June 14, 2016

Dear [Redacted],

Re: Your request for access to information under Part II of the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act [Our File #: SNL-029-2016]

On May 16, 2016, Service NL, received your request for access to the following records:

"All and any minutes and any and all recommendations of the Buildings Accessibility Advisory Board since 2010"

I am pleased to inform you that a decision has been made by Service NL to provide access to the records that the Department has on file for your request. Enclosed are the meeting minutes for the Buildings Accessibility Advisory Board for meetings held in 2013 to 2015. There are no minutes for 2010 to 2012. For the portion of your request concerning recommendations, Service NL advises that there are no additional records of recommendations made by the Board. In accordance with your request for a copy of the records, the appropriate copies have been enclosed.

Please be advised that you may ask the Information and Privacy Commissioner to review the processing of your access request, as set out in section 42 of the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act (the Act). A request to the Commissioner must be made in writing within 15 business days of the date of this letter or within a longer period that may be allowed by the Commissioner.

The address and contact information of the Information and Privacy Commissioner is as follows:

Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner
2 Canada Drive
P. O. Box 13004, Stn. A
St. John’s, NL. A1B 3V8

Telephone: (709) 729-6309
Toll-Free: 1-877-729-6309
Facsimile: (709) 729-6500

You may also appeal directly to the Supreme Court Trial Division within 15 business days after you receive the decision of the public body, pursuant to section 52 of the Act.

Please be advised that responsive records will be published following a 72 hour period after the response is sent electronically to you or five business days in the case where records are mailed to you. It is the goal to have the responsive records posted to the Office of Public Engagement's website within one business day following the applicable period of time. Please note that requests for personal information will not be posted online.
If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact me by telephone at 709-729-7437 or by email at ellenhaskell@gov.nl.ca.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

ELLEN HASKELL
ATIPP Coordinator
Minutes of the Building Accessibility Advisory Board
March 19, 2013
Delta Hotel, St. John’s, NL

In attendance:
   Danny McCann, Chairperson
   Cecilia Carroll
   Pauline Crann
   Sheila Keating
   Sharon Williams, Service NL
Via telephone:
   Reg Hedges
   Ed Smith

Regrets:
   Dennis Gill
   John Wescott

Also attending:
Donna Kelland, Assistant Deputy Minister, Service NL
Dennis Eastman, Director, Engineering and Inspection Services
Michelle Craig, Engineer III, Service NL
Jill March, Assistant to the ADM, Service NL

This was the first meeting of the Building Accessibility Advisory Board since its appointment in July of 2012. The meeting began at 1:00 pm with brief introductions around the table. Board members reviewed and approved the draft Agenda (attached).

Michelle Craig gave a brief overview (power point presentation) on the Buildings Accessibility legislation to outline key aspects. A general discussion on the presentation followed.

Board members noted a number of issues within the community, for example:
- Parking spaces and shared areas – often the shared space between two accessible parking spots (marked with diagonal lines) is misused or ignored by other drivers, making the spaces themselves inaccessible. For example, other drivers may park in the shared space, limiting access to curb cuts and wider space needed for wheelchair fitted vehicles. The shared areas are often not painted blue and the spots may be occupied by motorcycles or other vehicles.
- the square footage of accessible public washroom stalls is often not sufficient for power wheelchairs or larger/longer chairs. It would be more feasible to take all this into account during the initial construction of the building rather than afterward in renovations.
- trying to find a doctor who is accepting new patients and whose facility is completely accessible is not an easy task.
- Legislation must be clear and concise and not leave people second guessing. People who are directly affected by “building accessibly” should be consulted as they are the ones facing the day-to-day trials of problems with accessibility.
- Clarification in needed on what a building inspection includes, and a final building inspection should not be issued unless everything has been properly accounted for.
- Purchasing tickets online for an event or concert is not always possible. When purchasing non-standard tickets, one must wait to speak to an agent and tickets are often gone by the time they get to an agent.

Dennis Eastman, Director of Engineering and Inspection Services, which has the responsibility for the legislation, advised that Newfoundland and Labrador accessibility legislation includes standards for accessibility that often surpass those of other provinces as well as national standards (e.g. the National Building Code of Canada). However, he noted that despite these specific and “above average” guidelines, there is still room for improvement. As an example, there is a requirement for an automatic door opener on the outside of a building but not on the internal door (for example in a vestibule). This can create problems for people using wheelchairs and other assistive devices.

