



## **Intergovernmental Affairs Secretariat**

**Annual Report 2006-2007**

# Message from the Minister



As Minister for Intergovernmental Affairs, I am pleased to submit the 2006-2007 Annual Report of the Intergovernmental Affairs Secretariat (IGAS), which details the activities of the Secretariat from April 1, 2006 through March 31, 2007. This report was prepared under my direction and I am accountable for the contents.

The Secretariat is focused on the creation, coordination and review of policy that affects the Province's interests in intergovernmental matters. We have a legislated responsibility to be a party to the negotiation and signing of all intergovernmental agreements. The Secretariat acts as the point of entry for the federal government where no analogous provincial department exists, and it leads the Province's efforts to promote and diversify operations at 5 Wing Goose Bay. We also support the Premier and my fellow Cabinet

Ministers in meetings with the federal government and other provinces and territories.

2006-2007 was a busy year in which the Secretariat worked closely with provincial departments and sovereign governments to move forward on its mandate. The Secretariat played lead and partnership roles to advance the Province's interests on a range of intergovernmental issues. A key activity was the summer meeting of the Council of the Federation, hosted and chaired by the Premier and held in Corner Brook and St. John's from July 26-28. Beginning in April, Secretariat officials led the provincial/territorial planning process to establish a meaningful agenda for Premiers' deliberations. In addition, in conjunction with the Premier's Office, the Secretariat was responsible for the logistical planning of the meeting. Throughout the meeting, the Secretariat provided policy support and advice to the Premier in his role as host and chair.

The Premier also hosted and chaired a meeting of the Council of Atlantic Premiers in December in St. John's, for which the Secretariat provided similar support. Other activities and priorities focused on advocacy of provincial positions and strategic advice and support to the Premier for his participation in meetings of the Council of Atlantic Premiers, the Conference of New England Governors and Eastern Canadian Premiers, and the Council of the Federation. The Secretariat continued to offer strategic advice and logistical assistance to the Minister for Intergovernmental Affairs and other Cabinet Ministers in relation to meetings and negotiations with the federal government and the provinces and territories.

I would like to acknowledge the significant contribution made by my predecessor, John Ottenheimer, who was the Minister for Intergovernmental Affairs throughout the reporting period. The year ahead will provide many challenges and opportunities for the Secretariat as the Province participates in a wide range of intergovernmental meetings and negotiations. I look forward to meeting these challenges and capitalizing on opportunities to advance the Province's interests.

**Tom Hedderson, MHA**  
**Minister for Intergovernmental Affairs and**  
**Minister Responsible for the Volunteer and Non-Profit Sector**

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## 1.0 Overview of the Intergovernmental Affairs Secretariat

The Intergovernmental Affairs Secretariat (the Secretariat, or IGAS) leads the formulation of Government's intergovernmental policies and strategies and monitors and coordinates interdepartmental initiatives to ensure their consistent application.

The Secretariat's vision is of a province which is recognized as making an important contribution to a strong and united Canada and which is treated equitably within the federation.

The Secretariat's mission is to promote and represent the Province's interests within Canada and internationally to maximize benefits to Newfoundland and Labrador.

The mandate of the Secretariat is to:

- Coordinate all policies, programs and activities of the government of the province and its agencies in relation to a sovereign government and its agencies;
- Continually review all policies, programs and activities of the government of the province and its agencies in relation to a sovereign government and its agencies, all intergovernmental agreements, and all relevant legislation pertaining to those policies, programs, activities and agreements;
- Be a party to the negotiation of all proposed intergovernmental agreements;
- Promote the military diversification and long-term operation of 5 Wing Goose Bay;
- Act as the point of entry for the federal government where no analogous provincial department exists; and
- Take necessary action to initiate or maintain intergovernmental co-operation between the government of the province and a sovereign government.

The Secretariat's lines of business are:

**Intergovernmental policy formulation and advice:** IGAS is responsible for monitoring and analyzing intergovernmental dimensions of social/fiscal and economic/resource policy matters in order to formulate and provide policy advice on the development of government's intergovernmental strategy and agenda.

