



**Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board  
Annual Accountability Report  
For the Fiscal Year Ended March 31, 2009**

## Table of Contents

<b>Item Description</b>	<b>Page</b>
Accountability Statement .....	<a href="#"><u>3</u></a>
Introduction .....	<a href="#"><u>4</u></a>
Mandate .....	<a href="#"><u>4</u></a>
Regulatory Matters .....	<a href="#"><u>4</u></a>
Alcohol, Gaming and Amusements .....	<a href="#"><u>4</u></a>
Automobile Insurance .....	<a href="#"><u>4</u></a>
Halifax - Dartmouth Bridges .....	<a href="#"><u>4</u></a>
Motor Carrier .....	<a href="#"><u>4</u></a>
Natural Gas .....	<a href="#"><u>5</u></a>
Payday Loans .....	<a href="#"><u>5</u></a>
Public Utilities .....	<a href="#"><u>5</u></a>
Railways .....	<a href="#"><u>5</u></a>
Adjudicative Matters .....	<a href="#"><u>5</u></a>
Assessment .....	<a href="#"><u>5</u></a>
Expropriation Compensation .....	<a href="#"><u>5</u></a>
Fire Safety .....	<a href="#"><u>5</u></a>
Municipal and School Board Electoral Boundaries .....	<a href="#"><u>6</u></a>
Planning .....	<a href="#"><u>6</u></a>
Victims' Rights and Services Compensation .....	<a href="#"><u>6</u></a>
Highlights .....	<a href="#"><u>6</u></a>
Mission & Vision .....	<a href="#"><u>8</u></a>
Core Activities .....	<a href="#"><u>8</u></a>
Priorities and Goals .....	<a href="#"><u>9</u></a>
Core Area 1 - Quasi-judicial Function .....	<a href="#"><u>9</u></a>
Core Area 2: Motor Carrier (Public Passenger) Administration .....	<a href="#"><u>10</u></a>
Budget Context .....	<a href="#"><u>12</u></a>
Outcomes and Performance Measures .....	<a href="#"><u>13</u></a>
Appendix A	
List of Statutes Containing Board Mandate .....	<a href="#"><u>18</u></a>

## **Accountability Statement**

The accountability report of the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board for the year ended March 31, 2009, is prepared according to the *Provincial Finance Act* and government policy and guidelines. These authorities require the reporting of outcomes against the Board's business plan for the fiscal year 2008-2009. The reporting of such outcomes necessarily includes estimates, judgements and opinions by management.

It is acknowledged that this accountability report is the responsibility of the Board's management and is, to the extent possible, a complete and accurate representation of outcomes relative to the goals and priorities set out in the Board's business plan for the year.

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Peter W. Gurnham, Q.C., Chair

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Paul G. Allen, CA, Executive Director

## Introduction

This accountability report reflects on progress made in achieving the goals and priorities set out in the 2008-2009 Business Plan of the Board, and to describe other significant activities and accomplishments during the year. The 2008-2009 Business Plan more fully describes the Board's core business functions, goals and priorities for the year. The Board recommends that this accountability report be read in conjunction with the Business Plan.

## Mandate

The Board is a quasi-judicial body created by the *Utility and Review Board Act*, S.N.S. 1992 c.11. The Board has regulatory and adjudicative jurisdiction to hear applications or appeals under approximately 31 statutes. A complete list of statutes in effect for the year is attached as Appendix A.

On October 14, 2008 the Board's mandate was expanded to include the responsibilities of the Nova Scotia Insurance Review Board. At the same time new regulations under the *Insurance Act* were introduced to require insurance companies to file rates at least every two years. This represents a significant increase in workload.

The following is a brief description of the Board's responsibilities. For ease of understanding, the various functions are classified as regulatory or adjudicative in nature.

### Regulatory Matters

Alcohol, Gaming and Amusements. The Board hears applications involving licensing and discipline of establishments authorized to sell liquor; licensing and discipline relating to gambling operations; and appeals of film classifications. Applications for reinstatement of access to casinos by persons who have voluntarily excluded themselves are also heard by the Board.