Many board members noted that these shortfalls may not be due to deliberate bias, but may often be just an unfortunate result of lack of awareness. People who face the day-to-day challenges of mobility believe common sense would help determine the layout and arrangement for facilities and amenities. Awareness and sensitivity toward accommodation may be more heightened in current times, but simple things, such as the placement of hand soap dispensers away from a sink, paper towels and hand dryers is the result of someone not using a wheelchair designing the washroom.

Other anecdotal examples include:
- Hotels often have accessible rooms, but often they are located on upper floors. In cases of emergencies, elevators are often shut down and so problems with quick exists can arise.
- Other accommodations may have well-equipped accessible rooms, but they may be situated at the far end of a long hallway.
- Roll-in showers, accessible bathrooms, grab bars, wide entrance ways, etc. are all useful features for any facility, but the actual positioning of these within the facility is most important.
- Issues often arise in smaller and/or older communities or parts of communities where older buildings are not accessible and are exempt from the legislation.
- The costs of renovation and accessible features can be a barrier for developers and business owners.

Board members briefly discussed ways of heightening awareness, for example, through education, policy or legislation, and how these can reinforce each other. The importance of education and awareness at a very young age, and of sending the right message to children, was noted.
Susan Tobin of the Disability Policy Office, with the Department of Advanced Education and Skills, presented the board with an overview of their office and mandate. The DPO was established in 2009 and works with all government departments and agencies to develop policies and programs that include people with disabilities and that are barrier free. The DPO works closely with Service NL on accessibility issues. Ms. Tobin left copies of the strategic plan, “Access, Inclusion and Equality”, for board members. Additional copies are available.

The Buildings Advisory Board has a two year appointment time frame from July 2012. Board members agreed they must focus on an activity plan and advocacy to make a difference to those with disabilities.

The next meeting will be at the call of the Chair.
MINUTES
Buildings Accessibility Advisory Board
May 28, 2014 (10:00 am)
Service NL Boardroom – West Block

In Attendance:
Cecilia Carroll, Chairperson
Sheila Keating
Ed Smith
Dennis Gill
Reg Hedges
Donna Kelland, ADM, Government Services Branch, Service NL
Catherine Shortall, Facilitator
Amanda Roberts, Recorder

Regrets:
Pauline Crann
Sharon Williams

The Chairperson welcomed the group and indicated that she hoped this would be a productive year for the Board. She then introduced Catherine Shortall of the Department of Advanced Education and Skills as the Meeting Facilitator for the day. Brief introductions then took place, followed by some housekeeping items. The Agenda for the meeting and the Minutes of last meeting (March 19, 2013) were approved.

The Minister of Service NL, the Honourable Dan Crummell, met briefly with the Advisory Board and reiterated his strong support for their work. He thanked the members for taking time away from their personal lives to serve on the Board to represent the community at large.

The facilitator, Catherine Shortall, gave an overview of the plans for the format. She then asked members to share their expectations for the meeting, anticipated outcomes for the next two to three years, and to identify specific issues/concerns
they were aware of in the community at large. A number of general topics were discussed (see Appendix A).

Work Planning

The facilitator suggested the Board focus on the development of a work plan at their next meeting. Some of the elements to be considered included:

- Advisory Capacity
- Short term vs. long term issues/achievements
- Collaboration with other stakeholders
- Where could some immediate results or “quick wins” be achieved
- How does the desire to affect change in various areas compare to the mandate to advise on legislation/regulation?
- Annual reports, Activity Reports, Work Plan

Board Accountability Requirements

Gerard Griffin of the Policy and Strategic Planning Division with SNL provided an overview of the Accountability requirements under provincial legislation and provided information on the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

The Advisory Board is required to prepare:

1. **Activity Plan** - required every three years (2014-17 is the current round) and due to be tabled by June 30th of this year. The Activity Plan must commit the Board to meeting the requirements of the Buildings Accessibility Act. It is not the same as a work plan, but rather a generalized statement of mandate, intent and high level activities (e.g. to advise the Minister).

2. **Annual Report** – due September 30th of each year. It will report on what the Advisory Board is committed to, the number of times the Board has met, and what issues were discussed/dealt with. The Annual Report will also be tabled in the House of Assembly and posted on the government website.