**Promotion of the Province's interests:** IGAS attends bilateral, multilateral, regional and international intergovernmental meetings and conferences to present and promote Newfoundland and Labrador's positions on matters of importance to this province; and, IGAS promotes the Province's interests by assisting departments in their participation in intergovernmental meetings and negotiations, and their negotiation of intergovernmental agreements.

**Support and coordination:** IGAS coordinates and provides support for interdepartmental initiatives that have intergovernmental implications.

The Secretariat supports the Premier in his obligations to First Ministers' Meetings, the Council of the Federation, the Council of Atlantic Premiers, and the Conference of New England Governors and Eastern Canadian Premiers. IGAS is staffed by 14 people (not including the offices of the Minister or the Ottawa Representative). It is directed by the Deputy Minister and the Assistant Deputy Minister and assisted by three professional support staff. The Secretariat comprises two divisions:

**Social and Economic Policy:** Policy formulation derives from an ongoing review and analysis of all intergovernmental issues relating to social and economic matters. These issues include education,

labour market programs, health, social services, women's policy, housing, justice, trade, industry, transportation/infrastructure, and national defence. Its staff complement is a director and three analysts.

**Resource and Fiscal Policy:** Policy formulation derives from an ongoing review and analysis of all intergovernmental issues relating to constitutional issues, fiscal and resource policy matters. These issues include fisheries and oceans, agriculture, environment, tourism, parks, forestry, energy, mining, wildlife, crown lands and fiscal transfers and other fiscal arrangements. It is also responsible for the identification and analysis of the Province's intergovernmental priorities. Its staff complement is a director and three analysts.

Where appropriate, the Secretariat will supplement its staff complement with individuals or teams to manage specific projects or issues. In 2005-2006, IGAS added a temporary team to develop and manage the logistics associated with hosting the 2006 summer meeting of the Council of the Federation. IGAS currently avails of the services of a contractual Communications Specialist.

The Secretariat's core operating budget for 2006-2007 was \$2,561,700. This budget included funding to support the Province's hosting of the summer meeting of the Council of the Federation. In addition, the budget of the Ottawa office was \$356,000. The Ottawa Office is funded through the Secretariat, but is not part of the Secretariat's organizational structure and reports directly to the Office of the Premier. The position of Ottawa Representative was filled in May, 2006.

## 2.0 Key Accomplishments and Priorities

In 2006-2007, IGAS undertook partnership and lead roles to advance the Province's interests in a range of intergovernmental fora, both multilaterally and bilaterally. Key accomplishments and priorities focused on support to the Premier and Minister for Intergovernmental Affairs in their meetings and negotiations with the federal government and the provinces and territories.

### **Federal-Provincial Relations**

#### **Fiscal Imbalance**

On April 4, 2006, the federal Speech from the Throne stated, "...the Government will respond to concerns about the fiscal imbalance and will work to ensure fiscal arrangements in which all governments have access to the resources they need to meet their responsibilities." The Province has clearly stated its position that Equalization reform would be the most efficient mechanism of change for the fiscal imbalance. During the January 2006 election, the Conservatives promised to remove non-renewable natural resource revenues from the Equalization formula; accordingly, IGAS monitored the federal government's positioning on this issue throughout the year.

Two panels commissioned in 2005-2006, the Federal Expert Panel on Equalization and Territorial Formula Financing and the Council of the Federation Advisory Panel on Fiscal Imbalance, released their findings in 2006. During this period, IGAS coordinated with Provincial departments to analyze the panels' findings and provide strategic advice to the Premier and the Minister for Intergovernmental Affairs.

On May 3, 2006 the federal government released *Restoring Fiscal Balance in Canada*, a report outlining federal intentions to address fiscal imbalance through consultations on finance and securities, the federal spending power, post-secondary education and skills training, a 10 year

health plan and health wait times, and infrastructure. IGAS assisted in preparing NL officials and Ministers for these consultations, which occurred between June and December 2006. Related to this issue, IGAS also participated in consultations with the federal government's Independent Blue Ribbon Panel on Grants and Contributions.

