. The relevant departmental strategic direction and associated component areas are as follows:

Strategic Direction: Strengthened Municipal Capacity

Outcome: Strengthened municipal capacity through community partnerships, regional cooperation initiatives, and stakeholder engagement.

Components of Strategic Direction	This direction is addressed in the board's:		
	Activity plan	Operational plan	Work plan
Community Partnerships	✓		
Regional Cooperation	✓		