



Public Safety Appeal Board

**Annual Activity Report
2015-16**

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REFERENCE PERIOD

**This report covers the period April 1, 2015 through March 31, 2016,
the fiscal year of the Public Safety Appeal Board.**

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Chairperson's Message

As Chairperson of the Public Safety Appeal Board, I am pleased to submit the Annual Activity Report for 2015-16. 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 for the results reported.

There were no appeals received during this period. Thus, there is no progress to report for this fiscal year.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Robert Forbes".

Robert G. Forbes, P. Eng.
Chairperson

Overview

The Public Safety Appeal 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.

The current board membership is as follows:

1. Mr. Robert G. Forbes, Chairperson
2. Mr. Thomas Keough
3. Mr. Harry Bartlett
4. Mr. John Dunne
5. Ms. Alberta Marche

Mandate

The Board is an independent, quasi-judicial body which has the function of hearing and adjudicating an appeal. It meets when it has received an appeal pursuant to section 26 of the 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 has adopted Service NL’s vision for this planning cycle, which is as follows:

People in Newfoundland and Labrador living and working in healthy, fair and safe environments with access to efficient and responsive programs and services.

The Board supports the department’s vision by working to ensure the fair and equitable application of its mandate as outlined in the legislation.

Mission

The Board has adopted Service NL’s mission for this planning cycle, which is as follows:

By March 31, 2017, Service NL will have enhanced program and service delivery through improved standards and regulatory processes that promote living and working in a healthy, fair and safe environment.

The Board contributes to Service NL’s mission by ensuring that the regulation of public safety is carried out in a fair and consistent manner, through the provision of an appeal mechanism in relation to decisions of the Chief Inspectors under the *Public Safety Act*, pursuant to its mandate.

For Service NL's full mission statement, including its associated measures and indicators, please refer to Service NL's 2014-17 Strategic Plan available online at: <http://www.servicenl.gov.nl.ca/publications>

Values

In order for the Public Safety Appeal Board to fairly administer its mandate, it is important that a high level of trust and confidence in the independence of the board be maintained. The action statements below speak to how the values are reflected in the conduct of the Board.

Integrity: Each individual engages in ethical behaviour and exercises the proper use of authority and responsibility.

Collaboration: Each individual supports others through communication and consultation with co-workers, industry partners and the public.

Accountability: Each individual accepts responsibility for their actions and is responsive to meeting public needs and delivering on departmental commitments in a timely, efficient and satisfactory manner.

Respect: Each individual accepts differences, embraces diversity and exercises a caring attitude in their encounters with others.

Excellence: Each individual demonstrates excellence in providing service to the public.

Primary Clients

The Public Safety Appeal Board's clients are the manufacturers, operators, and/or installers of various systems, such as electrical, boilers/pressure vessels and compressed gas systems, elevating devices, and amusement rides, who believe they have been aggrieved by a decision of the Chief Inspector.

Revenues and Expenditures

In fiscal year 2014-15, the Public Safety Appeal Board had no revenues or expenditures. The Public Safety Appeal Board is not required to submit audited financial statements.

Activities

The Public Safety Appeal Board meets only when an appeal has been filed pursuant to section 26 of the *Public Safety Act*. No appeals were filed in fiscal year 2015-16.

Objective One: By March 31, 2016, the Public Safety Appeal Board will have processed all appeals it has received in accordance with the requirements of the Act.

Measure: All appeals processed.

Indicators:

- Notice of appeal forwarded from the person who receives it to the Chairperson within 15 days of receipt of appeal.
- Appellant given at least 10 days' notice regarding hearing of appeal.
- Appeals commenced not more than 90 days after notice in writing has been received by the chairperson under subsection 26(2).
- Appeal considered and decided in a timely manner.
- Decision of appeal communicated to relevant parties in a timely manner.

As no appeals were filed in 2015-16, there is no progress to report for this fiscal year.

The Board will report on the same objective, measure and indicators in 2016-17.