In their budget release, on March 19, 2007, the federal government announced the fiscal imbalance had been solved. Among a range of measures was the inclusion of a cap on Equalization, effectively reducing the Province's eligibility to receive payment through that program. Also included was a change in the Canada Social Transfer, moving it to a per capita cash transfer, and plans to make the Canadian Health Transfer a per capita cash transfer in 2013-2014. IGAS has collaborated with provincial departments to provide assessment and strategic advice regarding the impact of these federal decisions on this province.

### **Federal-Provincial Agreements**

In 2006-2007, the Province entered into approximately 60 new or renewed intergovernmental agreements to provide a range of funding and services to the people of Newfoundland and Labrador. The Intergovernmental Affairs Act provides that the Minister for Intergovernmental Affairs or his or her designate shall be a party to the negotiations of each intergovernmental agreement and that each shall, before executed, be submitted to the Minister and shall be signed by the Minister or his or her designate. The Secretariat's consequent mandate is to: ensure that each agreement is consistent with the Province's intergovernmental policies and priorities; provide advice and information to the Minister, Premier and Cabinet about agreements with other jurisdictions; and support provincial departments in achieving their mandates through intergovernmental agreements. The Secretariat may provide support and advice to departments at a number of stages, from the formulation through the negotiation to the finalization of these agreements. The depth of the Secretariat's involvement varies depending on factors such as the department's need for support and the priority of the agreement under intergovernmental policy, but in all cases the Secretariat works with the relevant department on the penultimate draft as authority is sought to enter into the agreements.

## **Multilateral Fora**

### **Regional:**

#### ***The Council of Atlantic Premiers***

Premiers established the Council of Atlantic Premiers (CAP), in 2000 to strengthen the economic competitiveness of the region, improve the quality and cost-effectiveness of public services to Atlantic Canadians and promote Atlantic Canadian interests on national issues.

CAP met once during the reporting period, on December 5, 2006, in St. John's. At this meeting, Premiers discussed the federal government's commitment to resolve the fiscal imbalance, directed the development an Atlantic energy framework and reviewed ways to promote the competitiveness of Atlantic Canada. Premiers also agreed to pursue a joint approach to a broadly based Atlantic Gateway Strategy that would benefit each province and re-affirmed their commitment to harmonize and streamline rules and regulations for small and medium sized enterprises, directing Ministers to consult with Atlantic stakeholders to identify priority areas for action.

IGAS led the development of the meeting agenda, in collaboration with Atlantic counterparts, and coordinated the preparation of briefing materials and advice to Premiers. IGAS also provided logistical support and strategic advice to the Premier during the meeting.

Following from Premiers' direction from the December meeting in St. John's, in January, 2007, IGAS collaborated with Atlantic counterparts and provincial departments to plan the Premiers' trip

to Edmonton and Fort McMurray to promote investment and economic opportunities in Atlantic Canada. Premiers and business leaders from Atlantic Canada met with Alberta business leaders and emphasized the strategic advantages of doing business in the Atlantic region.

Throughout the reporting period, IGAS continued to collaborate with the CAP Secretariat and Atlantic counterparts and coordinated provincial departments' efforts to implement the 2005-2008 CAP Action Plan on joint initiatives for regional cooperation.

For more information about the Council of Atlantic Premiers, please visit the website at [www.cap-cpma.ca](http://www.cap-cpma.ca).

#### ***Pan-Canadian:***

##### ***The Council of the Federation***

The Province's commitment to the Council of the Federation is Strategic Issue #3 for the Secretariat, and covered in some detail in Section 4: *Activities in 2006-2007 and Objectives for 2007-2008*. For more information about the Council of the Federation, including the 2006 summer meeting communiqué, please visit the website at [www.councilofthefederation.ca](http://www.councilofthefederation.ca).

