



STANDING COMMITTEE

ON

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

ANNUAL REPORT

2011

© 2011 Her Majesty the Queen in right of the Province of Nova Scotia
Printed and Published by the Queen's Printer
Halifax

ISSN: 1705-1533

This document is available on the Internet at
http://nslegislature.ca/index.php/committees/reports/economic_development



**Legislative
Committees Office**

House of Assembly
Nova Scotia

3rd Floor, Dennis Building
1740 Granville Street
PO Box 2630, Station M
Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3J 3N5

Hon. Gordie Gosse
Speaker
House of Assembly
Province House
Halifax, Nova Scotia

Dear Mr. Speaker:

On behalf of the Standing Committee on Economic Development, I am pleased to submit the Annual Report of the Committee for the period from September 2010 to August 2011 of the Sixty-First General Assembly.

Respectfully submitted,

Ms. Pam Birdsall, MLA
(Lunenburg)
Chair
Standing Committee on Economic Development

Halifax, Nova Scotia
2011



Printed on paper that
contains recycled fibre

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction	ii
Membership	ii
Membership Changes	ii
Procedures and Operations	iii
Notices, Transcripts and Reports	iii
Research Material	iv
Acknowledgements	iv
Witnesses	v

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Innovacorp	1
Christmas Tree Council of Nova Scotia	2
Film Nova Scotia	3
Shelburne and Yarmouth Chambers of Commerce	4
Canadian Federation of Independent Business	5
Statement of Submission	6

INTRODUCTION

Mandate

The Standing Committee on Economic Development, an all-party Committee of the House of Assembly, was struck at the beginning of the First Session of the Sixty-First General Assembly. Pursuant to Rule 60(2)(ba) of the *Province of Nova Scotia Rules and Forms of Procedures of the House of Assembly*:

(ba) the Economic Development Committee is established for the purpose of considering matters normally assigned to or within the purview of the Department of Economic & Rural Development and the Minister responsible for the Department and the Department and Minister of Transportation and Public Works and matters relating to the Technology and Science Secretariat.

MEMBERSHIP

The membership of the Economic Development Committee is currently as follows:

Ms. Pam Birdsall, MLA - Chair
Lunenburg

Hon. Keith Colwell, MLA
Preston

Ms. Vicki Conrad, MLA
Queens

Mr. Zach Churchill, MLA
Yarmouth

Mr. Clarrie MacKinnon, MLA
Pictou East

Mr. Eddie Orrell, MLA
Cape Breton North

Mr. Brian Skabar, MLA – Vice-Chair
Cumberland North

Mr. Chuck Porter, MLA
Hants West

Ms. Lenore Zann, MLA
Truro – Bible Hill

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

During the period from September 2010 to August 2011 of the Sixty-First General Assembly, the Committee underwent the following membership changes: Mr. Clarrie MacKinnon, Mr. Chuck Porter, and Mr. Eddie Orrell replaced Mr. Jim Boudreau, Mr. Keith Bain, and Hon. Chris d'Entremont as members of the Committee.

PROCEDURES AND OPERATIONS

The Standing Committee on Economic Development usually meets on the second Tuesday of the month at the Legislative Committees Office. During the period from September 2010 to August 2011 of the Sixty-First General Assembly the Committee met on the following dates:

October 19, 2010
December 2, 2010
January 11, 2011

February 8, 2011
March 8, 2011

NOTICES, TRANSCRIPTS AND REPORTS

Notices

Notices of the Committee meetings are sent to all members of the Committee, staff of the caucus offices, legislative staff and Communications Nova Scotia. The notices are also posted in Province House and are on the Committee's website at the following address: <http://nslegislature.ca/index.php/calendar/>

Transcripts

Transcripts of the Economic Development Committee meetings are available from the Legislative Library in Province House, the Legislative Committees Office or on the Economic Development Committee's website at the following address: http://nslegislature.ca/index.php/committees/committee_hansard/C9/

Reports

All reports of the Standing Committee on Economic Development are compiled by the Legislative Committees Office and forwarded to Committee members for consideration. Once the report is finalized, it is then distributed as follows:

To the Speaker and the Clerk of the House of Assembly, Committee Members, all witnesses who appeared before the Committee, the Legislative Library in Nova Scotia, the caucus offices and the media. The report is also available to all persons interested in obtaining a copy from the Legislative Committees Office or on the Committee's website at the following address:

http://nslegislature.ca/index.php/committees/reports/economic_development

RESEARCH MATERIAL

All research for the Economic Development Committee is compiled by the Legislative Library and distributed by the Committee Clerk prior to the meeting to Committee members, caucus researchers, Legislative Library in the Province of Nova Scotia and to Hansard Reporting Services.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Committee wishes to extend its gratitude to all witnesses for their time and co-operation. Special appreciation is extended to: the staff of the Legislative Committees Office; Mr. Robert Kinsman, Editor of Hansard Reporting Services and staff; Mr. James MacInnes, Coordinator/Director of Legislative Television and Broadcast Services and staff; and Ms. Margaret Murphy, Legislative Librarian and staff, with special thanks to Ms. Heather Ludlow, Information Services Librarian, for her research assistance.

WITNESSES

October 19, 2010	Innovacorp
December 2, 2010	Christmas Tree Council of Nova Scotia
January 11, 2011	Film Nova Scotia
February 8, 2011	Shelburne and Yarmouth Chambers of Commerce
March 8, 2011	Canadian Federation of Independent Business

PUBLIC HEARINGS

WITNESSES

Innovacorp

Mr. Stephen P. Hartlen, President & CEO (Interim)

Mr. Charles Baxter, Director, Finance & IT

MATTERS OF DISCUSSION

The purpose of the meeting was to provide information about the organization, its mission and activities.

