



Noteworthy

NEW CABINET Sworn In

Premier Roger Grimes was sworn in last week at Government House along with his new Cabinet. "We have considerable depth of experience gained within Cabinet, as well as several new ministers who bring with them new ideas and approaches," the premier said.

Premier Grimes signalled that he intends to put in place an aggressive action agenda focusing on the key areas needed to bring about change in the province. He said he intends to demonstrate his commitment to operating government in an open and accountable manner by, among other things, taking steps to establish the position of child and youth advocate and provincial ombudsman. Premier Grimes is also moving forward on the initiative to regulate fuel prices in the province.

Cabinet met on February 13 to start acting on these three priority initiatives. All members of government, particularly the Ministers of Health and Community Services, Justice, and Mines and Energy, are working together to ensure these initiatives are successfully implemented.

"I believe these initiatives are significant and important to the province," said Premier Grimes. "The creation of the position of ombudsman/review commissioner, putting in place a child and youth advocate, and regulating fuel prices were promises I made to the people of Newfoundland and Labrador. The Cabinet has now endorsed this direction."



A listing of Departments, Ministers and Deputy Ministers is attached to this week's Noteworthy along with contact information for easy reference. Some telephone numbers may be subject to change, so if you have any problems using the contact numbers you can go to the government web site at <http://www.gov.nf.ca/exec/deptexec.htm> for the latest listing.

TEAM CANADA secures deals

Sandra C. Kelly, on behalf of Premier Roger Grimes, led the province's contingent of government officials and 10 private companies on Team Canada's trade mission to China recently. During the trade mission, a number of business deals involving Newfoundland and Labrador companies were signed.

"I was pleased to participate in the signing of these important contracts," said Minister Kelly. "This is another example of the benefits which can result from our strong relationship with China."

Contracts and memoranda of understanding were signed to advance sectors such as educational services, the beverage industry, environmental services, information technology, and ocean-related fields.

The provincial Department of Industry, Trade and Rural Development also signed an MOU with the Beijing Federation of Industry and Commerce to facilitate and promote industrial cooperation, international trade and foreign investment.

Workers' Compensation task force endorsed

Premier Roger Grimes recently endorsed the general framework and directions in the report of the Task Force on Workers' Compensation, encouraging stakeholders to take ownership of the report. The premier also urged stakeholders to be active in implementing the report's recommendations.

"The role of government now will be to take a closer look at the recommendations and facilitate the implementation of the core elements of the report," said the premier. "Government is prepared to move forward quickly with any legislative changes that are key to stabilizing the system."

Premier Grimes thanked individuals on the task force for their time, effort and work. The premier commented that the task force listened carefully to stakeholders throughout the province and provided thoughtful recommendations based on those consultations. He also commended the task force for its offer to continue to work with government to oversee implementation of the recommendations.

Copies of the report are available at <http://www.whscc.nf.ca> or by calling (709) 778-1221 or 1-800-563-9000.



Department	Minister	Telephone	Deputy Minister	Telephone
Education	Judy Foote	729-5040	Harold Press	729-5086
Environment	Ralph Wiseman	729-2574	Paul Dean	729-2572
Finance and Treasury Board Secretariat	Joan Marie Aylward	729-2942 729-2858	Philip Wall	729-2946
Fisheries and Aquaculture	Gerry Reid	729-3705	Mike Samson	729-3707
Forest Resources and Agrifoods	Rick Woodford	729-4715	Alan Masters	729-4720
Government Services and Lands	Walter Noel	729-4712	Barbara Wakeham	729-4751
Health and Community Services	Julie Bettney	729-3124	Robert Thompson	729-3125
Human Resources and Employment	Gerald Smith	729-3580	Vivian Randell	729-3582
Industry, Trade and Rural Development	Beaton Tulk	729-4729	John Scott	729-4732
Intergovernmental Affairs	Tom Lush	729-7007	Gary Norris	729-2134
Justice	Kelvin Parsons	729-2869	John Cummings	729-2872
Labour	Anna Thistle	729-1690	Joe O'Neill	729-2715
Labrador and Aboriginal Affairs	Ernest McLean	729-4814	Ron Sparkes	729-0990
Mines and Energy	Lloyd Matthews	729-2920	Brian Maynard	729-2356
Municipal and Provincial Affairs	Oliver Langdon	729-3048	Robert Smart	729-3049
Tourism, Culture and Recreation	Kevin Aylward	729-0657	Clyde Granter	729-3555
Works, Services and Transportation	Percy Barrett	729-3678	Barbara Knight	729-3676
Youth Services and Post-Secondary Education	Sandra Kelly	729-2791	Bruce Hollett	729-2787