Automobile Insurance; The Board approves the rates charged by those selling automobile insurance in the Province. The regulations under the Act<sup>1</sup> now require insurance companies to file rates at least every two years. They may file more frequently as needed.

Halifax - Dartmouth Bridges. The Board is required to set the rates, tolls and charges to be paid for use of the two bridges which cross Halifax Harbour and are operated by the Halifax-Dartmouth Bridge Commission.

Motor Carrier. The Board is responsible for economic regulation of the industry and oversight of a comprehensive safety inspection program for all public

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The *Insurance Act*

passenger carriers within the Province and interprovincial carriers operating to and from the Province. Carriers are broadly defined to include not-for-profit carriers and school bus operations, as well as commercial bus companies. Commercial van operations are also included in the safety program but are not economically regulated. Economic regulation includes setting fares, approving routes and stops, approving equipment for use, hearing complaints against carriers, and hearing applications for modification or discontinuance of service.

Natural Gas. The Board has responsibility for regulation of the distribution of natural gas in Nova Scotia including pipelines and underground storage facilities. That includes, but is not limited to, selection of franchisees, issuing permits to construct distribution systems, and issuance of operating permits for finished systems.

Payday Loans. The Board sets the maximum amounts that can be charged for interest and other fees for loans of \$1,500 or less outstanding for 62 days or less. The Act<sup>2</sup> requires the Board to review the rates being charged at least every three years.

Public Utilities. The Board exercises general supervision over all water, electrical, and steam heat utilities within the Province. This includes setting rates, tolls and charges; approval of regulations for provision of service; approval of capital expenditures in excess of \$25,000; and any other matter the Board feels necessary to properly carry out its responsibilities. Nova Scotia Power Inc., an investor-owned utility, is the largest public utility regulated by the Board. During the year the wastewater assets of Halifax Regional Municipality were transferred to the Halifax Regional Water Commission thus now including them in the Board's jurisdiction.

Railways. The Board has regulatory responsibilities relating to licensing of short line railways which operate wholly within the Province.

## Adjudicative Matters

Assessment. The Board hears appeals from decisions of the Regional Assessment Appeal Court respecting real property and business occupancy assessments and change of use tax levies.

Expropriation Compensation. Where a property owner and an expropriating authority cannot agree on the compensation to be paid for expropriated land an application can be made to the Board to set the value.

Fire Safety. Certain orders made by the Fire Marshal and other fire officials under the *Fire Safety Act* may be appealed to the Board.

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<sup>2</sup>

The Consumer Protection Act

Municipal and School Board Electoral Boundaries. The Board also hears applications to establish and amend boundaries of municipalities, including towns and regional municipalities. The Board sets polling district boundaries and determines the number of councillors for each municipality, and sets school board electoral district boundaries and determines the number of school board members.

Planning. The Board hears appeals from municipal councils relating to amendment of land use by-laws and staff decisions concerning issuance or amendment of development agreements.

Victims' Rights and Services Compensation. The Board hears appeals from the decisions of the Director of Victim Services at the Department of Justice concerning compensation for certain expenses incurred by victims of crime.

## Highlights

The following were the most prominent matters during the year requiring significant effort or resources, or having broad public interest:

- a. In August 2007 the regulations under the *Liquor Control Act* were substantially amended resulting in the transfer of a number of activities to the Board. Such activities included approvals of changes in managers and principal persons, temporary extensions and suspensions of premises, all expansions of licensed premises and patio extensions, and approval of conversion privileges for certain types of licenses. This has substantially increased the number of matters being dealt with in this mandate.
- b. On May 27, 2008 Nova Scotia Power Inc. (NSPI) filed an application for an average increase in rates of 11.9%. Hearings began on September 15, 2008 but were shortened by the parties presenting a Settlement Agreement proposing a 9.3% average rate increase effective January 1, 2009. After permitting all parties to comment the agreement was approved in a Board Decision dated November 5, 2008.
- c. Further to various directions from the Board NSPI filed a Demand Side Management (DSM) Plan on January 31, 2008. On March 5, 2008 a Settlement Agreement was filed. On March 7, 2008 the Board approved the Early Action Programs proposed in the Agreement. Hearings were held on April 7, 8 and 9, 2008 to consider evidence from parties that did not sign the Agreement. In a decision dated May 7, 2008 the Board approved the Settlement Agreement subject to certain directives.
- d. On June 19, 2008 NSPI filed an application for approval of two new tariffs, a Wholesale Market Backup/Top-up Tariff and a Wholesale Market Non-dispatchable Supplier Spill Tariff. A hearing was scheduled for December

15, 2008 and the company filed a Settlement Agreement at the beginning of the proceeding. Evidence was heard at the hearing from one party in opposition to the tariffs. In a decision dated January 6, 2009 the Board approved the Settlement Agreement and proposed tariffs.

