

*Laws of Her Majesty's Province of Newfoundland, passed in the year 1855.*

18 Victoria – Chapter 7

**An Act for the Establishment of a Board of Works. (Passed 4th August, 1855.)**

Whereas it is expedient and necessary that provision should be made for the Superintendence and Management of the Public Buildings and all other Property belonging thereto in this Colony.

Be it therefore Enacted, by the Governor, Legislative Council and Assembly, of Newfoundland;

I. That the Surveyor General and Six other Persons any Three of whom shall be a Quorum, shall be appointed by the Governor in Council, and shall hold office during pleasure, and shall constitute a Board for the superintendence and management of the Government House, Colonial Building, Court House, Penitentiary, Lunatic Asylum, Custom Houses and Gaols, and all other Buildings and Property belonging to the Colony, and of all the Light Houses, Buoys and Beacons, erected, or to be erected, therein, and of all the Public Streets, Roads, and Bridges, made or to be made within the Colony, and that such Persons shall be called "The Board of Works."

II. The Surveyor General shall be Chairman of the said Board, and shall have the supervision of the Crown Lands, and all the Public Roads, Streets and Bridges; of all the Public Buildings, Light Houses, Buoys and Beacons, and the Property belonging thereto, in this Colony; subject nevertheless to the provisions of this Act, and the direction and control of the said Board.

III. The Governor in Council shall appoint a Secretary at a Salary not exceeding Two Hundred Pounds a-year, who shall hold office during the pleasure of the Crown.

IV. The Board shall have and exercise all the power and authority now vested in all Commissioners or other persons appointed and acting ) under the following Acts of the Legislature of this Colony; save and except so far as the same may be altered by this Act; namely:—

Such parts of an Act passed in the Fourth year of the Reign of His late Majesty King William the Fourth, intituled "An Act to Regulate the making and repairing of Roads and High-ways in this Island," as are in force; such parts of an Act passed in the Fifth year of the Reign of His late Majesty King William the Fourth, intituled, "An Act to amend an Act passed in the second Session of the Parliament of this Colony, intituled an Act to regulate the making and repairing of Roads and Highways in this Island," as are in force; also the Seventeenth section of an Act passed in the Sixth year of the Reign of Her Majesty, intituled "an Act for granting to Her Majesty a sum of Money for making, constructing and repairing Roads, Streets, and Bridges, in this Colony, and for regulating the expenditure of the same."

An Act passed in the Fourteenth year of the Reign of Her Majesty, intituled "an Act for granting to Her Majesty a sum of Money for constructing and repairing Roads, Streets, and Bridges, within this Colony, and for other purposes."

An Act passed in the Sixteenth year of the Reign of Her Majesty, intituled “an Act for granting to Her Majesty a sum of Money for the constructing and repairing of Roads, Streets, and Bridges.

Such parts of an Act passed in the Fifth year of the Reign of His late Majesty, King William the Fourth, intituled “an Act for the Establishment of a Light House on the Harbor Grace Island,” as are in force. An Act passed in the First year of the Reign of Her Majesty, intituled, “an Act to authorise the raising by loan a further sum of Money for the completion of a Light House on Harbor Grace Island, and to make further regulations respecting the same.”

Such parts of an Act passed in the Fourth year of the Reign of Her Majesty, intituled, “an Act to make provision for the Establishment of a Light House on or near to Cape Bonavista,” as are in force.

Also an Act passed in the Seventeenth year of the Reign of Her Majesty, intituled, “an Act for the maintenance of a Light House on Cape Pine.”

An Act passed in the Fifteenth year of the Reign of Her Majesty, intituled “an Act to amend and consolidate the Acts now in force respecting Light Houses in this Colony.”

And also an Act passed in the Fifteenth year of the Reign of Her Majesty intituled, “an Act to amend the Carbonear Street Act.”

Such parts of an Act passed in the Third year of the Reign of His late Majesty, King William the Fourth, intituled “an Act to Regulate the Street of the Town of Harbor Grace,” as are in force.

Also such parts of an Act passed in the Fourth year of the Reign of His late Majesty, King William the Fourth, intituled, “an Act to amend an Act of the General Assembly, intituled “an Act to regulate the Streets of the Town of Harbor Grace,” as are in force.

An Act passed in the Sixth year of the Reign of his late Majesty, King William the Fourth, intituled “an Act to authorise the erection of a Colonial House in the Town of St. John’s, and the raising by loan of a sum of Money for that purpose.”

Also an Act passed in the Seventh year of the Reign of Her Majesty, intituled “an Act to amend an Act passed in the Sixth year of the Reign of his late Majesty, intituled “an Act to authorise the erection of a Colonial House in the Town of St. John’s. and the raising by loan of a sum of Money for that purpose.”

So much of an Act passed in the Ninth year of the Reign of Her Majesty, intituled “an Act to authorise the raising by loan a further sum of Money for the erection of a Colonial Building in St. John’s, and for other purposes,” as is in force.

Also an Act passed in the Sixth year of the Reign of His late Majesty, King William the Fourth, intituled “an Act for the Relief of Sick and Disabled Seamen, Fishermen, and other Persons.”