3. **Other items** – other items which are subject to public release include Minutes or Board meetings, and members’ names. Gerard stated he would be in touch with the Chair in the near future.
General discussion

Board members discussed the possibility of creating an Advisory Board “profile” on government’s web-site as a means of communication with the community at large. It was also noted that it was difficult to locate information on the SNL web-site with respect to the legislation that the department was responsible for. Ms. Kelland indicated that she would refer this to the appropriate contacts within the department for review.

Ms. Kelland provided board members with a brief overview of the decision-making process within government with respect to making amendments to legislation. Should the Board make recommendations to the Minister with respect to amendments to the Act or Regulations, the Minister would consider the recommendations and, if in agreement, would make a submission to Cabinet seeking approval. Amendments to the Act must be debated in the House of Assembly. Amendments to the Regulations are required to be published in the Newfoundland and Labrador Gazette.

Appointments to the Board

Members are appointed to the Board for a two year term (the current term expires in July 2014) and are eligible for reappointment. The next round of appointments provide for at least half the Board to be appointed for a three year term and the remainder for a two year term, reverting to two year terms in subsequent appointment cycles. There is also a new provision for the appointment of a Vice Chair, at the discretion of Cabinet. It is likely that this would occur during the next round of appointments if approved.

Support to the Board

There was a brief discussion around the support to the Board by the department (secretariat functions) as well as technical information and advice from staff of the Engineering and Inspection Services Division as required.

Meeting Frequency and Content

The meeting resumed at 1:30 pm after a lunch break, with round table discussion on moving forward. The following points were discussed:
• Frequency and possible locations for meetings
  o Video conferencing vs. travel – face to face meetings
  o Desire to meet at least quarterly, or more frequently if required
• Creating a profile for the Board - Who we are – what we do; where to find us (note to look at the Provincial Advisory Council for the Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities (PAC) website for ideas
• Once established – the need to develop specific agendas for meetings

Presentation by Disability Policy Office

Mary Reid of the Disability Policy Office (DPO) gave an overview of the roles of the DPO nad the Provincial Advisory Council for the Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities (PAC) and summarized the following information booklets which she distributed to the group.

1. Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
2. Words with Dignity pamphlet

The Board had a general discussion around interaction with the PAC. It was noted that the Chair of the Advisory had been invited to meet with the PAC at their meeting the following week to discuss issues of mutual interest.

Follow up required prior to next meeting (tentatively September 11 or 25th-TBC)

Board members:
• Review Legislation / Regulations
• Identify key topics for work plan discussion
• Review materials from DPO/PAC
• Consider inviting outside persons for presentations
• Developing a Work Plan outline (e.g. Goal; action; who; timelines; status; etc.)
Department:
- Secure the services of a facilitator to help develop the work plan
- Provide an overview of enforcement efforts and exemptions granted.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 pm.

Prepared by: Amanda Roberts/Donna Kelland, SNL
Approved by: Cecilia Carroll, Chairperson
Date: August 26, 2014
Appendix A
Topics and Issues for Discussion

Topics raised included:

- Level of Awareness/engagement within the community
- The need for empathy/understanding – not pity
- Whether it might be beneficial to visit certain buildings which have specialized functions, e.g. Ronald McDonald House, Daffodil Place – which appear to only meet minimum standards in spite of need
- Cost of building to Universal Design standards – whether this is a real barrier to improving accessibility within communities
- Inspectors “mobility” – whether it would be useful for an inspector to be occasionally accompanied (“ride-along”) by someone using a wheelchair to “test” real accessibility
- Hotels – whether washrooms in accessible hotel rooms are really accessible (e.g. lack of roll-in showers versus tub-type facilities)
- The need to share successes – building on those as “stepping stones”
- Whether future Advisory Board membership could include cross disabilities representation (signage/sensory; hearing)
- Whether buildings such as churches are required to be accessible
- Private residences – no mandate currently under legislation/regulations; other than multiple units (e.g. > 4 units per apartment building)
- Establishing relationships with the construction and building design industries as a means to increase awareness and willingness to build more accessible facilities (beyond minimum standards)
- How does the Board connect/relate to other work on disability related issues being done in our communities and elsewhere?

