

ANNUAL REPORT ON FEES

**DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE
JANUARY 2015**

Annual Report on Fees

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January 31, 2015

Donald Forestell
Clerk
Legislative Assembly
Province of New Brunswick
Fredericton, NB E3B 5H1

Mr. Forestell:

Pursuant to subsection 3(1) of the *Fees Act*, I have the honour to present the 2015 *Annual Report on Fees*.

Yours truly,

Roger Melanson
Minister of Finance

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INTRODUCTION

The *Fees Act* (see **Appendix A**) received Royal assent in the spring of 2008. This legislation, which applies to Part I of the public service, established a transparent process governing fees charged by government departments.

It requires detailed information to be made public on all upcoming fee increases and all new fees at least 60 days before implementation by government departments.

The act also specifies that, by January 31st each year, the Minister of Finance must file a document containing such information with the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly. The 2015 document contains detailed information regarding fee changes and/or new fees planned by government departments for the upcoming fiscal year of 2015-2016.

The report also includes information such as the legal authority to charge each fee, the current fee amount, the new fee amount, effective date of the change, revenue details, and departmental contact information.

The first section in the 2015 report summarizes fee changes and/or new fees approved by the provincial Board of Management since publication of the 2014 report.

The second section summarizes upcoming fee changes and/or new fees approved by the Board of Management for the fiscal year 2015-2016. In keeping with the requirement of 60-day minimum notice to the public, none of these fees will take effect until at least April 1, 2015. It is recommended that the effective dates specified in this report be verified with the respective departments as they may be extended following the publication of this report.

It should be noted that the *Fees Act* does allow a department to create or increase fees *during* the upcoming fiscal year. If this occurs, the individual department will file a document with the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly containing the same type of details as are included in this report. The fee change is also subject to the requirement of a minimum 60-day notice to the public.

If there are any mid-year changes, the details of these single filings will be summarized and published in the 2016 report on fees. This compilation will maintain accuracy and transparency concerning fees.

How to Read this Report

Section 3(2) of the *Fees Act* requires this *Annual Report on Fees* to present the following information for new and increased fees proposed for the next fiscal year:

- (a) the name of the department that proposed the fee;
- (b) the name of the fee;
- (c) the legislative authority for the fee;
- (d) the amount of the current fee, if any;
- (e) the amount of the new fee or the increased fee;
- (f) the effective date for the new fee or the increased fee;
- (g) the total annual revenue expected from the fee;
- (h) the change in the annual revenue expected from the fee; and
- (i) the name of the contact person.

In this report, the above information is presented in the following format:

Department Name Contact: Name, Telephone Number (506)	Name of the fee <i>Name of the Act</i> Regulation Number
Current Fee: \$X Proposed Fee: \$Y Effective Date: Month, Day, Year	New Annual Revenue Estimate: \$AA,AAA Change in Annual Revenue: \$B,BBB
Comments:	

Readers should note that “New Annual Revenue Estimate” presents the total expected revenue from the fee at the proposed or increased rate for the upcoming fiscal year. “Change in Annual Revenue” indicates how much additional annual revenue is expected per fiscal year from the new fee rate, as opposed to the prior rate.

While the Minister of Finance is responsible to file this document each January with the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly, information about particular fees should always be obtained from the specific departments and contacts listed in the description of each fee.

This document, and future editions, will be posted in the Publications section of the finance department’s website at <http://www2.qnb.ca/content/gnb/en/departments/finance/publications.html>

General information about fees charged by all government departments is available on the government’s Web-based Directory of Services. This directory is located at <http://www2.qnb.ca/content/gnb/en/services.html> (Key word: fees)

FEE CHANGES TAKING

EFFECT BEFORE

APRIL 1, 2015

(already publicly announced)

FEE CHANGES TAKING EFFECT BEFORE APRIL 1, 2015

Department of Environment and Local Government Contact: Rob Kelly, (506) 444-2649	Impound Fee for Seized Dog <i>Municipalities Act</i> Regulation 84-85
Current Fee: \$5 Proposed Fee: \$15 Effective Date: December 1, 2014	New Annual Revenue Estimate: \$0 * Change in Annual Revenue: \$0 *
Comments: *Revenue collected from this fee is anticipated to be \$7,500 annually but will not increase revenue to the Province as it will be used by the New Brunswick Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals to cover the costs to impound a seized dog.	