MOTIONS

There were no motions made during the meeting.

DOCUMENTATION

There was no documentation requested.

TRANSCRIPT

A transcript of this meeting can be found at the following address:

http://nslegislature.ca/index.php/committees/committee_hansard/C9/ed_2010oct19/

WITNESSES

Christmas Tree Council of Nova Scotia

Mr. Jim DeLong, President

Mr. Matthew Wright, Executive Director

MATTERS OF DISCUSSION

The purpose of the meeting was to provide information about the organization and to discuss issues facing this sector, including funding for the SMART Tree initiative.

MOTIONS

There were no motions made during the meeting.

DOCUMENTATION

There was no documentation requested.

TRANSCRIPT

A transcript of this meeting can be found at the following address:

http://nslegislature.ca/index.php/committees/committee_hansard/C9/ed_2010dec021/

WITNESSES

Film Nova Scotia

Ms. Ann MacKenzie, President & CEO

Mr. David MacLeod, Founding Member, Nova Scotia Motion Picture Industry Association

Mr. Tim Storey, Business Agent, Directors Guild of Canada, Atlantic Regional Council

Ms. Abbi Hennigar, Acting Director of Marketing

MATTERS OF DISCUSSION

The purpose of the meeting was to provide information about the organization, its mission and activities.

MOTIONS

There were no motions made during the meeting.

DOCUMENTATION

There was no documentation requested.

TRANSCRIPT

A transcript of this meeting can be found at the following address:

http://nslegislature.ca/index.php/committees/committee_hansard/C9/ed_2011jan11

WITNESSES

Shelburne and Area Chamber of Commerce

Mr. Jim Spencer, President

Mr. Adelard A. Cayer, President, Strategic Perspectives Consulting Associates

Yarmouth and Area Chamber of Commerce

Mr. Chris Atwood, Past President

Mr. Phil Mooney, Mayor of Yarmouth

MATTERS OF DISCUSSION

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss issues facing the businesses in southwestern Nova Scotia.

MOTIONS

There were no motions made during the meeting.

DOCUMENTATION

There was no documentation requested.

TRANSCRIPT

A transcript of this meeting can be found at the following address:

http://nslegislature.ca/index.php/committees/committee_hansard/C9/ed_2011feb08

WITNESSES

Canadian Federation of Independent Business

Ms. Leanne Hachey, Vice-President, Atlantic

MATTERS OF DISCUSSION

The purpose of the meeting was to provide information about the organization, its mission and activities.

MOTIONS

There were no motions made during the meeting.

DOCUMENTATION

There was no documentation requested.

TRANSCRIPT

A transcript of this meeting can be found at the following address:

http://nslegislature.ca/index.php/committees/committee_hansard/C9/ed_2011mar08

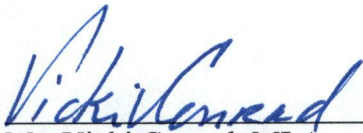
STATEMENT OF SUBMISSION

All of which is respectfully submitted to the House of Assembly

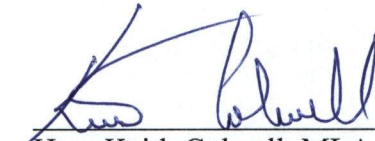
This 18th day of October, 2011



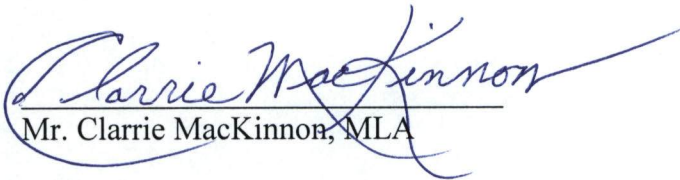
Ms. Pam Birdsall, MLA
Chair



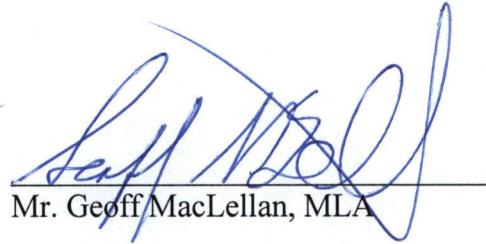
Ms. Vicki Conrad, MLA



Hon. Keith Colwell, MLA



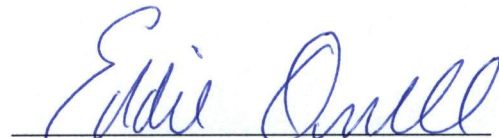
Mr. Clarrie MacKinnon, MLA



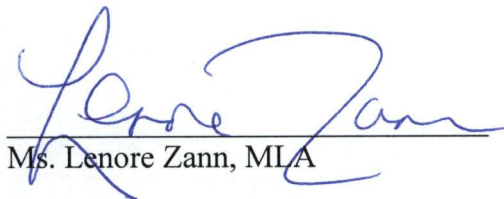
Mr. Geoff MacLellan, MLA



Mr. Brian Skabar, MLA (Vice-Chair)



Mr. Eddie Orrell, MLA



Ms. Lenore Zann, MLA



Mr. Chuck Porter, MLA

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEES OFFICE

**3rd Floor, Dennis Bldg.
1740 Granville Street
PO Box 2630, Stn. M
Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3J 3P7**

Telephone: (902) 424-4432 or Toll Free 1-888-388-6489

Fax: (902) 424-0513

E-mail: legcomm@gov.ns.ca

Website:

http://nslegislature.ca/index.php/committees/standing_committees/economic_development/