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Humber Valley Regional Planning Advisory Authority: Leadership Committee

Annual Report 2015-16

Message from the Chair



I am delighted to present the 2015-16- Annual Report for the Humber Valley Regional Planning Advisory Authority Leadership Committee as per the requirements of the *Transparency and Accountability Act.* The Humber Valley Regional Planning Advisory Authority Leadership Committee is a category three Provincial Government entity appointed by the Minister of Municipal Affairs, in accordance with section 9 of the *Urban and Rural Planning Act, 2000.* The Humber Valley Regional Planning Advisory Authority Leadership Committee does not participate in revenue generating activities and is not required to submit financial statements.

Membership of the Humber Valley Regional Advisory Authority Leadership Committee consist of one elected and one employee

representative from each of the seven municipalities (Corner Brook, Deer Lake, Pasadena, Cormack, Reidville, Steady Brook and Massey Drive) as well as representatives from five government departments.

The Humber Valley Regional Planning Advisory Authority Leadership Committee is divided into a Leadership Committee, consisting of elected community representatives, and a Technical Committee, consisting of provincial and municipal government employees.

I am pleased to report that in fiscal 2015-16, The Humber Valley Regional Planning Advisory Authority Leadership Committee submitted a regional plan to the Minister of Municipal Affairs. Provided no further advice is recommended by the minister, the committee has completed its mandate and therefore it is anticipated that this is the final year that the committee will report on the 2014-17 Activity Plan.

My signature below indicates that the entire Humber Valley Regional Planning Advisory Authority Leadership Committee accepts accountability for the results reported herein.

Donovan F. Downer, PhD Independent Chair, Humber Valley Regional Planning Advisory Authority

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1.0 Overview

Pursuant to section 9 of the *Urban and Rural Planning Act, 2000*, the Minister of Municipal Affairs appointed members to the Humber Valley Regional Planning Advisory Authority Leadership Committee (advisory authority). The principal function of the advisory authority is to facilitate the development of the Humber Valley Region regional land use plan for recommendation to government. As such, the advisory authority oversees the work and preparation associated with development of a plan that will help lead future growth and development in the region.

The advisory authority is composed of seven mayors or designates; senior representatives of each of the seven participating municipalities, and seven senior directors or designates from the five Provincial Government departments with a mandate in land use. The advisory authority is divided into two committees: the leadership (Board) and the technical committee. An independent chair, leading both committees, was appointed in March 2009. A Department of Municipal Affairs representative sits on both committees.

1.1 Membership

Leadership Committee (Board)

Donovan F. Downer, the independent board chair, and the leadership members named below represent the composition of the board as of March 31, 2016. A leadership team facilitates the development of the regional plan for the Humber Valley Region for recommendation to government and is comprised of the mayor or a councillor from each of the seven municipalities within the region:

Mayor Peter Rowsell	Town of Steady Brook	
Mayor Otto Goulding	Town of Pasadena	
Councillor Elmo Bingle	Town of Deer Lake	
Mayor Melvin Rideout	Town of Cormack	
Mayor Roger Barrett	Town of Reidville	
Councillor Mary Ann MurphyCity of Corner Brook		
Mayor Gordon Davis	Town of Massey Drive	
Corrie Davis	Municipal Affairs Representative	

Technical Committee

A technical team composed of a town office representative or designate from each of the seven municipalities and at least one senior representative or designate from five different government departments:

Technical Committee			
Municipality Represented	Name of Representative		
Corner Brook	Paul Barnable		
Cormack	Tracey Hewitt		
Deer Lake	Maxine Hayden		
Massey Drive	Rodger Hunt		
Reidville	Connie Reid		
Steady Brook	Candace Austin		
Pasadena	Brian Hudson		
Provincial Government Department			
Business, Tourism, Culture and Rural Development	Paul Taylor		
Environment & Conservation: Water Resources	Christa Ramsay		
Municipal Affairs			
Land Use Planning	Corrie Davis		
Crown Lands	Jonathan Grandy		
Forestry and Agrifoods Agency			
Western Regional Services	Bert Frampton		
Land Resource Stewardship	Jennifer Eustace		
Service Newfoundland and Labrador	Butch Vardy		

The following diagram provides information on the hierarchy of advising responsibility with respect to the operation of the two committees of the advisory authority and the path of recommendations with respect to the regional plan:



In accordance with section 9 of the *Urban and Rural Planning Act, 2000,* the minister has the ultimate authority over the regional plan.

1.2 Budget and Expenditures

Prior to commencing the project, the Provincial Government and municipalities agreed to share the estimated \$400,000 cost of developing the regional plan: 80 per cent Provincial Government and 20 per cent to be shared according to 2006 population statistics for the seven municipalities in the Humber Valley. The independent chair Donovan Downer is also the chair of the Western Regional Service Board. The Western Regional Service Board manages the finances on behalf of the Board.