Department of Environment and Local Government Contact: Rob Kelly (506) 444-2649	Multi-Year Dog Licences <i>Municipalities Act</i> Regulation 84-85
Current Fee: See schedule Proposed Fee: See schedule Effective Date: December 1, 2014	New Annual Revenue Estimate: \$0* Change in Annual Revenue: \$0 *
Comments: *Revenue collected from these licence fees is anticipated to be \$7,000 annually, but will not increase revenue to the Province as it will be deposited into the Animal Protection Account for use by the New Brunswick Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.	

Schedule – Multi-Year Dog Licences		
Fee or licence	Current Fee	Proposed Fee
Two year dog licence	\$0	\$25
Three year dog licence	\$0	\$35

Department of Health Contact: Renée Laforest, (506) 453-3759	Class 5 - Abattoir <i>Public Health Act</i> Regulation # 2009-138
Current Fee: \$600 Proposed Fee: \$475 Effective Date: July 8, 2014	New Annual Revenue Estimate: \$13,775 Change in Annual Revenue: (\$3,625)
Comments: This is the application fee for a Class 5 licence only as an abattoir. Given recent changes to the inspection process the fee increase of April 1, 2014 is no longer required.	

FEE CHANGES TAKING EFFECT BEFORE APRIL 1, 2015

Department of Healthy and Inclusive Communities Contact: Jeff Leblanc, (506) 457-4842	Combat Sport <i>Combat Sport Act</i> Regulation 2014-131
Current Fee: See schedule Proposed Fee: See schedule Effective Date: October 1, 2014	New Annual Revenue Estimate: \$16,460 Change in Annual Revenue: \$0
Comments: These fees are going to be used to off-set some of the operational expenses of the Commission such as travel expenses, meetings and honoraria.	

Schedule – Combat Sport		
Fee or licence	Current Fee	Proposed Fee
Promoter licence	\$0	\$50
Contestant licence	\$0	\$50
Referee licence	\$0	\$50
Judge licence	\$0	\$50
Corner-person (second) licence	\$0	\$20
Time Keeper	\$0	\$20
Room Supervisor	\$0	\$20
Event permit application fee	\$0	\$100
Percentage of gross gate receipts	\$0	5%

Department of Natural Resources Contact: Tara Holland, (506) 444-5294	Licence of Occupation Fees for Utility Poles and Anchors <i>Crown Lands and Forests Act</i> Regulation 2009-62
Current Fee: See schedule Proposed Fee: See schedule Effective Date: September 1, 2014	New Annual Revenue Estimate: \$0 Change in Annual Revenue: \$0
Comments: In the interest of client service, the <i>Lands Administration Regulation - Crown Lands and Forests Act</i> is being amended to establish a combined application and preparation fee of \$500, plus a one-time charge of \$80 per utility pole and anchor for applications under subsection 26(2) of the Act. The amendments will not result in additional revenue. The current \$300 application fee and the \$200 preparation fee are being combined into a \$500 fee and are therefore revenue neutral. The proposed one-time fee of \$80 per pole and anchor in lieu of an annual rent will provide less overall revenue, but will reduce administrative burden for the Department and its utility pole and anchor clients. Utility pole and anchor agreements do not generate significant annual revenues. Only three utility pole and anchor licences of occupation were issued since 2009 and are generating combined annual revenues of \$240 per year.	

