

We want to hear from you!

The Public Utilities Board has been requested by the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador to review and report on issues related to homeowner, commercial and marine insurance. Having submitted its report to Government on the automobile insurance review, the Board is proceeding with its comprehensive review of other insurance products. The specific issues outlined by Government are:

Homeowner Insurance

Report on issues related to availability and accessibility of this insurance in light of the associated profit margins. Identify potential ways to address these issues, such as: rate regulation; alternative means of providing this insurance, including the introduction of risk-sharing pools; and underwriting guidelines.

Commercial Insurance

Report on issues related to availability and accessibility of this insurance in light of the associated profit margins, particularly in reference to the hospitality/tourism industry, not-for-profit and volunteer organizations and individuals involved in volunteer activities. Identify potential ways to address these issues, such as: rate regulation; alternative means of providing this insurance including the introduction of risk-sharing pools, caps or deductibles; and grouping or classification of commercial consumers in setting rates.

Marine Insurance

Report on issues related to the accessibility and availability of marine insurance. Report on possible reasons for high loss ratios and year to year variation.

There's Still Time to Get Involved

To ensure a participatory process and to collect as much information as possible, the Board is in the process of finalizing a list of interested stakeholders and their concerns on the above or related issues. The government-appointed Consumer Advocate for this review, Mr. Thomas Johnson, has held a series of public meetings around the province and will be providing feedback to the Board.

The Board will conduct follow-up consultations with all stakeholders. The consultation format will depend on the scope of the concerns identified and the level of interest expressed. It may include round-table discussions, focus groups, written submissions and public sessions. The results of these consultations will form a key part of the Board's final report to Government.

If you haven't already done so, and want your views to be heard, please provide the Board with your name, contact information and any issues or concerns that you would like to raise by **Thursday**, **June 30**, **2005**.

The Consumer Advocate, Mr. Thomas Johnson, may be contacted at: P.O. Box 5955, St. John's, NL, A1C 5X4 email: consumeradvocate@groupmail.ca or call toll free: 1-866-218-4559

To contact the Public Utilities Board see information below.