- e. On July 23, 2008 NSPI filed a request to approve a capital expenditure in the amount of \$53,395,000 for renovation and construction of an office complex on Water Street, Halifax. Given the size and nature of the application the Board established a process permitting the submission of evidence and comment by other parties. In a decision issued December 22, 2008 the Board approved the application with conditions.
- f. On August 6, 2008 NSPI made an application to the Board requesting approval for immediate and temporary relief from the current requirements of the Generation Interconnection Procedures (GIP) in relation to the queue position of wind power projects, and the establishment of a non-discriminatory prioritized queue based on “first ready” criteria. Given the nature of the application the Board established a procedure and timetable to permit stakeholder input. In a letter dated September 23, 2008 the Board approved the application, with conditions, in the interest of meeting legislated public policy concerning Renewable Energy Standards.
- g. On September 2, 2008 Heritage Gas Limited filed an application for an increase in all rate classes with a three year test period from January 1, 2009 to December 31, 2011. In the same application the company also requested changes to its Service Rules. Public hearings were held on December 1 and 2, 2008 with closing argument filed on December 17, 2008. In its decision of February 12, 2009 the Board approved the application, directed certain information filings be made in relation to achievement of sales targets, suspended depreciation charges to the Revenue Deficiency Account and ordered a new depreciation study be undertaken, approved a rate of return on debt of 8.75%, approved a return on equity of 13%, approved the rate base, directed that an infrastructure study be carried out, directed the company to design rates consistent with a revenue to cost ratio band of 95% to 105%, and approved a special charge of \$500 for an installation deposit for installation of a service line.
- h. On November 6, 2008 The Armour Group Limited filed an appeal objecting to a decision by Halifax Regional Municipal (HRM) Council to refuse a development agreement for a nine storey mixed retail and office building to be known as Waterside Centre, to be located in downtown Halifax. Hearings were held in January and February 2009. In a decision dated March 26, 2009 the Board allowed the appeal and ordered HRM Council to approve the development agreement.

While the above items were the most significant activities in terms of public interest, impact on large numbers of taxpayers or ratepayers and consumption of Board resources, there are a large number of matters such as appeal hearings, hearings

related to public passenger matters, capital expenditure approvals, licensing applications and transfers, which cumulatively make up the bulk of the Board's work. Summary information on the types and numbers of matters dealt with during the year can be found later in this report.

## **Mission & Vision**

The mission of the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board, as described in the 2008-2009 Business Plan, was to carry out the mandate assigned to it by government through statute and regulation. During the year the Board continued with its strategic plan developed in 2007-2008. Our Mission Statement continues to be:

*Our mission is to fairly and independently resolve matters.*

*Resolving matters includes:*

- a. Providing efficient, cost effective and fair processes (i.e., hearings, appeals, licensing, and compliance);*
- b. Developing a collective body of knowledge and expertise;*
- c. Producing consistent and well reasoned decisions; and*
- d. Appropriately informing public policy.*

The Vision Statement, developed in conjunction with the Mission Statement is:

*Our vision is to be a leading administrative and regulatory tribunal.*

*We will be widely recognized as a fair, independent and accessible board, making insightful, consistent and well explained decisions, which are provided in a respectful, courteous and timely manner.*

## **Core Activities**

Our core activities are:

Quasi-judicial Function. This is the primary function of the Board - to carry out those responsibilities delegated by the Legislature pursuant to various statutes.

Motor Carrier (Public Passenger) Administration. This involves safety inspection, licensing administration, and enforcement functions relating to the public passenger industry, and some community based and not-for-profit organizations.