##### ***Premiers' Meeting with Leaders of the National Aboriginal Organizations***

On July 25, 2006, Premier Williams and his colleagues met in Corner Brook with the leaders of the National Aboriginal Organizations, to discuss Aboriginal health, education, economic development and other issues of significance to Aboriginal peoples. For this meeting, the Secretariat worked closely with the Department of Labrador and Aboriginal Affairs to provide strategic advice, relevant materials and on-site logistical support to the Premier and the Minister Responsible for Aboriginal Affairs.

##### ***Federal/Provincial/Territorial and Provincial/Territorial Meetings***

In addition to the Premier's intergovernmental meetings, the Province participates in numerous Ministerial meetings and meetings of senior officials. These may be multilateral, involving the federal government and other provinces and territories, or bilateral, involving one other government. Some are long-term, established Ministerial or official groups; others are called together on an *ad hoc* basis to address a specific issue. The Secretariat's primary role is to provide advice regarding the Province's positions and interests. In many cases, Secretariat officials attend the meetings with Ministers and departmental personnel.

In 2006-2007, the Secretariat contributed to numerous intergovernmental meetings. Ministers and department officials received timely analysis and information about the positions and policies of the federal and provincial governments having an impact on Newfoundland and Labrador in the areas of political (elections/executive/legislative), fiscal (budgets), and economic and social policies. IGAS provided advice to ensure consistency in the Province's positions and assistance to departments to negotiate and conclude intergovernmental agreements and prepare appropriate submissions to inform the Cabinet decision-making process.

#### ***International:***

##### ***The Conference of New England Governors-Eastern Canadian Premiers***

The Conference of New England Governors and Eastern Canadian Premiers (NEG-ECP) was established in 1973 to expand economic ties among the states and provinces; foster energy exchanges; advocate for environmental issues and sustainable development; and coordinate numerous policies and programs in such areas as transportation, forest management, tourism, small-scale agriculture, and fisheries. At their conferences, generally held annually, the Governors and Premiers discuss issues of common interest and concern, and enact policy resolutions that call

on actions by the state and provincial governments, as well as by the two national governments. During the year, the NEG-ECP convenes meetings of state and provincial officials, organizes roundtables and workshops, and prepares reports and studies of issues of regional significance.

The 30th Conference of NEG-ECP was held from May 11-13, 2006, in Newport, Rhode Island. Governor Donald Carcieri hosted the conference and co-chaired the meeting with PEI Premier Pat Binns. At the meeting, Premiers and Governors adopted resolutions to: collaborate on actions to minimize the impacts of the US Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative on travelers, communities, tourism and industries; enhance trade relationships between states and provinces; address energy issues on a regional level; and, develop short-term and long-term strategies to focus oceans management efforts on regional issues.

The Secretariat participated in the development of the meeting agenda, in collaboration with Eastern Canadian and New England counterparts, and coordinated the preparation of briefing materials and advice to Premiers and Governors. IGAS also provided logistical support and strategic advice to the Premier during the meeting.

For more information about the NEG-ECP, and to review the individual resolutions, please visit the following websites: [www.negc.org/premiers.html](http://www.negc.org/premiers.html) or [www.cap-cpma.ca/](http://www.cap-cpma.ca/).

### ***Visiting International Dignitaries***

Every year, numerous international dignitaries visit the province and meet with the Premier, the Minister for Intergovernmental Affairs, other Cabinet Ministers, and various government officials. While the Office of Protocol (Executive Council) advises on matters of protocol and organizes state and ceremonial events, the Secretariat supports the Premier and the Minister for Intergovernmental Affairs by undertaking research and providing strategic advice and logistical support for such meetings. In 2006-2007, Newfoundland and Labrador hosted delegations from ten foreign countries and international organizations. IGAS provided similar support when the Premier visited foreign destinations in 2006-2007, such as the Premier's mission to Iceland in August 2006.

