

***Disaster Assistance Appeal Board***

**Board Member**

Chairperson

Doug Dobrowolski, Domain

Vice-Chair

Trevor King, Warren

Members

Karen MacKinnon, Flin Flon <sup>(1)</sup>

Maurice Grenier, Somerset (bil.)

Ruth Murray, Morris

<sup>(1)</sup> Representative of the Association of Manitoba Municipalities.

***Mandate:***

The Disaster Assistance Appeal Board is a quasi-judicial tribunal that hears appeals and may provide assistance in accordance with the policy and guidelines for disaster assistance approved by the Lieutenant Governor in Council.

**Authority:**

[The Emergency Measures Act](#)

**Responsibilities:**

The Emergency Measures Act provides an appeal process for claimants who feel they have not received all the assistance to which they are entitled from the Disaster Financial Assistance program. The first stage of this process involves an internal review, and the second stage is an appeal to the Manitoba Disaster Assistance Appeal Board.

When a Disaster Assistance Program is implemented in accordance with the Act the Manitoba Disaster Assistance Appeal Board is responsible for the adjudication of appeals pursuant to The Emergency Measures Act, the Disaster Financial Assistance Policy, and Policy, The Red River Floodway Act and The Water Resources Administration Act.

The Board hears appeals resulting from the disposition of claims for disaster assistance by the Manitoba Emergency Measures Organization (“EMO”). The appeals generally focus on the eligibility of the claim and/ or the amount of compensation awarded.

The Board can dispose of an appeal by confirming, varying, or setting aside the decision of the Emergency Measures Organization. All parties involved in the appeal are notified in writing as to the decision of the Board. Any assistance granted under The Emergency Measures Act is gratuitous and the Board’s decision is not subject to any appeal or review in any court of law. Decisions under The Red River Floodway Act and The Water Resources Administration Act are subject to appeal.

The Chair/Vice Chair is responsible for writing decisions that may be appealed to the Courts.

**Membership:**

3 to 5 Members members appointed by LGIC (Includes Chair and Vice Chair)

Note: One of the board members is traditionally recruited from the membership of the Association of Manitoba Municipalities. The board should have a minimum of one French-speaking member.

**Quorum:**

Majority

**Length of Terms:**

Fixed Term

Members may be reappointed, and continue to serve until reappointed, replaced or revoked.

**Desirable Expertise:**

- sensitivity to social-economic needs of people affected by disaster and knowledge of agriculture issues;
- representation from a municipal council;
- cross-section of rural/urban representation;
- willingness to participate in detailed orientation into the policies and guidelines of the DFA program. Understanding of legislation pertaining to matters at issue;
- have the ability to read complex written material, analyze written and verbal information in order to ascertain facts, and apply relevant legislation to this written and verbal information;
- must be able to communicate verbally and have the ability to ask questions using open ended, non-judgmental language;
- have active listening skills;
- be able to read and interpret policies/legislation and how it applies to the case;
- use plain language;
- adhere to a high degree of confidentiality;
- have the ability to make decisions in a fair and unbiased manner; and
- basic technology skill.

**Meetings:**

Frequency: As required

Duration: Either half day or full day as needed

Location: Various locations, depending on the location of the appellant

**Remuneration:**

Chair: \$138 per half day; \$243 per full day

Members: \$79 per half day; \$139 per full day

Mileage is also paid as well, up to \$39.50 for travel compensation. Members are reimbursed for out-of-pocket expenses incurred in discharging their duties.