## Priorities and Goals

### Core Area 1 - Quasi-judicial Function

*Priority #1: Heighten the efficiency and effectiveness of the Board by:*

- a. Establishing targets for the phases and steps of each mandate;*
- b. Developing policy and rules to achieve the new targets;*
- c. Implementing e-filing, information repository and case management; and*
- d. Developing user guides (for website)*

During the year the Board issued an interim policy direction on e-filing. This new document established initial guidelines for applicants on how to file matters and related documentation electronically. In conjunction with this, new functionality was added to our website to permit applicants and others to transfer electronic files directly to the Board regardless of size and type. A new confidential document repository, accessible by applicants, was added to permit secure filing of confidential materials. A new case management system was built and, as of the final quarter of the year, was coming into production. Information on all of the matters dealt with during 2008-2009 are being loaded into the new system.

User guides, for both the website and to be available in paper form, were drafted during the year. As of the end of the year those documents are nearing completion and it is expected that they will be released during fiscal 2009-2010.

With the introduction of the new case management system it is now possible to capture and analyze the time being taken in the various phases of work for each of the Board's mandates. As soon as a full year of data is available the Board will consider setting interim targets and, if appropriate, adjusting associated rules.

*Priority #2: To increase understanding of the Board by:*

- a. Establishing a process facilitator or navigator function; and*
- b. Developing user guides for each mandate.*

During the year a project team was established to review relevant information concerning process facilitation and the potential for a navigator function, that is, someone to assist applicants or appellants with processing of their files. After considerable research the team concluded that it was not possible to introduce informal assistance without prejudice to the legal principles guiding the Board or introducing an apprehension of bias. Nevertheless, opportunities for alternative dispute resolution were identified in some mandates that may have the same beneficial outcome without introducing legal difficulties. As at year end the team's report was being studied with the intent of implementation during fiscal 2009-2010.

While not identified as a priority in this year's Business Plan, the Board also

reviewed its procedures in relation to provision of information to the media. A large number of Board proceedings are of general interest to the public and are regularly reported on by media. New policy and procedural checklists were developed during the year to ensure appropriate information is made available in a timely fashion. More information is now being made available on the Board's website for media and others.

*Priority #3: To strengthen the Board's capacity to adapt to the future by:*

- a. Identifying core competencies; and*
- b. Proactively coordinating training undertaken by staff and members.*

During the year a study of core competencies was undertaken and the results presented to the Board. Human resource staff are using the results of the study to develop new standards for training for each position and a consolidated training plan.

The Board has also introduced a new practice of a monthly review and discussion of future trends that may affect activities within its mandate. Of particular note during this fiscal year is the expected conversion by companies to International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) in 2011. The Board, through the Canadian Association of Members of Public Utility Tribunals (CAMPUT), is supporting an initiative to have the International Accounting Standards Body recognize the special requirements of rate regulated entities and permit reporting on regulatory assets.

## **Core Area 2: Motor Carrier (Public Passenger) Administration**

*Priority #1: Maintain an effective safety inspection and enforcement program.*

The Division is responsible for inspecting public passenger vehicles subject to the *Motor Carrier Act*, and others voluntarily participating in the program. It is also responsible for enforcing the *Motor Carrier Act*, *Motor Vehicle Act*, *Motor Vehicle Transport Act Canada*, and license conditions imposed by Board Order. For fiscal 2008-2009 the Division planned to continue to safety inspect all vehicles under Board jurisdiction at least twice annually.

The safety inspection program was undertaken as planned. During 2008-2009 a total of 5,193 vehicle inspections (2007-2008: 4,822) were reported resulting in 3,154 instances of the vehicle being removed from service (2007-2008: 2,993) for repair or maintenance. In the vast majority of cases the vehicles were later returned to service after correction of the faults and reinspection.

Enforcement statistics for the year with comparisons for the previous year are as follows:

	<u>2008-2009</u>	<u>2007-2008</u>
Road checks	249	261
Investigations	191	483
Summary offense tickets issued	25	54
Motor Carrier violation reports issued	38	39

*Priority #2: Continue support to the Atlantic Provinces School Bus Purchase Program.*

As in past years the Division planned to assist in specification of the types of vehicles to purchase, audit during delivery to ensure design and product supplied are consistent with the purchase agreement, and to safety inspect delivered vehicles.

