Minister’s Advisory Committee on Labrador Transportation

2008-09 Annual Report
I am pleased to present the 2008-09 Annual Report for the Minister’s Advisory Committee on Labrador Transportation. This report was prepared in accordance with the Transparency and Accountability Act and provides an overview of the Committee’s activities and accomplishments during the past fiscal year. Along with my fellow Committee members, I am accountable for this report and the results contained herein.

The Committee consists of myself, as Chair, and eight volunteers representing business and consumers in the various regions of Labrador. As part of its mandate, the Committee provides a two-way forum to share views and provide advice on policy, programs and services, both existing and proposed, for transportation matters in Labrador. On behalf of the Committee, I would like to reaffirm our commitment to this mandate and express our enthusiasm for working together to strengthen transportation in Labrador.

As Chair, I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Committee members, both past and present, for their invaluable input and commitment to the success of the Committee. I look forward to continuing to work with the Committee in fulfilling its mandate and strengthening Labrador’s transportation infrastructure in the years to come.

Sincerely,

Trevor Taylor, MHA
Minister of Transportation and Works
Chair, Minister’s Advisory Committee on Labrador Transportation
OVERVIEW

On February 27, 2006, the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador announced the formation of the Minister’s Advisory Committee on Labrador Transportation. This voluntary committee consists of key stakeholders representing economic zones, businesses and consumers across Labrador.

Mandate

The Minister’s Advisory Committee on Labrador Transportation is a volunteer committee of key stakeholders whose mandate is:

1. To provide a two-way forum to share views and provide advice on policy, programs and services, both existing and proposed, for transportation matters in Labrador.

2. To develop a common understanding of the transportation needs of people and businesses throughout Labrador.

As implementation and monitoring of the recommendations for transportation in Labrador were addressed in Government’s comprehensive Northern Strategic Plan for Labrador, released on April 20, 2007, the Advisory Committee is not longer mandated ‘To serve as an external sounding board for Government on the development of the Labrador component of a provincial transportation plan’.

Membership

The Advisory Committee is chaired by the Minister of Transportation and Works and consists of eight members from across Labrador. Committee members are appointed for a two-year term, renewable at the Minister’s discretion, and usually convene twice per year; as deemed necessary by the Minister.

The 2008-09 Committee members were as follows:

- Carol Burden, Port Hope Simpson
- Wade Dyson, Cartwright
- Jim Farrell, Wabush
- Rick Lewis, Happy Valley-Goose Bay
- Jim Lyall, Nain
- Enid McNeill, Makkovik
- Myles O’Brien, L’Anse Au Loup
- Keith Watts, Happy Valley-Goose Bay

Past committee members include Janice Pike (Happy Valley-Goose Bay), Bridget Anderson (Makkovik), and the late Ben Michel (Sheshatshiu).

Financial Information

The Minister’s Advisory Committee on Labrador Transportation is funded through the Department of Transportation and Works’ annual budget. As such, the Department covers travel costs for committee members as well as any other miscellaneous costs associated with meetings.

Vision and Mission

Given the mandate of the Minister’s Advisory Committee on Labrador Transportation, the Committee has reviewed the Vision and Mission of the Department of Transportation and Works and adopted them where they relate to transportation in Labrador.
VISION

The vision of the Department of Transportation and Works is of a sustainable public works and transportation infrastructure that meets the economic and social needs of the province.

MISSION

Transportation and Works will have improved the transportation and public works infrastructure and services to meet the economic and social requirements of Newfoundland and Labrador by 2011.

By conveying the transportation needs of the people of Labrador, the Committee serves as a sounding board to assist Government in improving transportation services to meet the future economic and social requirements of the Province. Additional information concerning the Department’s Vision and Mission can be found in the Department of Transportation and Works 2008-11 Strategic Plan.

REPORT ON PERFORMANCE

As the Committee exists exclusively as an advisory body to Government, the Committee has not developed goals but rather a single objective that will be reported on annually throughout the duration of its 2008-11 Activity Plan.

The Committee serves as a two-way forum to share views and provide advice on policies, programs and services. Through open and candid discussions, the Committee serves as a tool for greater informed decision-making regarding transportation in Labrador.

OBJECTIVE

By March 31, 2011, the Minister’s Advisory Committee on Labrador Transportation will have provided advice to the Minister, as requested, pertaining to transportation in Labrador.

Measure: Advice to the Minister

Indicators: Number of meetings held
             Provision of advice when requested

2008-09 RESULTS

The Minister’s Advisory Committee on Labrador Transportation convened on January 14, 2009 in Happy Valley-Goose Bay. Committee members brought forward issues and concerns from the people of their respective regions and provided input on a number of key transportation issues in Labrador including: Trans Labrador Highway projects; marine services and schedules; and provincial airstrips. Through the provision of advice to the Minister of Transportation and Works, Committee members represented the businesses and residents in their region of Labrador and helped increase the Provincial Government’s awareness and understanding of transportation issues in Labrador.