## ***3.0 Activities in 2006-2007 and Objectives for 2007-2008***

The strategic directions for which the Minister for Intergovernmental Affairs is responsible are:

**5 Wing Goose Bay** The desired outcome is to promote the military diversification and long-term operation of 5 Wing Goose Bay. This outcome supports the policy direction of Government as outlined in the 2005 Throne Speech.

**Federal-Provincial Relations** The desired outcome is to achieve the equitable treatment of Newfoundland and Labrador in the federation. This outcome supports the policy direction of Government as outlined in the 2005 and 2004 Throne Speeches and the Progressive Conservative Party Policy Platform Document 2003.

The following activities undertaken in 2006-2007 and goals and objectives for 2007-2008 support the achievement of these strategic directions.

## Issue #1: 5 Wing Goose Bay

The Secretariat acts as lead provincial agency for matters related to defence; 5 Wing Goose Bay is a priority issue. Secretariat officials work closely with all provincial departments, federal officials in various departments, and the local community (e.g. the Town of Happy Valley – Goose Bay, the Goose Bay Citizen’s Coalition and other groups and organizations as appropriate) to advance the future viability of military presence and training.

**Goal:** By 2008, the Secretariat will have worked with the federal government, the community and other provincial departments and agencies to promote the military diversification and long-term operation of 5 Wing Goose Bay, including attracting foreign military flight and other military training.

**Objective:** By 2007, the Secretariat will have strengthened the Province’s capacity to work with the community and the federal government.

**Measure:** Strengthened provincial capacity to work with the community and the federal government.

Indicators	Activities in 2006-2007
<p>Improved information sharing among responsible federal and provincial government departments and agencies, the community and other stakeholders through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ coordinating information and advocacy activities with other provincial government departments and appropriate stakeholders</li> <li>➤ quarterly briefing and advice to relevant ministers and deputy ministers</li> <li>➤ meeting with the community and stakeholder organizations</li> </ul>	<p><b>The Secretariat:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ coordinated information and advocacy activities with other provincial government departments and appropriate stakeholders;</li> <li>➤ provided regular briefings, in excess of quarterly briefings, and strategic advice to relevant ministers and deputy ministers; and</li> <li>➤ met with the community and stakeholder organizations.</li> </ul> <p>In coordination with the Department of Innovation, Trade and Rural Development, IGAS provided strategic advice to help secure a training demonstration project to be carried out by Provincial Aerospace Limited in Goose Bay.</p> <p>The Premier and the Minister for Intergovernmental Affairs assisted with international marketing efforts by providing information to visiting dignitaries about training opportunities available at 5 Wing.</p> <p>IGAS also supported the Minister for Intergovernmental Affairs in relation to the Province’s interests in the other defence establishments, including a briefing and tour of 9 Wing Gander.</p>
<p>Advocacy to the federal government through personal meetings and written representations.</p>	<p>The Premier and the Minister for Intergovernmental Affairs attended five separate meetings with federal ministers, including two with the Minister of National Defence, during which they advocated for the long-term operation and diversification of the base.</p> <p>The Secretariat provided strategic advice to the Premier and the Minister for Intergovernmental Affairs in support of six written communications to federal representatives.</p>

## Objective for 2008

**Objective:** By 2008, the Secretariat will have worked with the federal government, the community and other provincial departments and agencies to promote the military diversification and long-term operation of 5 Wing Goose Bay, including attracting foreign military flight and other military training.

**Measure:** Strengthened provincial capacity to work with the community and the federal government.

**Indicators:** Coordination of information sharing and advocacy activities with other provincial government departments and appropriate stakeholders;  
Regular briefings with relevant ministers and deputy ministers; and  
Meetings with community and stakeholder organizations.

## Issue #2: Federal Presence

The federal government's presence in Newfoundland and Labrador is important to the province's economy and place in Canada. Over the last two decades, disturbing trends have emerged. Federal employment in this province has declined at a rate markedly higher than the national average and the province's share of federal executives is much less than its share of the national population. The Secretariat is responsible for advancing the Province's interests in this matter with the federal government.