The support was delivered as planned. A total of 194 busses were purchased with 68 coming to Nova Scotia.

## Budget Context

Nova Scotia Utility & Review Board - Estimated Budget Expenditures by Core Business				
Core Business (all)	Budget 2008- 2009	Actual 2008- 2009	Variance	See Notes
	000's	000's	000's	
Revenues (non-capital):				
Operating Grant from Province of Nova Scotia	3,843	3,566	(277)	1
Recoveries from utilities and others	2,118	2,172	54	
Unbudgeted operations	-	2,201	2,201	2
Total revenues	5,961	7,939	1,978	
Expenditures (non-capital):				
Budgeted	5,961	5,793	(168)	
Unbudgeted operations	-	2,061	2,061	2
Total expenditures	5,961	7,854	1,893	
Net income (loss)	-	85	85	
Restricted & unrestricted surplus, beginning of year	435	435	-	
Restricted & unrestricted surplus, end of year	435	520	85	
Salaries and benefits	4,388	4,444	56	
Funded Members and staff (FTE's)	51.0	55.0	4.0	

### Notes

1. Total funds received by grant for the year by grant were \$3,843,000. Included in that amount is funding relating to small capital purchases. During the year a total of \$276,810 was set aside for the purchase of capital assets and thus excluded from operating revenue. The Board purchases capital assets from the funding provided by the Province of Nova Scotia and the utilities. Occasionally larger purchases are supported by separately identified funding. Revenue relating to capital assets is deferred and amortized at the same rate as the related capital assets. Funding provided for planned capital asset acquisitions is also deferred until the year of acquisition and then amortized to revenue over the life of the related asset.
2. Consultants are engaged by the Board to provide advice related to matters such as utility and natural gas operations and to provide expert testimony during hearings. Consulting fees for specific hearings are generally recovered directly from the entities involved. Expenses and recoveries relating to large hearings cannot be reasonably

predicted or estimated in advance, accordingly, no provision is made for these activities in the budget. The Board also recovers certain transcription, copying and other direct expenses from various sources.

The complete audited financial statements of the Board are published annually in Part II of the Public Accounts for the Province of Nova Scotia.

## **Outcomes and Performance Measures**

Performance measurement in a quasi-judicial context must be carefully designed due to the “custom” or “one-time” nature of many applications and appeals. For example, some hearings require reviews of large amounts of evidence, involve many parties, and can take a number of months to schedule and complete. Other matters may only require the review of small amounts of evidence and, after scheduling, need only a few days to complete. Activity and speed measures do not equate to quality of decision making or due legal process. Regardless of the type of hearing the primary emphasis must always be on producing an unbiased, timely, fair and legally correct decision.

### Core Business Areas, Measures and Outcomes

#### *Core Business Area 1: Quasi-judicial Function*

The core function of the Utility and Review Board is to fairly and independently resolve matters.

<b>Desired Outcome:</b>	Independently and fairly resolve matters.
<b>Measures:</b>	Percentage of hearing decisions issued within 90 days of receipt of final submissions.  Percentage of decisions in relation to interlocutory matters released within 10 business days of final submission.  Average total time for processing case files.
<b>Target:</b>	95% or more of decisions released within stated timeline.  (Note: No total time targets have yet been established for overall processing. As noted above data are being collected in order to set processing targets.)
<b>What Does the Measure Tell Us?</b>	This measure shows how timely the Board is at resolving matters.

**Where Are We Now and Reporting on 2008-2009 Targets?**

As can be seen from the table below the targets are being met in 95.5% of all cases. During the year, classification of the matters was changed to recognize the new and more detailed information available from the case management system. Average decision times are presented in the following tables. Variations in average times can be expected from year to year. Larger, more complex hearings take more time to decide and cause the average to increase. Conversely, larger numbers of single matter hearings take less time to decide and cause the average to decrease. With one exception, the average decision time in each mandate area is considerably below the stated goal of producing decisions in less than 90 days from the date of receiving final evidence.

