

Newfoundland & Labrador's
Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund Advisory Council

Activity Plan 2023 - 2026

Message from the Council

I am pleased to present the activity plan for the Newfoundland and Labrador Greenhouse Gas Fund Advisory Council for the period April 1, 2023 to March 31, 2026. The Council was formed in February 2023 under the authority of the **Management of Greenhouse Gas Act** to assess applications for payments from the province's Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund and provide recommendations to the Minister of Environment and Climate Change regarding payments from the Fund. As per the **Act**, payments from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund are allocated to projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the province.

The Advisory Council is a Category 3 government entity under the **Transparency and Accountability Act**. They have prepared the following activity plan in accordance with the requirements under the **Act** for a Category 3 entity. The Advisory Council is fully accountable for the preparation of the plan, which directs the Advisory Council's work for a period of three years. The Advisory Council ensures that its objective is achievable and directly supports its mandate.

The strategic directions of the Provincial Government related to the Department of Environment and Climate Change have been considered in the development of the activity plan. Particularly, the Advisory Council supports government's efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the province and its commitment to achieving net-zero emissions by 2050. The Advisory Council looks forward to exercising its duties over the next three years.



Dr. Susan Squires, Chair

Table of Contents

- 1. Overview 1
- 2. Mandate 2
- 3. Vision..... 2
- 4. Objective 3

1. Overview

The **Management of Greenhouse Gas Act** (Sections 6 to 9) establishes the Newfoundland and Labrador Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund as an industry-funded, arms-length fund to receive monies from prescribed compliance activities under the **Act**. The Fund is designed to allocate those monies to greenhouse gas emission reduction projects led by a facility in the electricity generation, mining, oil and gas, and manufacturing sectors based on submitted applications for project proposals.

Section 8 of the **Act** provides for an Advisory Council to assess applications for payments from the Fund and provide recommendations to the Minister of Environment and Climate Change regarding payments from the Fund. The Minister may only disburse monies from the Fund after the Advisory Council makes a recommendation on an application or on unused monies that remain in the Fund after five years.

This Advisory Council must consist of a minimum of five to a maximum of seven members appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council (LGIC) including:

- at least two people with expertise in the operation of the type of industrial facilities that operate in the province;
- at least two people with expertise in climate change and greenhouse gas emission reduction; and
- a deputy minister or an assistant deputy minister of a government department or a person holding an equivalent position in government.

The members of the Advisory Council are appointed for a term of up to 3 years and are eligible for reappointment. The LGIC designates a chairperson from the appointed members. The Department of Environment and Climate Change supports the Advisory Council and provides secretariat services through the Climate Change Division. The Advisory Council is required to meet at least once a year.

Current Council members are:

Name	Term
Dr. Susan Squires (Chair)	2/10/2023 - 2/10/2026
Ms. Michelle Lethbridge	2/10/2023 - 2/10/2026
Ms. Natasha Reid	2/10/2023 - 2/10/2026
Mr. Richard Severs	2/10/2023 - 2/10/2026
Ms. Ashley Smith	2/10/2023 - 2/10/2026

In conducting its work, the Advisory Council considers:

- The impact that the proposed project may have on climate change and the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions in the province;
- The quality of the evidence provided by the operator to demonstrate that, should the project receive funding, the project will achieve a verifiable reduction in greenhouse gas emissions in a reasonable period of time;
- The scientific, technical, and operational evidence provided in support of the application;
- The cost effectiveness of the proposed project in relation to the proposed reduction in greenhouse gas emissions; and
- The incremental economic and social benefits that may accrue as a result of the proposed project.

2. Mandate

The **Management of Greenhouse Gas Act**, under section 8, provides for an Advisory Council to assess applications for payments from the province's Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund and provide recommendations to the Minister of Environment and Climate Change regarding payments from the Fund. The Advisory Council conducts its work in accordance with the **Management of Greenhouse Gas Regulations** (section 14) and the **Advisory Council Regulations** established under the **Act**.

3. Vision

The Advisory Council's vision is that the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund supports and enables cost effective greenhouse gas emission reduction projects in the electricity generation, mining, oil and gas, and manufacturing sectors throughout all regions of the province.

4. Objective

In keeping with the Advisory Council's mandate above, the following issue and objective have been identified for the 2023-2026 planning period. The Advisory Council will continue to implement and report on this objective in 2024, 2025, and 2026.

1. Assess and Recommend

Objective 1: By March 31, 2024, the Advisory Council will have assessed applications for payments from the province's Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund and provided recommendations to the Minister regarding payments from the fund.

Indicators:

- Number of Advisory Council meetings.
- Number of applications assessed.
- Number of recommendations made to the Minister.