**Goal:** By 2008, the Secretariat will have worked to promote increased federal presence in the province.

**Objective:** By 2007, the Secretariat will have identified and developed any additional factual and statistical information necessary to support the Province's case for increased federal presence.

**Measure:** Factual and statistical information are identified and developed.

Indicators	Activities in 2006-2007
A scan for available data is completed	The Secretariat reviewed relevant internal statistical data and the Harris Centre Report, <i>Federal Government Presence in Newfoundland and Labrador</i> .
Information gaps are assessed and addressed where possible	No information gaps were identified for follow-up.
Priority categories of information are identified	No information gaps were identified for follow-up.
A strategy to advance the case for improved federal presence is developed and direction is sought regarding its implementation	Building on this information, a strategy to advance the case for improved federal presence has been developed and direction has been sought regarding its implementation.  In addition to these activities, the Province has advocated for increased federal presence through two written submissions.

	In meetings with Ministers Gordon O'Connor (National Defence), Loyola Hearn (Fisheries and Oceans), and Michael Chong (Intergovernmental Relations), Minister Ottenheimer (then Provincial Minister for Intergovernmental Affairs) emphasized the need to increase federal presence to benefit Newfoundlanders and Labradorians. In addition, in a meeting with Prime Minister Harper in October, 2006, the Premier reiterated the expectation that the Province will be treated equitably in terms of federal presence.
Gender breakdown is provided, where the information is available	Gender breakdown was not available.

### Objective for 2008

**Objective:** By 2008, the Secretariat will have worked to promote increased federal presence in the province.

**Measure:** Promoted the need and opportunity for increased federal presence in the province.

**Indicators:** Proposals have been advanced;  
The Secretariat will have continued monitoring statistical and factual data; and  
Where direction has been provided, key actions of the strategy will have been implemented.

### Issue #3: Council of the Federation

In December, 2003, Canada's Premiers and Territorial Leaders formed the Council of the Federation (COF), for the purpose of revitalizing the Canadian federation and building a more constructive and cooperative federal system. In July, 2006, Premier Williams hosted the annual summer COF meeting and assumed the position of Chair.

The Intergovernmental Affairs Secretariat is responsible for supporting the Premier's participation in the Council. This involves the preparation of briefing materials, advancing the Province's interests through the Council, and working with colleagues across the country to implement the Council's work plan as provided by Premiers.

**Goal:** By 2008, the Secretariat will have supported the promotion and advancement of the Province's interests within the Council of the Federation.

**Objective:** By 2007, the Secretariat will have supported the Premier's hosting of the Council of the Federation Annual Conference and supported the Premier as Chair.

**Measure 1:** Supported the Council of the Federation Annual Conference.

Indicators	Activities in 2006-2007
Secretariat will have supported the Premier's hosting of the Council of the Federation Annual Conference	The COF annual summer meeting was held from July 26-28, 2006, in Corner Brook and St. John's. For the meeting, the Secretariat led the development of the meeting agenda, in collaboration with provincial and territorial counterparts, coordinated the preparation of briefing materials and advice to

Premiers, and planned the meeting logistics. IGAS also provided logistical support and strategic advice to the Premier during the summer meeting.

At this meeting, Premiers discussed the diverse economic challenges and opportunities facing provinces and territories, with a view to revitalizing the federation and encouraging healthy living. The Secretariat undertook extensive research and analysis and provided strategic advice to the Premier and the Minister for Intergovernmental Affairs for the Province's participation in the annual summer meeting. In addition, Secretariat officials provided on-site support and advice during the meetings.

In response to concerns regarding labour and skills shortages throughout the country, Premiers released *Competing for Tomorrow: A Strategy for Post-Secondary Education and Skills Training in Canada*, which identifies priority areas for education and skills training in Canada. IGAS collaborated with the Departments of Education and Human Resources, Labour and Employment, to provide provincial input.