**Where do want to be?**

As noted above, our previous targets was to release substantially all decisions within 90 days of receipt of final evidence for hearings and within 10 days for interlocutory matters. Starting in the current year success will be measured against 10, 60 or 90 day writing time targets for the specific type of matter. Additional targets, as may be established by statute or the Board, may be added in future. At this time we wish to continue to have a success rate that is as high as possible while respecting the primary emphasis of producing an unbiased, timely, fair and legally correct decision. No targets have been set for average times to decision in recognition of the higher priority being placed on fairness and correctness. The information will continue to be monitored and the averages kept as low as possible.

It should be noted that amendments made to the *Municipal Government Act* during the prior year now require the Board to issue decisions relating to planning appeals within 60 days of the conclusion of proceedings unless the panel determines another target is in the interests of justice. The *Insurance Act* also imposes time restrictions of 15 and 60 days for the production of certain types of decisions. This is the first year of reporting of these new decision writing standards.

During the year the Board introduced a new case management system. That system allows for accumulation of new and more accurate information about the matters the Board deals with. Cases, formerly classified as “requiring hearing” or “interlocutory” in nature, are now categorized by the decision writing targets. Decision writing target times have been reduced for some types of matters. The following tables have been reorganized to accommodate the new information. Where possible comparative information is provided.

Summary results for compliance with policy on decision production times are as follows:

Decision writing targets <sup>3</sup>	2008-2009			2007-2008		
	Number of Matters Decided	Matters Within Standard	Success Rate	Number of Matters Decided	Matters Within Standard	Success Rate
90 days	154	145	94.2	620	605	97.6%
60 days	23	20	87.0			
10 days	758	728	96.0	171	146	85.4%
Combined	935	893	95.5	791	751	94.9%

Average decision production times by area of jurisdiction are as follows:

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<sup>3</sup>

Decision writing times are measured from the date of receipt of final evidence to the date of issuance of the Decision.

Jurisdiction / Mandate	2008-2009		2007-2008	
	Number of Decisions (all types) <sup>4</sup>	Average Time to Decision (days)	Number of Decisions (all types) <sup>5</sup>	Average Time to Decision (days)
Alcohol, Gaming and Amusements <sup>6</sup>			343	2
Gaming	16	12		
Liquor	543	1		
Theatre & Amusements	0	0		
Assessment	30	73	47	40
Automobile Insurance	32	25		
Criminal Injury Compensation	0	0	0	0
Electricity	55	8	14	20
Expropriation Compensation	0	0	0	0
Fire Safety	2	22	0	0
Heritage Properties	0	0	0	0
Halifax-Dartmouth Bridge Commission	1	0 <sup>7</sup>	2	0 <sup>8</sup>
Motor Carrier	96	3	83	3
Municipal and School Board Boundaries	1	151	46	40
Natural Gas	21	5	46	3
Payday Loans	1	135		
Planning	7	70	11	46
Railways	0	0	0	0
Water <sup>9</sup>	95	10	23	43
Wastewater	35	6		

<sup>4</sup> Includes matters of all decision writing time targets.

<sup>5</sup> Excludes interlocutory (10 day decision writing time) matters.

<sup>6</sup> This category has been split into gaming, liquor and theatre & amusements for current and future year reporting.

<sup>7</sup> Decision rendered same day as final hearing date

<sup>8</sup> Decisions rendered on same day as receipt of final submissions.

<sup>9</sup> Included Halifax Regional Municipality waste water matters beginning in 2007-2008.



## Core Business Area 2: Motor Carrier (Public Passenger) Administration

The core function of the Motor Carrier Division of the Board is to provide effective inspection and enforcement services relating to motor carrier operations.

