

**Atlantic Canada Water and Wastewater Association
Government Affairs Chair & Committee
Terms of Reference
Revised December 2018**

Purpose:

The purpose of the Atlantic Canada Water and Wastewater Association (ACWWA) Government Affairs Committee is to act as a liaison between the provincial and municipal levels of government and the Atlantic Canada Water and Wastewater Association to:

- Promote cooperation between the ACWWA and various levels of government;
- Investigate and coordinate opportunities for synergy between the ACWWA and Government; and
- Develop an awareness of government programs and ACWWA's activities.

The Committee will also apprise ACWWA members, via the Section Magazine, regarding legislative and regulatory matters, and other rules such as policies, guidelines, procedures, programs, and approvals that directly or indirectly affect the drinking water and wastewater industry in Atlantic Canada.

Committee Chair Role:

The position is appointed by the Board. The committee chair shall be a member of the American Water Works Association or the Water Environment Federation.

Committee Chair Term:

The Government Affairs Committee Chair is a three year term position with a maximum of two consecutive terms.

Committee Reporting Structure:

The Government Affairs Committee Chair reports to Board through the Government Relations Director. The committee chair shall provide the Membership Director with a written report of activities prior to each Board Meeting.

Committee Composition:

The Government Affairs Committee membership should be comprised of the following members:

- One member from each of the four Atlantic Provinces. The representative should be from the provincial department that regulates drinking water and/or wastewater and/or public health.
- One member from a municipality/utility.

Committee Responsibilities:

- The Government Affairs Committee should meet as required and at the discretion of the Committee Chair.
- The committee should have a minimum of one face-to-face meeting per year, to be held at the annual ACWWA conference.
- Provide advice to the ACWWA Board and members, where appropriate, regarding the status, interpretation, intent, and/or implications of legislative and regulatory matters, policies, guidelines, procedures, programs, and approvals. **[Liaison/consultation]**
- Provide articles for the ACWWA Magazine to apprise members of upcoming legislative and regulatory changes that may affect the potable water and wastewater industry. **[Liaison/consultation for the preparation of articles]**
- Communicate with the ACWWA Education Committee to identify areas that may require programs, projects, or training sessions that will increase awareness and enhance the safety of drinking water in Atlantic Canada. **[Liaison]**
- Have knowledge of legislative and regulatory programs in municipal, provincial and federal government. **[Technical resource]**
- Liaise with other ACWWA Committees for the purpose of disseminating information. **[Liaison/consultation]**
- Report on the activities of the Committee in the Section Magazine or other publications, which may be used by the Section from time to time
- Manage content on the ACWWA Government Affairs webpage.
- At the Annual Conference a presentation should be made provincial regulations and legislation on as required basis.
- Support the efforts of the ACWWA Board by providing information as required.
- Have seminar topics (and speakers) submitted to the Technical Sessions Committee and Conference Committee.
- Assist the Atlantic Canada Water and Wastewater Association in creating a diverse and inclusive membership and establishing an organizational environment that recognizes, encourages, celebrates, and effectively utilizes each individual member's talents.

Potential areas of focus for the Government Affairs Committee are:

- Government policy (municipal, provincial, federal)
- Approval and permitting procedures
- Advise of potential W&WW infrastructure funding programs
- Operator certification
- Canadian Drinking Water Quality Guidelines
- Municipal Wastewater Effluent Strategy

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