An Act passed in the Fifteenth year of the Reign of Her Majesty, intituled “an Act to repeal the Acts respecting the establishment of a Lunatic Asylum at St. John’s, and to make other provisions in lieu thereof.”

An Act passed in the Fourteenth year of the Reign of Her Majesty, intituled “an Act for the establishment and regulation of a Penitentiary in St. John’s.”

An Act passed in the Fifteenth year of the Reign of Her Majesty, intituled “an Act to consolidate and amend, the St. John’s Rebuilding Act.”

Provided, that the Surveyor General shall continue to perform the same duties as required of him by the last mentioned Act.

V. The Board shall also have and exercise all the powers and authority now vested in all Commissioners, Directors or other Persons appointed and acting Under and by virtue of all other Laws, Rules or Orders, or under any Commission now in force in this Island, in any way relating to the control or supervision of such Commissioners, Directors, or other Persons, over all the Public Highways, Streets, Roads and Bridges, of and in this Colony, and over the Light Houses, Colonial Building, Market House, Hospital, Lunatic Asylum, Penitentiary, Government House, Custom Houses, Gaols and Court-Houses; and all Public Property belonging to any of the said respective Establishments—whether the same be real or personal, moveable or immoveable.

VI. That on this Act coming into operation, all such, powers and authority now vested by Law or otherwise in such Commissioners or other persons so empowered as aforesaid to control, superintend or manage the said Public Roads, Streets, High Ways, Bridges, or the said respective Public Buildings, and the appurtenances thereto belonging; and all such other Public Property of the Colony, shall cease and determine; and such Commissioners or other Persons so empowered as aforesaid shall cease to have or exercise any Power or authority whatever in or over the said Public Works, Buildings, or other Property of the Colony.

VII. The Board shall have full power and authority, from time to time, and at all times, to make and establish Bye Laws, Rules and Regulations for the better management of all their affairs; subject, nevertheless, to the approval of the Governor in Council.

VIII. The Board shall appoint and remove all the Officers, Super-intendent’s, and Keepers Of Public Buildings and Light Houses, the Road Inspectors and Surveyors, and any other necessary Officers and Servants of the said Board, subject to the approval of the Governor in Council, to carry out the provisions of this Act; who shall respectively hold Office during pleasure.

IX. The Board shall and may allow to all Persons so employed, such Salaries, or other compensation, as they shall deem reasonable to be paid by Warrant on the Receiver General out of the General Revenue of this Colony; but all such allowances shall be subject to the approval of the Governor and Council, and may be altered at their discretion, and shall be subject to the annual revision and control of the Legislature.

X. That the Fourth, Fifth and Eighth Sections of an Act passed in the Fifth year of the Reign of His late Majesty King William the Fourth, entitled "An Act to amend an Act passed in the Second Session of the Parliament of this Colony, entitled 'An Act to regulate the malting and repairing of Roads and Highways in this Island.'" providing for the appointment of Boards of Road Commissioners and Road, Surveyors and the Fourth Section of an Act passed in the Fourteenth year of the Reign of Her Majesty, entitled "An Act for granting to Her Majesty a sum of Money for constructing and repairing Roads, Streets and Bridges, within this Colony, and for other purposes," providing for the appointment of Boards of Road Commissioners; and that part of the Fifth Section of the last mentioned Act, providing for the appointment of Road Inspectors; and also the Ninth Section of an Act passed in the Sixteenth year of Reign of Her Majesty, entitled "An Act for granting to Her Majesty a sum of Money for constructing and repairing of Roads, Streets and Bridges," providing for the appointment of Road Inspectors and Surveyors; also so much of the Eighth Section of an Act passed in the Sixth year of the Reign of His late Majesty King William the Fourth, Cap. 1. entitled "An Act for the relief of Sick and Disabled Seamen, Fishermen, and other Persons," as provides for the payment of dues by Sealers and Fishermen; be and the same are hereby respectively Repealed, save and except all acts and proceedings done and performed under the authority thereof: Provided that nothing herein contained shall have the effect of reviving any Act or Acts repealed in whole or in part by any of the said, repealed Sections.

XI. The Governor in Council shall appoint Boards of Road Commissioners, to consist of Five Persons on each Board, for the several Out-, port Electoral Districts, and sub-divisions thereof, in this Island, and shall, also supply such vacancies as may occur in any such Boards by death, absence or refusal to act, or by reason of any other cause; and that Three Members of each of such Boards, including the Chairman thereof, shall, be a Quorum for the despatch of business.

XII. The Boards of Road Commissioners, so to be appointed, shall respectively appoint their own Chairmen, Inspectors and other Officers, subject to the approval of the Governor in Council, and shall have and exercise, in their respective Districts and sub-divisions thereof, all the powers and authority now vested by the said several Acts, or by any other law, in any Outport Board of Road Commissioners appointed thereunder, subject, nevertheless, to the supervision and control of the Chairman of "Board of Works," and to such Rules and Regulations as the said Board shall prescribe for their guidance.

XIII. The Board shall make a general statement of their affairs to, the Governor, Quarterly, and a particular Report Yearly, of their proceedings, to be laid before the Legislature at the opening of the then next Session.