Other issues/concerns were discussed in general terms:

- Blue Zones
  - Lot size, markings and signage – compliance and enforcement
- Building Awareness
  - Changing attitudes in the community at large
- Building Entrances
  - The need for automatic door openers on interior (i.e. vestibule) doors
- Keeping pace with new technologies – updating legislation
- The adequacy of accessible washroom facilities
- Access to services being limited in many facilities, e.g.:
  - Restaurants
  - Hotels
  - Retail stores
  - Entertainment venues
- Whether passenger lifts should be permitted in accommodations such as hotels versus full elevators
MINUTES
Buildings Accessibility Advisory Board
October 22, 2014 (10:00 am)
Holiday Inn, St. John’s – Salon F

In Attendance:
Cecilia Carroll, Chairperson
Sheila Keating
Ed Smith
Dennis Gill
Pauline Crann (Afternoon Session)

Donna Kelland, ADM, Government Services Branch, Service NL
Catherine Shortall, Facilitator
Claire LeDrew (Student working with Catherine)
Barb Greeley, Recorder

Regrets:
Reg Hedges
Sharon Williams

The Chairperson welcomed the group and brief introductions took place, followed by some housekeeping items. The Agenda for the Meeting was approved. Minutes of the May 28, 2014 meeting were distributed, reviewed and approved. Catherine Shortall of the Department of Advanced Education and Skills was introduced as the meeting Facilitator for the day.

The Honorable Tony Cornet, Minister of Service NL, and his Executive Assistant, Anita Hynes, met briefly with the Advisory Board. The Minister confirmed his strong support for their work and took the opportunity to thank all members for committing their time to participate in the very important and worthwhile work of the Board.

The facilitator, Catherine Shortall, gave an overview of the plans for the format. A number of general topics were discussed by the members (see Appendix A).

Work Planning
The Board discussed a number of aspects of formulation of the Board’s work plan, including:
Who would it be appropriate to consult with in this process?
- Construction Design and Building industry
- Municipalities
- Inspectors
- Others

The work plan should have an end goal, a set of priorities and timelines established. Access to expert advice will be needed in some areas.

Deal with the “hot spots” – i.e. key issues and access “irritants” for people with disabilities

All agreed that more insight and a better understanding of the Buildings Accessibility legislation is needed

As a member of both groups, Dennis Gill would be the liaison between this board and the Provincial Advisory Council for the Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities (PAC)

Catherine suggested that the Board focus on two particular points of the work plan for the next meeting. The Board decided on:
1. Understanding the legislation and regulations
2. Engaging with public stakeholders

General discussion
In keeping with the interest in creating an Advisory Board ‘profile’ – pictures were taken of the attendees. Ms. Kelland will have a draft of each member profile prepared and sent to each member for their review before the next meeting.

Members inquired as to how changes in the Act are done. Ms. Kelland provided a general overview of the process required for making changes to legislation.

Appointments to the Board
Members are appointed to the Board for a two year term and are eligible for reappointment. The current term expired in July 2014 although, in accordance with the Act, members continue until a new Board is appointed. The next round of appointments provide for at least half the Board to be appointed for a three year term and the remainder for a two-year term, reverting to two year terms in subsequent appointment cycles. There is also a new provision for the appointment of a Vice Chair, at the discretion of Cabinet. It is likely that this would occur during the next round of appointments, if approved.
Support to the Board
Dennis Eastman, Director of Engineering and Inspections with Service NL, was available to the Board for technical questions. Concerns were raised regarding: building design and inspections; the possibility of being able to do a “ride along” with an inspector on new construction inspections; inviting key stakeholders, such as members of the building design and construction industry, government inspectors and other relevant parties to discuss accessibility of new and renovated buildings. It was agreed upon that a technical person would be made available from Dennis’ shop to attend the meeting and provide information. Dennis suggested that it would be helpful to identify the most important issues and address them in turn.

Among the other questions were:
- Legislated requirements for automatic door openers in buildings and especially vestibules – what is in the current regulations does not always work for the person using the entrance – does the regulation need to be changed or are the contractors following regulations? It appears that many of the new box stores and strip malls do not have automatic door openers.
- Accessible (Blue Zone) parking spaces – some business have moved them further away from the entrance to the building (e.g. Chapters).
- Ramps and grade of ramps is not always user friendly. Some ramps are steep – hard to get up the ramp unless assisted. Getting onto ramps is sometimes a challenge – due to raised lip – pavement does not always meet entrance.
- Who looks at this once the job is complete? Does someone with accessibility issues actually try to access a building?

