

# **Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority**

Annual Performance Report

April 1, 2011 to March 31, 2012





Government of Newfoundland and Labrador  
Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority

### Chairperson's Message

Honourable Jerome Kennedy  
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.

The Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority was successful in achieving all indicators of its objective for the reporting period. The Authority was also successful in furthering the Strategic Directions of the Minister of Natural Resources to ensure the sustainability of the agriculture and agrifoods industry.

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 2011-2014.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "C. MacDonald".

**Cynthia MacDonald, P.Ag**  
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 Services Branch, Forestry and Agrifoods Agency; representatives from the Agrifoods Development Branch, Forestry and Agrifoods Agency; officers or staff from other resource Departments.

The current membership at the Wooddale Land Development Authority is:

Ms. Cynthia MacDonald, Chairperson, Forestry and Agrifoods Agency  
Mr. William Snow, Secretary, Forestry and Agrifoods Agency  
Ms. Stephanie Ganz, Agrifoods Development Branch, Forestry and Agrifoods Agency  
Mr. Bill Rowsell, Agrifoods Development Branch, Forestry and Agrifoods Agency  
Mr. Roger Primmer, Lands Branch, Department of Environment and Conservation  
Mr. Jason Pond, Forestry Services Branch, Forestry and Agrifoods Agency

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, located near Bishops Falls, as defined by the Lands Act. The Authority may approve and issue 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.

**Values:**

The Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority performs its duties within the following core values: integrity, respect and professionalism, collaboration, innovation, safety, productivity and timelines.

**Clients:**

The clients of the Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority are members of the general public who apply to develop land in the Wooddale (Agriculture) Development Area.

**Vision:**

Through assessment of applications for opportunities to develop land in the Wooddale (Agriculture) Development Area, the Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority contributes to the vision of the Department of Natural Resources, stated as follows:

“The vision of the Department of Natural Resources is a province that realizes the full benefit from the sustainable development of its natural resources.”

**Mission:**

The mission statement is the priority focus area of a public body over its planning cycles. The statement also identifies the measures and indicators that will assist a public body and the public in monitoring and evaluating success.

The Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority has determined that an applicable mission statement would be unduly repetitive of its mandate. It has opted to forgo development of a mission statement at this time.

The Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority considered its role in assisting the Forestry and Agrifoods Agency in achieving its mission for the planning period. The Authority has a role in strengthening and sustaining the agriculture resource by making recommendations on applications for development in the Wooddale Agricultural Development Area in consideration of direction under the regulations to ensure

development is consistent with agricultural purposes. As such, aspects of the following general statement from the mission of the Agency related to agriculture and agrifoods sectors apply to the Authority:

“By March 31, 2017, the Forestry and Agrifoods Agency will have supported programs and services to strengthen and sustain forestry, agriculture and agrifoods industry development in an innovative and economically beneficial manner.”

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 as it relates to sustainable resource management.

The Authority has determined that it has no material impact on achievement of measures and indicators of the Forestry and Agrifoods Agency’s mission statement.

The complete mission of the Forestry and Agrifoods Agency is found in its strategic plan for the period covering April 1, 2011 to March 31, 2014. The Agency’s progress toward achievement of its mission and associated measures and indicators is included in its annual performance report for 2011-12. Both documents can be found on the Department of Natural Resources’ website at: [www.gov.nl.ca/nr](http://www.gov.nl.ca/nr).

## **Activities**

The Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority contributes to the strategic directions of the Department in ensuring the sustainability of the agriculture and agrifoods industry by reviewing applications for land development in the Wooddale (Agriculture) Development Area pursuant to the Wooddale (Agriculture) Development Area Regulations.

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.

During 2011-12, the activities of the Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority supported government’s strategy as stated in the Forestry and Agrifoods Strategic Plan 2011-2014 to ensure future primary agriculture and agrifoods production through effective resource and land management. Activities also supported the strategic direction to increase agrifoods and agriculture development and diversification by overseeing land

development activities in the Wooddale (Agriculture) Development Area, thus supporting agriculture production in the area.

**Objective:** The Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority will have worked to ensure development activities in the Wooddale Agricultural Development Area are compliant with the Act and Regulations, thus supporting ongoing, sustainable agricultural development in the area.

**Measure:** Development activities are compliant with the Act and Regulations

**Indicators:**

- Reviewed all applications and rendered decisions
- Updated applications registry to reflect decisions
- Communicated decisions to applicants in a timely manner
- Monitored development activities for compliance with regulations

The Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority received and reviewed four applications for farm related developments within the Wooddale (Agriculture) Development Area. All applications were approved. The applicants were informed of the decisions of the Authority within 30 days of receipt of applications. The Secretary of the Authority maintained and updated the registry of the applications. Members of the Authority visit Wooddale several times a year to monitor development activity in respect to the regulations.

The 2011-2014 Activity Plan of the Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority is available from Mr. William Snow (686-2702), Secretary of the Authority. The Activity Plan is available on the Department of Natural Resources' website at: [www.gov.nl.ca/nr](http://www.gov.nl.ca/nr).

## **Opportunities and Challenges**

The Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority expects a similar number of applications as in previous years. It is anticipated the approval of new Crown land applications will result in the review and anticipated approval of a number of conveyances by the Authority. This provides an opportunity for the Authority to facilitate the continued growth of the agriculture industry in the Wooddale (Agriculture) Development Area.

## **Financial Statements**

Audited statements are not required as the Land Development Advisory Authority is budgeted through the Department of Natural Resources. There are no per diems, travel or other costs associated with the administration of the Land Development Advisory Authority.

## **Conclusions**

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.