FEE CHANGES TAKING EFFECT BEFORE APRIL 1, 2015

Schedule – Licence of Occupation Fees for Utility Poles and Anchors		
Fee or licence	Current Fee	Proposed Fee
Application for issuance of a licence of occupation for a utility pole and anchor	\$300 application fee \$200 preparation fee	\$500 (combined application and preparation fee)
Licence of occupation annual rent	50% of the standard lease rental that would be payable for a lease of those Crown lands or a minimum rental of \$80, whichever is greater	One-time charge of \$80 per utility pole and anchor (in lieu of an annual rent)

Department of Natural Resources	Crown Timber Royalty Rate
Contact: Mike Bartlett, (506) 453-6673	<i>Crown Lands and Forests Act</i> Regulation 86-160
Current Fee: See schedule	New Annual Revenue Estimate: \$75,600,000
Proposed Fee: See schedule	
Effective Date: October 3, 2014	Change in Annual Revenue: \$3,100,000
Comments: The Department of Natural Resources tracked monthly finished product market indices for the period of November 1, 2012 to October 31, 2013. Crown Fair Market Value rates are adjusted annually based on the change in market indices for each product. The 2014-2015 rates reflect the change in market value of the listed forest products during that time frame.	

Schedule – Crown Timber Royalty Rate		
Crown Timber Royalty Rate	Current Fee (per cubic metre)	Proposed Fee (per cubic metre)
Veneer Logs		
White pine	\$29.19	\$33.96
Spruce-fir-jack pine	\$25.33	\$29.47
Other softwoods	\$20.27	\$23.58
Sugar maple	\$70.16	\$32.62
Yellow birch	\$59.99	\$31.26
Poplar	\$29.11	\$18.97
Other hardwoods	\$33.75	\$26.81
Select Sawlogs		
Sugar maple	\$40.67	\$27.65
Yellow birch	\$34.23	\$26.56
Other hardwoods	\$40.08	\$22.73
Sawlogs		
Sugar maple	\$13.42	\$10.48
Yellow birch	\$11.50	\$10.83
Poplar	\$9.50	\$6.79
Other hardwoods	\$12.31	\$8.61

FEE CHANGES TAKING EFFECT BEFORE APRIL 1, 2015

White pine	\$21.15	\$19.46
Spruce-fir-jack pine	\$23.12	\$28.49
Cedar	\$13.54	\$17.00
Other Softwoods	\$16.87	\$13.69
Studwood and Lathwood		
Poplar	\$9.50	\$6.79
Spruce-fir-jack pine	\$19.74	\$22.93
Cedar	\$13.54	\$17.00
Other Softwoods	\$16.87	\$13.69
Pallet logs		
Any hardwood species	\$7.52	\$5.75
Fencing		
Cedar	\$13.54	\$17.00
Poles and Pilings		
Red pine	\$33.54	\$33.54
Jack pine	\$26.04	\$26.04
Cedar	\$13.54	\$17.00
Posts, Rails and Shinglewood		
Cedar	\$8.83	\$9.84
Pulpwood		
Spruce-fir-jack pine	\$10.34	\$7.29
Other softwoods	\$6.20	\$5.50
Any hardwood species	\$7.52	\$5.75
Oriented Strand Board		
Any hardwood species	\$7.52	\$5.75
Fuelwood		
Any hardwood species	\$7.52	\$5.75
Weir stakes		
Any softwood species	\$30.95	\$30.95
Any hardwood species	\$38.53	\$38.53
Top Poles		
Any species	\$12.31	\$8.61
Weir Brush		
Any species	\$10.00 per permit	\$10.00 per permit
Biomass		
Any species	\$2.00	\$2.00
Tips and branch material		
Ground Hemlock	\$0.22 per kilogram	\$0.22 per kilogram
Other softwood species	\$20.00 per permit	\$20.00 per permit

FEE CHANGES

TAKING EFFECT

APRIL 1, 2015

OR LATER

FEE CHANGES TAKING EFFECT APRIL 1, 2015 OR LATER

Department of Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries Contact: Christian Noris (506) 336-3013	New Brunswick Aquarium and Marine Centre <i>Financial Administration Act</i> Regulation 82-157
Current Fee: See schedule Proposed Fee: See schedule Effective Date: April 1, 2015	New Annual Revenue Estimate: \$130,000 Change in Annual Revenue: \$10,000
Comments: The current fee schedule has been in place since April 1, 2011. The new fee schedule will be in place for the next three years with only new revenue the first year.	

