Income and Employment Support Appeal Board

ANNUAL REPORT 2004-05

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Honourable Joan Burke

Minister of Human Resources, Labour and Employment



GOVERNMENT OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

Transmittal Letter

Honourable Harvey Hodder, M.H.A Speaker House of Assembly

I am pleased to submit the Annual Report for the Income and Employment Support Appeal Board, which details the Board's activities from April 1, 2004 to March 31, 2005.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Burke Minister

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INCOME AND EMPLOYMENT SUPPORT APPEAL BOARD

The Department of Human Resources, Labour and Employment has an appeal process to ensure that all persons who receive or request support are given the opportunity to have their individual circumstances reviewed.

The Income and Employment Support Appeal Board is an independent body authorized to hear appeals of decisions on Income Support and eligibility for employment supports as well as funding through the Employability Assistance for Persons with Disabilities Agreement. The Board is governed by the Income and Employment Support Act and consists of a chair, vice-chair, one regular board member and two alternate members.

The appeal process is authorized by the Income and Employment Support Act and includes three levels of review:

- The client may request the supervisor or district manager to review the decision of an officer of the Department;
- If the decision is upheld by the supervisor or district manager, the client may submit an application for Internal Review;
- If the Internal Review upholds the decision of the district office, the client may submit an application for appeal to the Income and Employment Support Appeal Board within 60 days.

Clients have the option of appealing to the Supreme Court of Newfoundland and Labrador, Trial Division, within 60 days if they are not satisfied with the decision of the Board.

The Board normally meets on a bi-weekly basis, and appeals are generally conducted via teleconference. In 2004-05, the average waiting period for a hearing was 16 calendar days.

During 2004-05, the Appeal Board met 20 times and heard 156 cases, down from 183 in 2003-04. The operations of the Board cost approximately \$86,800.00 in this fiscal year.

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APPEALS HEARD	
2000-2001	300
2001-2002	251
2002-2003	241
2003-2004	183
2004-2005	156

APPEALS HEARD APRIL 1, 2004- March 31, 2005					
Region	Upheld	Overturned	Total	% Upheld	
AVALON CENTRAL WESTERN LABRADOR	45 43 41 1	8 6 12 0	53 49 53 1	85% 88% 77% 100%	
TOTAL	130	26	156	83%	