Meeting Frequency and Content
The meeting resumed at 1:30 pm after a lunch break, with round table discussion on moving forward. The following points were discussed:
- Frequency and possible locations for meetings
  - Decided next meetings should be planned for December, April and July;
- Specific Agendas are required for each meeting and plan topics and who will attend (invited guests);
- Need to outline roles and responsibilities of members/board; Board requires some guiding principles;
- Mandate of the Board – need to be simplistic and clear
Presentation by Coalition of Persons with Disabilities (COPD-NL)

Kelly White and Sean Kilpatrick, both with the Coalition were invited to discuss their Blue Zone parking initiative funding by Service NL under the guidance of the Buildings Accessibility Advisory Board. The Coalition has been funded to undertake a series of education and awareness initiatives for the business (building owners) community, municipalities and the general public, including production of a brochure and a quick reference card. They are hoping this material, along with education presentations to key groups, will help further the understanding of parking space and permit requirements and the importance of compliance to ensure access for people with disabilities. The coalition is asking for input from Board members on the content and presentation of the brochure. Comments and suggestions can be submitted through Service NL – barbgreeley@gov.nl.ca by November 5th.

There was consideration discussion on Blue Zone parking:

- Issues with parking at hospitals, restaurants, shopping centers, etc.
- More municipalities/builders need to be informed on regulations and how to facilitate blue zone parking
- Just because a business/facility put in blue zone parking – does not mean it is done properly – needs to be inspected

Follow up required prior to next meeting (tentatively December 11th)

Board members:

- Review draft Blue Zone Parking brochure and submit feedback
- Review Bio when sent for profile
- Consider who they would like to invite for presentations / discussions
- How/who could help us understand the legislation better?

Department:

- Ensure Bios are prepared and send out to each for review
- Gather feedback on blue zone brochure and pass along to the Coalition
- Advise the Board on appointments once final decisions are made

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 pm.

Prepared by: Barb Greeley/Donna Kelland, SNL
Approved by: Cecilia Carroll, Chairperson
Date: December 8, 2014
Appendix A
Topics and Issues for Discussion

What is our job as board members? What do we need to do to do this properly? How can we accomplish the items as outlined on our work plan? How to address issues – are they the result of improper application/inspection or does the legislation need to be changed?

Topics raised included:

- Blue Zone configuration
  - Lot size, markings and signage – compliance and enforcement
  - Access size and van shared aisle
- Lifts vs elevators
- Full Service Gas Stations
- Interac Machines – accessibility of these machine (e.g. height)
- Some access but improper accommodation
  - Bathrooms – measurements of stalls; placement of grab bars
  - Automatic door openers
  - Location of accessible hotel rooms – e.g. not on ground level
- Emergency evacuation procedures in public facilities
- Elevation of outside entrances (specific)
- Right to use the same entrance as most of the public (e.g. schools; public buildings)
- Ramp specifications – are guidelines a reality when you actually use the ramp?
- Seating in public places – i.e. Mile One, Arts & Culture – they do not account for the person that is accompanying them to the event

The Board members felt they would benefit from Service NL expert/advisor to attend meetings. Members also indicated a desire/need to be more educated on an aware of the provisions of the legislation.
MINUTES
Buildings Accessibility Advisory Board
July 15-16, 2015
Holiday Inn, St. John’s

In Attendance:
Cecilia Carroll, Chairperson
Sheila Keating
Ed Smith
Sharon Williams
Jason Blair
Dennis Gill
Pauline Crann – via teleconference

Regrets:
Sean Kilpatrick, Vice-Chair
Reg Hedges

Secretariat:
Donna Kelland, ADM, Government Services Branch, Service NL
Barb Greeley, Recorder

Observers/Presenters:
Dennis Eastman, Director of Engineering and Support Services, SNL
Kelly White and Kim White, Coalition of Persons with Disabilities - NL
Dwayne Morgan and Alice Arnes, CNIB
Rob Menchenton, President, NL Architects Association (NLAA)
Paula Pittman and Dave Dewling, NLAA
Susan Tobin, Disability Policy Office, GNL

The Chairperson welcomed the group and brief introductions took place, followed by some housekeeping items. The Agenda for the meeting was reviewed and approved. The Minutes of the May 12-13, 2015 meeting were reviewed. Sharon Williams made the motion to approve, seconded by Dennis Gill. Approved.