Schedule – New Brunswick Aquarium and Marine Centre		
Fee or licence	Current	Proposed 2015 – 2016 – 2017
Fees for visits to the New Brunswick Aquarium and Marine Centre	\$ (excluding HST)	\$ (excluding HST)
Adults	\$7.53	\$7.96
Youths (6 to 16 years of age)	\$4.87	\$5.31
Children under 6 years of age	Free	Free
Students over 16 years of age	\$5.76	\$6.19
Seniors (65 years of age and over)	\$5.76	\$5.98
Family (2 adults plus children under 16 years of age)	\$20.36	\$21.57
Groups (10 or more persons, per person)		
Adults	\$5.76	\$6.19
Youth (6 to 16 years of age)	\$3.76	\$3.99
Students over 16 years of age)	\$4.65	\$4.87
Seniors (65 years of age and over)	\$4.65	\$4.87
Season passes (from opening date to closing date yearly rate)		
Individual – valid for holder	\$17.70	\$18.81
Family – valid for 2 adults plus children under 16 years of age	\$30.98	\$32.74
Seniors – valid for holder (persons 65 years of age and over) and 1 guest per visit	\$17.70	\$18.81
Education program		
Biologist for a Day	\$22.13	\$23.45

FEE CHANGES TAKING EFFECT APRIL 1, 2015 OR LATER

Department of Public Safety	Motorcycle Driver Training Course
Contact: Mike Comeau, (506) 453-7142	<i>Motor Vehicle Act</i> Regulation 95-164
Current Fee: See schedule Proposed Fee: See schedule Effective Date: April 1, 2015	New Annual Revenue Estimate: \$1,906 Change in Annual Revenue: \$1,906
Comments: There is no change in the fee however the anticipated additional revenue reflects the addition of a motorcycle driver training course. Fees collected would go towards covering the costs associated with administering the program.	

Schedule – Driver Training Course		
Fee or licence	Current Fee	Proposed Fee
Driver Training School Application	\$150	\$150
Annual Driver Training School Application Renewal	\$76	\$76
Subsequent Instructor’s Driving Examination	\$25	\$25
Replacement of a lost or damaged instructor’s permit	\$8	\$8
Instructor’s Permit Application	\$38	\$38
Annual Fee for a Instructor’s Permit Application Renewal	\$32	\$32

APPENDIX A

2011, c.158 *Fees Act*

Deposited May 13, 2011

Definitions

1 The following definitions apply in this Act.

“department” means a portion of the Public Service specified in Part 1 of the First Schedule of the *Public Service Labour Relations Act*. (*ministère*)

“fee” means a fee, levy, royalty or other charge fixed by regulation under the authority of a public Act of the Province. (*droit*)

2008, c.F-8.5, s.1.

Application

2 This Act applies to all fees proposed by departments.

2008, c.F-8.5, s.2.

Annual report on fees

3(1) On or before January 31 in each fiscal year, the Minister of Finance shall file an annual report on fees with the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

3(2) The annual report shall contain the following information for every new fee and increase in a fee proposed for the next fiscal year:

- (a) the name of the department that proposed the fee;
- (b) the name of the fee;
- (c) the legislative authority for the fee;
- (d) the amount of the current fee, if any;
- (e) the amount of the new fee or the increased fee;
- (f) the effective date for the new fee or the increased fee;
- (g) the total annual revenue expected from the fee;
- (h) the change in the annual revenue expected from the fee; and
- (i) the name of the contact person.

3(3) The effective date for a new fee or an increased fee shall be not less than 60 days after the annual report is filed.

3(4) The annual report shall also contain information regarding the fees introduced, changed or eliminated since the previous annual report.

2008, c.F-8.5, s.3.

Other reports on fees

4(1) If a new fee or an increase in a fee is proposed during a fiscal year and the fee is not included in the annual report referred to in subsection 3(1), the Minister responsible for the Act that authorizes

APPENDIX A

the fee shall file a report with the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly at least 60 days before the effective date for the new fee or the increased fee.

4(2) The report shall contain the information referred to in subsection 3(2).

2008, s.F-8.5, s.4.

N.B. This Act was proclaimed and came into force September 1, 2011.

N.B. This Act is consolidated to September 1, 2011.