During the meeting, Premiers announced that a pan-Canadian energy strategy would be released at the 2007 summer meeting. The COF Energy Committee was established during the 2005 summer meeting in Banff and is chaired by Premier Williams. During the reporting period, IGAS collaborated with the Department of Natural Resources to provide strategic advice and support to the Premier, the Minister for Intergovernmental Affairs and the Minister of Natural Resources on the work of this committee.

Premiers also reiterated their commitment to take action against the harmful effects of crystal methamphetamine and other addictive drugs. As follow-up, in November 2006, during Addictions Awareness Week, COF launched a national awareness campaign on crystal meth and other addictive drugs. The campaign aimed to improve communications between youth and their parents to help reduce and mitigate the harm from crystal meth and other addictive drugs. IGAS collaborated with the Department of Health and Community Services to provide input on this initiative.

In addition to these topics, Premiers discussed the national transportation strategy, internal and international trade, and global pressures on traditional resource industries.

**Measure 2:** Supported the Premier as Chair.

<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Activities in 2006-2007</b>
<b>Led on Council of the Federation initiatives</b>	<p>The COF Energy Committee, chaired by Premier Williams, was established during the COF summer meeting in Banff, in August, 2005. During this reporting period, the Committee met in Montreal on October 30, 2006. IGAS officials provided strategic advice and logistical support for the Premier's leadership of this COF initiative.</p> <p>In addition to leading on the COF Energy initiative, Premier Williams chaired and participated in four COF meetings and conference calls during 2006-2007. The Secretariat led agenda development and provided strategic advice, logistical planning and logistical support for the following meetings:</p> <p>Premiers met on April 11-12, 2006, in Montreal, to discuss the work and the report of the COF Advisory Panel on Fiscal Imbalance and to meet with the panelists. In May, 2005, COF established the panel to examine the vertical and horizontal fiscal imbalances among Canada's federal, provincial, and territorial governments and to make recommendations to address fiscal imbalances. While in Montreal, Premiers also met with Australian Premiers to discuss the formation and work of the COF and challenges confronting both federations. IGAS provided strategic advice to the Premier, the Minister for Intergovernmental Affairs, and the Minister of Finance on these issues.</p> <p>On June 8, 2006, in Edmonton, Premiers met with the members of the federal Independent Expert Panel on Equalization and Territorial Formula. IGAS provided strategic advice to the Premier, the Minister for Intergovernmental Affairs, and Minister of Finance on these issues.</p> <p>In addition, Premiers participated in COF conference call meetings on October 31, 2006 and February 7, 2007.</p> <p>Throughout the year, the Secretariat also chaired the COF Steering Committee and Senior Officials' Committee, which support the Premiers' agenda and activities. These chairing responsibilities required strong provincial interdepartmental and intergovernmental collaboration.</p>

## Objective for 2008

- Objective:** By 2008, the Secretariat will have supported the promotion and advancement of the Province's interests within the Council of the Federation.
- Measure:** Supported the promotion and advancement of the Province's interests within the Council of the Federation.
- Indicator:** Secretariat will have supported the Premier in his obligations to the Council and his leadership of any pan-Canadian Council of the Federation initiatives.

## 4.0 Opportunities and Challenges in 2007-2008

The Canadian intergovernmental environment is continually transforming as leadership and priorities change. In response to such changes, IGAS facilitates the Province's positioning on issues of specific and common concern to achieve the vision of a province which is recognized as making an important contribution to a strong and united Canada and which is treated equitably within the federation.

### *Relations with the Federal Government*

In 2007-2008, Newfoundland and Labrador will continue to strive for the goal of fairness within the Canadian Federation and will ensure that the Province receives its fair share of national programs. Government will also continue to call upon the federal government to increase its presence in the province by allocating more federal Atlantic headquarters and executive positions, with policy decision powers, to Newfoundland and Labrador. Such an increase in federal presence would provide value to all Canadians and have a direct and important impact upon this province. The Secretariat will provide strategic advice and support to the Premier, the Minister for Intergovernmental Affairs and other Cabinet Ministers in these endeavours.