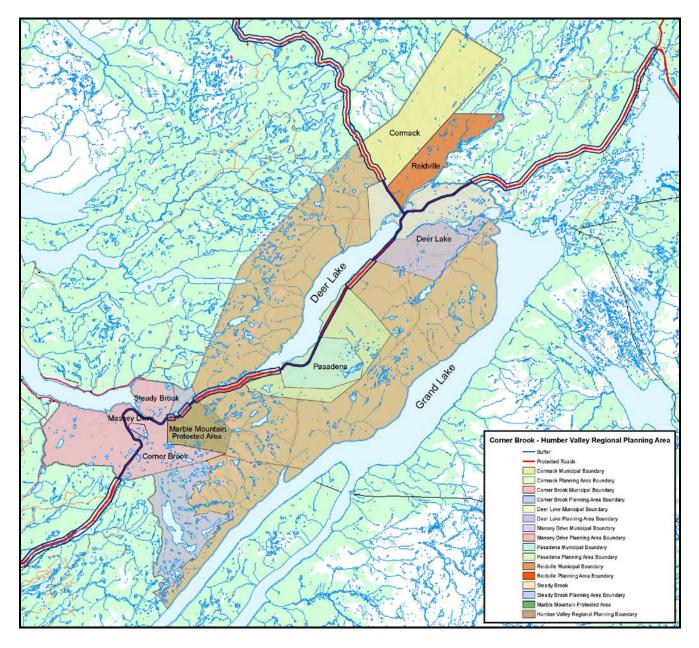
The advisory authority does not participate in revenue generating activities and does not submit audited financial statements. The advisory authority began the fiscal year (2015-16) with a balance of \$8,972 and ended the year with a balance of \$3,600 (as of May 31, 2016). Expenses incurred include meeting expenses and chair compensation expenses in accordance with Provincial Government policies.

Breakdown of expenditures during this fiscal year:		
Chair Payroll:	-\$3,607.54	
CBCL Travel Expense:	-\$949.18	
Chair Travel Expense:	-\$705.28	
Website Expenses:	-\$160.25	
Interest Earned:	+\$50.10	
TOTAL:	-\$5,372.15	
Starting Balance as of May 1, 2015:	\$8,972.08	
Subtract Fiscal Expenditures:	<u>-\$5,372.15</u>	
Balance as of May 31, 2016:	\$3,599.9 <u>3</u>	

1.3 Contact Information

Humber Valley Regional Planning Advisory		
Authority		
14 Main Street, Suite 203		
Corner Brook, NL A2H 2Y6		
Tel: (709) 632-2922		
Email: info@wrwm.ca		
Website: www.cbhvregionalplan.ca		

Department of Municipal Affairs Land Use Planning Section P.O. Box 8700 St. John's, NL A1B 4J6 Tel. (709) 729-5677



Map of the Humber Valley Regional Planning Area

1.4 Mandate

The mandate for the advisory authority is as follows:

To oversee the preparation of a regional plan for the Humber Valley Regional Planning Area for government's consideration.

The advisory authority derives its mandate from section 9 of the Urban and Rural Planning Act, 2000:

- 9. (1) Where a regional authority for a regional planning area is the minister,
 - (a) the preparation of a regional plan for that area shall include a procedure for consultation with the municipalities and other appropriate persons and organizations in the regional planning area, and
 - (b) he or she may appoint persons to oversee the consultation procedure and development of the regional plan.
 - (2) Persons appointed under paragraph (1)(b) shall include representatives from each municipality and other persons and organizations that the minister considers appropriate from the regional planning area.

To view the *Urban and Rural Planning Act, 2000* in its entirety, please visit <u>http://www.assembly.nl.ca/legislation/sr/statutes/u08.htm</u>

1.5 Vision

The vision of the advisory authority is that communities in the Humber Valley region maintain viable, sustainable municipal services led by strong local governments.

2.0 Report on Performance

Issue: Regional Land Use Plan

The development of a regional land use plan for the Humber Valley region strengthens municipal capacity. The advisory authority's efforts in developing a regional land use plan for recommendation to the minister will build on community partnerships and enhance regional cooperation.

In June 2014, the advisory authority submitted to government a draft regional land use plan for the Humber Valley region. Government reviewed this draft and, in November 2014, provided feedback to the advisory authority. The advisory authority engaged a consultant, CBCL Limited, to review the feedback and direct changes to the draft plan. The advisory authority submitted the revised Regional Land Use Plan to the minister for adoption on May 25, 2015.

The advisory authority is reporting on the 2015-16 fiscal year objective, measure and indicators as stated in the 2014-17 Activity Plan.

- **Objective:** By March 31, 2016, the advisory authority will have submitted a revised draft regional land use plan for the Humber Valley region to the minister.
- Measure: Submitted a revised Regional Land Use Plan.

Indicator:

• Regional Land Use Plan submitted to the minister

The advisory authority submitted the Regional Land Use Plan to the minister for adoption on May 25, 2015.

Given that the advisory authority's mandate is to develop a regional land use plan for recommendation to the minister, the advisory authority has reported on the same annual objective for the past two years. However, the indicators have changed as the work advanced. In 2015-16, the advisory authority submitted a regional plan for the minister's consideration. It is anticipated that this is the final report the advisory authority will submit on its 2014-17- Activity Plan unless there is further advice from the minister. In the event that the committee is activated in 2016-17 to provide further advice, the 2016-17 measure and indicator is as follows:

Measure: Actioned advice from the Minister

Indicator:

- Re-engaged a consultant to review the advice and direct changes to the draft plan
- Re-submit the Regional Land Use Plan to the minister for adoption

3.0 Opportunities and Challenges

The Humber Valley is the regional centre for commercial, industrial and government services for the western part of the Island portion of Newfoundland and Labrador. It is an area that has experienced significant growth in the past decade and this growth is expected to continue. Much of the growth has occurred outside areas of municipal jurisdiction within the region and consistency in land use and development policies will enhance the region's ability to transition during times of population change.

Economic opportunities in other areas of the province such as mining, oil development, and tourism, both rely on and benefit the Humber Valley Region. Consistency in land use and development policies will reduce regulatory requirements for businesses wishing to set up or expand across municipal borders, thereby encouraging continued economic development for all community partners.