<b>Desired Outcome:</b>	An effective safety inspection and enforcement program.
<b>Measure:</b>	Preventable accidents <sup>10</sup> caused by mechanical failure.
<b>Target:</b>	No preventable accidents caused by mechanical failure.
<b>What Does the Measure Tell Us?</b>	This measure shows the effectiveness of the physical inspection program by looking at the end result. The aim of the safety program is to prevent accidents through regular mechanical inspection, examination of maintenance programs, working with carriers to resolve technical and operating problems, and enforcement activities.
<b>Where Are We Now and Reporting on 2008-2009 Targets?</b>	During the year no accidents were identified that could be attributed to detectable, preventable mechanical failure. One accident was attributed to mechanical failure, however, on examination of the available evidence it was determined that mechanical inspection would not have detected the defect.
<b>Where do we want to be?</b>	Our target is to continue to have no accidents which can be attributed to preventable mechanical failure.

On November 6, 2008 the Auditor General released a report based on an examination of the motor carrier safety inspection program. Among the conclusions the Auditor General called into question the effectiveness of this measure as:

- a. Carriers are not required by law to report accidents to the Division.
- b. The Division has not documented a specific process for inspectors to record accidents which they are aware of or investigate.
- c. Documentation of accident investigation is limited.

The Board has accepted the recommendations and undertaken to formalize the investigation process and seek to make accident reporting mandatory.

The full text of the report can be found on the Auditor General's website at [www.oag-ns.ca](http://www.oag-ns.ca).

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<sup>10</sup> "Preventable accidents" is limited to accidents that result in death, injury or significant property damage. Minor incidents which are not reported are not investigated or otherwise considered.

## Appendix A List of Statutes Containing Board Mandate

1. *Assessment Act*, R.S.N.S. 1989, c.23 as amended
2. *Consumer Protection Act*, R.S.N.S. 1989, c.92 as amended
3. *Education Act*, S.N.S. 1995-96, c.1 as amended
4. *Electrical Installation & Inspection Act*, RSNS.1989, c. 141 as amended
5. *Electrical Installation and Inspection Act*, R.S.N.S. 1989, c. 141 as amended
6. *Energy Resources Conservation Act*, R.S.N.S., 1989, c.147 as amended
7. *Expropriation Act*, R.S.N.S. 1989, c. 156 as amended
8. *Fire Safety Act*, S.N.S. 2002, c.6
9. *Gaming Control Act (Part II)*, S.N.S. 1994-95, c. 4 as amended
10. *Gas Distribution Act*, S.N.S., 1997, c. 4 as amended
11. *Halifax-Dartmouth Bridge Commission Act*, R.S.N.S. 1989, c.192 as amended
12. *Halifax Regional Municipality Water Commission Act*, S.N.S. 1963, c.55 as amended
13. *Heritage Property Act*, R.S.N.S. 1989, c.199 as amended
14. *Insurance Act*, R.S.N.S. 1989, c.231 as amended <sup>11</sup>
15. *Liquor Control Act*, R.S.N.S. 1989, c.260 as amended
16. *Motor Carrier Act (public passenger only)*, R.S.N.S. 1989, c.292 as amended
17. *Motor Vehicle Transport Act of Canada*, S.C. 1987, c.35 (Federal) as amended
18. *Municipal Government Act*, S.N.S. 1998, c.18 as amended
19. *Nova Scotia Power Finance Corporation Act*, R.S.N.S. 1989, c.351 as amended
20. *Nova Scotia Power Privatization Act*, S.N.S. 1992, c.8 as amended
21. *Petroleum Resources Act*, R.S.N.S. 1989, c. 342 as amended
22. *Petroleum Resources Removal Permit Act*, S.N.S. 1999 c.7 as amended
23. *Pipeline Act*, R.S.N.S. 1989 c. 345 as amended
24. *Public Utilities Act*, R.S.N.S. 1989, c.380 as amended
25. *Railways Act*, S.N.S. 1993, c.11 as amended
26. *Revenue Act*, SNS 1995-96, c.17 as amended
27. *Technical Safety Act*, SNS 2008, C.10<sup>12</sup>
28. *Theatre and Amusement Act*, R.S.N.S. 1989, c. 466 as amended
29. *Underground Hydrocarbons Storage Act*, S.N.S. 2001, c. 37
30. *Utility and Review Board Act*, S.N.S. 1992, c. 11 as amended
31. *Victims' Rights and Services Act*, R.S.N.S. 1989, c.14 as amended

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<sup>11</sup> Assigned to the Board effective October 14, 2008

<sup>12</sup> Not yet proclaimed