### *Obligations to Intergovernmental Fora*

In 2007-2008, the Province will continue to work through organizations such as the Council of the Federation, Conference of New England Governors and Eastern Canadian Premiers and the Council of Atlantic Premiers, to advance the interests of this province on a national and international scale. IGAS will support the Premier and the Minister for Intergovernmental Affairs as they participate in and discharge their obligations to these organizations. The Secretariat will develop, with other jurisdictions, the agenda and common briefing materials; develop and implement logistical arrangements related to the Province's participation; develop and produce relevant briefing materials, in consultation with other provincial departments; and provide strategic advice and on-site support during meetings. Following such meetings, IGAS will collaborate with provincial departments and agencies and other jurisdictions to implement Premiers' directions and report on their progress.

### *National Defence*

Military presence is an important feature of the geography, economy and culture of Newfoundland and Labrador. The federal government has indicated that in 2007-2008 limited foreign military training activity is anticipated at 5 Wing; however, increased general activity is expected as preparations for the stationing of new Canadian Forces operational requirements continue. The Province will continue to hold the federal government accountable for its commitments to station a new Rapid Reaction Army Battalion and Unstaffed Aerial Vehicle Squadron at 5 Wing. IGAS will work with local stakeholders to promote related diversification opportunities at the base.

The Province will also hold the federal government to its commitment to establish at Canadian Forces Station (CFS) St. John's a new Territorial Defence Battalion for emergency response. The Secretariat will continue to monitor developments in the Department of National Defence consolidation project at CFS St. John's, which will replace the 16 military facilities located at the Pleasantville site.

## ***5.0 Contact the Intergovernmental Affairs Secretariat***

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## 6.0 Summary of Expenditures and Related Revenues

For the Year ending 31 March 2007 (Unaudited)\*

	Actual	Estimates Amended	Original
	\$	\$	\$
<b>CURRENT</b>			
<b>MINISTER'S OFFICE</b>			
Salaries	208,356	210,000	210,000
Transportation and Communications	21,407	47,500	50,000
Supplies	4,302	5,500	3,000
Purchased Services	5,878	8,000	8,000
<b>Total: Minister's Office</b>	<b>239,943</b>	<b>271,000</b>	<b>271,000</b>
<b>EXECUTIVE SUPPORT</b>			
Salaries	869,740	871,300	480,300
Employee Benefits	915	1,000	1,000
Transportation and Communications	149,746	212,000	225,200
Supplies	60,371	101,000	101,600
Professional Services	105,026	106,500	101,500
Purchased Services	730,938	1,154,060	1,138,600
Property, Furnishings and Equipment	6,020	8,100	2,500
Grants and Subsidies	465,392	500,000	500,000
Revenue – Provincial	(743,000)	(703,000)	(703,000)
<b>Total: Executive Support</b>	<b>1,645,148</b>	<b>2,250,960</b>	<b>1,847,700</b>
<b>POLICY ANALYSIS AND COORDINATION</b>			
Salaries	425,626	553,500	623,500
Transportation and Communications	28,847	70,800	72,600
Supplies	243	5,900	5,900
Professional Services	-	12,000	12,000
<b>Total: Policy Analysis and Coordination</b>	<b>454,716</b>	<b>642,200</b>	<b>714,000</b>
<b>OTTAWA OFFICE</b>			
Salaries	122,387	203,000	206,000
Transportation and Communications	27,596	34,000	35,000
Supplies	2,425	10,000	10,000
Professional Services	108	16,400	20,000
Purchased Services	61,966	85,000	85,000
Property, Furnishings & Equipment	4,089	4,100	-
<b>Total: Ottawa Office</b>	<b>218,571</b>	<b>352,500</b>	<b>356,000</b>
<b>TOTAL: INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS SECRETARIAT</b>	<b>2,558,378</b>	<b>3,516,660</b>	<b>3,188,700</b>

\*Source: Report on the Program Expenditures and Revenues of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the year ended 31 March 2007.