



Digital Government and Service NL

Public Safety Appeal Board

Annual Activity Report
2021-2022

For more information:

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REFERENCE PERIOD

This report covers the period April 1, 2021 through March 31, 2022,
the fiscal year of the Public Safety Appeal Board.

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Chairperson's Message

As Board Chairperson representing the Public Safety Appeal Board, I am pleased to submit the Annual Activity Report for 2021-22. This report is prepared in compliance with the **Transparency and Accountability Act**, which categorizes the Board as a Category Three Government Entity and requires the Board to submit an annual report. The Board is accountable for the preparation of this report and the results reported.

There were no appeals received during this period. Thus, there are no corrective actions to report for this fiscal year.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alex Dugal". The signature is written in a cursive, somewhat stylized font.

Alexander Dugal
Board Chairperson

Overview

The Public Safety Appeal Board (the Board) is established under subsection 25(1) of the **Public Safety Act** (the Act) to hear appeals from persons who may be aggrieved by a decision of one of the Chief Inspectors related to the operations of various technical safety systems (e.g. electrical; boilers/pressure vessels; elevating devices). The Board, after hearing an appeal, may confirm, revoke or vary the notice, order, decision or action of the Chief Inspector. The Board is comprised of five members appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council, upon recommendation by the Minister, and meets only when an appeal has been filed pursuant to section 26 of the Act. Board members for 2021-22 were:

- Alex Dugal (Chairperson)
- Sumit Sharma
- Wayne Predham
- Pamela Frizzell

Mandate

The Board is an independent, quasi-judicial body that has the function of hearing and adjudicating an appeal. It meets when it has received an appeal pursuant to section 26 of the **Public Safety Act** and is empowered to uphold, revise and/or revoke an order or action by the Chief Inspector. Decisions by the Board are based on review of the written and oral submissions and documents. The Board's decisions may be appealed to the courts.

Vision

The Board works to ensure the fair and equitable application of its mandate as outlined in the legislation.

Revenues and Expenditures

In fiscal year 2021-22, the Board had no revenues or expenditures. The Board is funded through the operating budget of the Department of Digital Government and Service NL.

Report on Performance

This document outlines the Board's activities from April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2022, including the goals and objectives achieved as outlined in the 2020-23 Activity Plan.

Objective: By March 31, 2021, 2022, and 2023, the Public Safety Appeal Board will have processed all appeals it has received per the requirements of the Act.

Indicators:

- Appeal received from the department within 15 days of application.
- Appellant given at least 10 days' notice regarding hearing of an appeal.
- Appeals commenced not more than 90 days after notice in writing has been received by the chairperson under subsection 26(2).
- Appeal decisions rendered within 180 days after notice in writing has been received by the Chairperson under subsection 26(2)
- Decision of appeal communicated to relevant parties in a timely manner.

The Board meets only when an appeal has been filed pursuant to section 26 of the Act. No appeals were filed in the fiscal year 2021-22.

Opportunities and Challenges Ahead

- The COVID-19 pandemic has presented challenges to the Board in scheduling regular meetings. The pandemic also may have delayed technical safety system work (e.g., electrical; boilers/pressure vessels; elevating devices) and any related appeals to the Board.
- The Board will have more opportunities to meet in the coming months and years. The Board will have the opportunity to do a quarterly check-in with members to gather lessons learned and industry best practices and disseminate these to other members.
- The Board has the opportunity to advise the Minister on the application of the **Public Safety Act** and any other topics, challenges and opportunities for improvement across the region.

Financial Statements

The Board is not required to submit audited financial statements.