Updates:
Dennis Gill gave update on the June 18-19, 2015 meeting of the Provincial Advisory Council for the Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities.

Dennis Eastman gave an update on some parking space issues that were raised by members at the last meeting. Discussions have been held with property owners / managers to resolve the issues. Members raised two additional issues regarding
the size/layout of a couple of spaces at the Janeway as well as the location of curb cuts in a retail area on Hebron Way. SNL staff will investigate.

Dennis also provided some additional information with respect to the installation of lifts versus elevators in new buildings and in renovation projects over the past year: B355 lift – a total of 31 (17 new builds, 14 existing buildings); B44 Elevator – a total of 29 (16 new builds, 13 existing buildings). A survey of other provinces indicated they would all permit B355 lifts in new buildings, to a maximum height of three stories. Board members pointed out several concerns with the use of lifts which include difficulty for some individuals being able to use them independently – e.g. hold down the button all the way during the lift’s journey; being able to exit and enter easily. SNL will undertake a further review of this issue in their research on potential changes to the legislation.

Presentation/Update from the Coalition of Persons with Disabilities - NL
Kelly White and Kim White of COD-NL provided an update on the Blue Zone parking project.
- To date, they have distributed over 4000 brochures on parking requirements to businesses and municipalities. They have also distributed 5000 brochures for permit holder brochures. Feedback has been very positive.
- They have made presentations to Municipalities Newfoundland and Labrador and the Professional Municipal Administrators organization.
- Kim has met with the Canadian Home Builders Association and had a booth at their trade show. They gave out over 500 brochures on guidelines for permits and spoke to the Association about universal design.
- They have also met with the City of Mount Pearl and the NL Architects Association.
- A meeting was held with patrol officers of the RNC about the enforcement of blue zone permits in parking spaces.
- Social media is also being used to raise public awareness.

Presentation from the Canadian National Institute for the Blind (CNIB)
Dwayne Morgan and Alice Arnes of the CNIB gave a presentation on vision-related disabilities. They provided a demonstration on the various types of vision loss or limitations and talked about features in the built environment that would help people with vision disabilities function more easily. Among the challenges noted were: the use of type size and colour in written documents; markings for stairs and sidewalks; the use of contrasting colours in moldings around doorways and handrails on stairs. Board members found the presentation most informative, particularly since much of the discussion on accessibility in the community tends to focus on mobility rather than other types of disabilities.
Preparation for Day Two
Board members had a general discussion on the types of questions they would like to raise in the next day’s session with the NL Architects Association. In particular, the focus was on how building designers view accessibility (e.g. as a set of minimum of standards versus “best practices”?) and how the Board could help influence the thinking about accessibility in the design community.

**Day 2 – July 16, 2015**

Presentation by the Newfoundland and Labrador Architects Association
Rob Menchenton, President of the NLAA, and Association members Paula Pittman and Dave Dewling, gave a presentation to the Board on how the architectural community generally approaches accessibility of buildings. Some of the issues discussed included: the need for clarity in interpretation of provincial regulations versus other national codes (i.e. CSA B651); the challenges of balancing costs for their clients with improved accessibility; functionality features in buildings that are not within their control (e.g. the installation of bathroom fixtures is often done by third party contractors). They indicated a willingness for a regular dialogue among stakeholders (regulators; designers; builders; advocacy groups) to address issues and improve communications. In particular, they also indicated there might be an opportunity for Board representatives to make a presentation to an upcoming meeting of the Association later this Fall.

Presentation by the Disability Policy Office, (GNL) on Government’s Action Plan for the Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities
Susan Tobin, Program and Policy Development Specialist with GNL’s Disability Policy Office, provided an update on the launch of the Action Plan for the Provincial Strategy for the Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Newfoundland and Labrador. She provided each board member with a copy of the plan and highlighted various items. The DPO is responsible for coordinating the Action Plan on behalf of the GNL although individual action items are being taken on by a number of government departments and agencies across the province.

Other Business
There was a brief discussion on the CSA651 code vs NL legislation. A comparative review and scan of other jurisdictions will be included in Service NL’s research on potential changes to the legislation.

The next meeting of the Board is scheduled for October 5 - 6, 2015 at the Holiday Inn, St. John’s.