Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority

ACTIVITY PLAN

April 1, 2007 to March 31, 2008
Chairperson’s Message

February 29, 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 *Transparency and Accountability Act*, I am pleased to submit a transition year Performance-Based Activity Plan for the Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority as a category 3 entity. This Plan covers the period April 1, 2007 to March 31, 2008. The subsequent Plan will be from April 1, 2008 to March 31, 2011.

The Authority recognizes the vision and mission of the Department of Natural Resources, Forestry and Agrifoods Agency, and is committed to its supporting role to ensure that plans for development within the Development Area of Wooddale (Agriculture) conform with the provisions of the Wooddale *(Agriculture)* Development Area Regulations under the *Lands Act*.

I have reviewed all strategic directions from the Minister of Natural Resources applicable to the Forestry and Agrifoods Agency and have prepared this Plan in accordance with the applicable subsection. Specifically, the Plan commits to a role in ensuring that natural resource development in the province is sustainable.

My signature below is on behalf of the Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority and indicative of the Authority’s accountability for the achievement of the goal contained in this Plan.

Respectfully submitted,

C. MacDonald

Cynthia MacDonald, P. Ag.
Chairperson
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Overview

Section 3 (3)(4) 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.

The authority presently consists of the following members:

Cynthia MacDonald – Chairperson, Director of Agriculture Business Development Division, Forestry & Agrifoods Agency, Department of Natural Resources.

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

Ian Bell – Land Management Specialist, Land Resource Stewardship Division, Forestry & Agrifoods Agency, Department of Natural Resources.

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

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

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

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.
Values of the Forestry and Agrifoods Agency

The Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority performs its duties within the core values established by the Department of Natural Resources, Forestry and Agrifoods Agency:

Integrity - Each individual will be honest, dependable, fair, credible and trustworthy. They will openly acknowledge mistakes, seek to correct them and learn from them.

Respect and Professionalism - Each individual will apply departmental legislation and policies equitably to stakeholders. They will serve our client groups to the fullest extent possible.

Timeliness - Each individual will meet specified deadlines in accordance with departmental priorities and follow through on their commitments.

Collaboration - Each individual will seek the opinions and ideas of others in the application of departmental legislation and policies.

Innovation - Each individual will demonstrate initiative and flexibility in responding to challenges and change.

Primary 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 and Mission

Given its primary clients and mandate, the Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority contributes to the vision and mission of the Department of Natural Resources, Forestry and Agrifoods Agency, by ensuring that land development in the agricultural development area of Wooddale proceeds in a sustainable manner.
Vision of the Forestry and Agrifoods Agency

The vision of the Department of Natural Resources, Forestry and Agrifoods Agency, is of a province that is realizing the full benefit from its forestry and agrifoods resources in a sustainable manner. Through its stated mandate, the Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority supports this vision.

Mission of the Forestry and Agrifoods Agency

The Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority supports the mission of the Department of Natural Resources, Forestry and Agrifoods Agency which is to promote and facilitate the sustainable development of the province’s agrifoods resources through sustainable resource development and development activities for the overall benefit of the citizens and Newfoundland and Labrador.

The mission of the Forestry and Agrifoods Agency is as follows:

By 2011, the Forestry and Agrifoods Agency will have:

(i) identified and facilitated further opportunities for sustainable agriculture and agrifoods resource development; and

(ii) optimized the benefits received from these resources.

This is a partial statement of the Forestry and Agrifoods mission. For a complete mission statement, please refer to the Strategic Plan for the Department of Natural Resources.
Goal

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.

Goal:  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 decisions rendered.

Indicators:

- All applications reviewed
- Applications registry updated to reflect decisions
- Decisions communicated to applicants in a timely manner.

Conclusion

The Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority is committed to supporting the mandate of the Minister of Natural Resources and will continue to do its part to further the vision and mission of the Department of Natural Resources, Forestry and Agrifoods Agency.
Appendix A - 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 that all entities are moving forward on key commitments.

Title: Agrifoods Sustainability

Strategic Direction: From the Forestry and Agrifoods Agency’s strategic plan.

Outcome: Effective and efficient management of our natural resources to ensure they are utilized in a sustainable manner such that the resources and economic benefits from these resources are optimized. This outcome supports Governments 2003 Policy document and the 2004 and 2005 Speech from the Throne.

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<th>Focus Areas of the Strategic Direction</th>
<th>Being addressed by other entities reporting to the Minister</th>
<th>This Direction is addressed in the Authority’s Activity plan</th>
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