

(ran May 24-31 – targeting all of NS) - Spent \$500.25  
2,547 post engagements (reactions, comments, shares, link clicks) - \$0.17 – cost per post engagement  
Reach – 35,401 (number of accounts that saw the ad at least once)  
Impressions - 74,808 (number of times the ad was on the screen)

Breakdown of post-engagements:

	13-17	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+
Results (Men)	0	9	24	41	38	73	45
Results (Women)	0	31	240	381	516	561	518

Men9% (230) - Cost per result: \$0.21

Women88% (2,247) - Cost per result: \$0.17

**10. Second Annual Saskatchewan Health Authority Conference on Peer Support Sept. 27-28**

Tamara represented SCM&WA and the Warm Line virtually at this Conference. She will be on a panel and also lead a yoga session. She spoke about the stories told by the other folks who were on the panel. All were very interesting.

**11. Red Cross Psychological First aid Courses – Self Care; and Caring for Others available until Nov. 26<sup>th</sup>**

Because we have funding from Red Cross we are eligible to access these courses up to 30 times. Kevin has the codes if anyone would like to access the courses. Tamara shared the codes with the volunteers and knows of 2 of the volunteers that took some of the free courses offered.

**12. NS Mental Health Knowledge Collaborative**

No new courses scheduled right now.

**13. TriCounty Aging Well Together Coalition**

Future meetings are on hold until a review of Community Links is completed.

**14. NSH/Community Stakeholder**

An in person meeting is scheduled for early in December.

**15. Because We Care Fund – Mental Health Fair Oct. 14 11am- 5pm**

In the end we did not participate at the Fair in Yarmouth. With our Trails Walks and Lunch and Learns we had enough on our plate that week. It was felt that 6 hours was too long for the Fair.

**16. Next Meeting November 21, 2023**

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, November 21, 2023 in Shelburne at the Community Center on King Street. Marilyn to book it.

**17. Adjournment**

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 12 noon.



**NOVA SCOTIA  
FEDERATION OF  
MUNICIPALITIES**

**Title: "Modernizing Municipal Services: A Step Forward for Nova Scotia"**

*By Brenda Chisholm-Beaton, President, Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities (NSFM) and Mayor of the Town of Port Hawkesbury. NSFM is the legislated voice of all 49 Nova Scotia Municipalities.*

As Bill 340 progresses through the provincial legislature, NSFM is unequivocal in our endorsement of Bill 340. This bill paves the way for a new *Service Exchange Agreement* Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), a longstanding priority of our members. In simple terms, the MOU clarifies the roles and responsibilities of each order of government and addresses critical areas of mutual interest. Bill 340 will establish the legislative framework for a new MOU for 48 municipalities, along with a separate MOU for the Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM).

NSFM was gratified when the honorable Minister John Lohr of Municipal Affairs and Housing received a mandate in September 2021 to renegotiate the *Service Exchange Agreement* (MOU), incorporating the Municipal Financial Capacity Grant (MFCG) and roads as discussion topics. With the stars aligning, both orders of government embarked on negotiations for a new MOU.

NSFM collaborated with municipalities to compile MOU priorities, sharing them with the newly formed *Service Exchange Review and Municipal Government Act Review* (SERMGAR) advisory committee, comprising provincial staff, NSFM staff, and municipal elected officials and administrators. After 18 months of concerted effort, the Province and SERMGAR presented the MOU proposal to municipalities, culminating in consultations in August 2023. These consultations engaged 215 diverse participants representing 92% of Nova Scotia municipalities.

Overall, the MOU proposal garnered favorable reception, although concerns were voiced regarding one of the roads programs, and one regional municipality sought a distinct MOU. On September 14, 2023, NSFM conveyed its support for the MOU proposal to Minister Lohr, accompanied by some recommendations based on the consultations.

In essence, the features of the MOU that we endorse include an unfrozen, modernized municipal financial capacity grant formula, the cessation of municipal contributions toward corrections and housing net operating losses, a provincial program for infrastructure, a roads program for trunks and collectors for Towns, and the transfer of responsibility for obsolete schools to the Province. We have also requested that Roads Program B be returned to what SERMGAR, and the Province refer to as "Schedule A," which outlines other municipal priorities for future phases of MOU negotiations.

Furthermore, it is evident that the Cape Breton Regional Municipality (CBRM) has expressed reservations about the MOU proposal and aspires to have a separate MOU, similar to HRM. This stance was abundantly clear during consultations and a special meeting of NSFM and CBRM. Therefore, NSFM has lent its support to their request and direction in the letter.

On September 28, 2023, Minister Lohr acknowledged NSFM's support for the MOU and recommendations, including the removal of Part B of the Roads program. Regarding CBRM, the Minister noted that his department held discussions with CBRM staff in September and sent two letters to CBRM indicating a willingness to consider a separate MOU, contingent on CBRM's decision to forgo the current savings under the proposed MOU in favor of a separate agreement or to be included in the MOU proposal with the other 47 municipalities. These deliberations currently rest with CBRM and the Province.

NSFM recognizes that municipalities face substantial challenges often beyond their control, impacting their sustainability. We will persist in urging the Provincial and Federal governments to collaborate with municipalities on finding solutions. Negotiating a new MOU will not fully address all these challenges, but it represents a significant step in the right direction.

In conclusion, three essential considerations regarding Bill 340:

1. Our 49 members place an exceedingly high value on consultation, collaboration, and negotiation. NSFM greatly appreciates the inclusion of these elements in the MOU discussions with the Province.
2. Municipal financial growth is pivotal to our work. The MOU offers new revenue options. While some may view the "corrections and housing" changes as a "flow-through," municipalities have the discretion to reinvest these funds or reduce taxes. Additionally, cost-sharing options will materialize through infrastructure and roads programs. Moreover, several municipalities will experience increased revenues under the new municipal capacity grant formula, and as an adjustment measure, the Province will commit to a five-year top-up for those municipalities negatively impacted, ensuring they receive the same funding as before.
3. Ultimately, it is resoundingly clear that our members demand a new MOU. Bill 340 provides the legislative framework for enacting this MOU into regulation, including the pathways for HRM's MOU and the potential for CBRM's MOU if they choose that direction. One thing NSFM cannot support is maintaining the 'status quo' embodied by a three-decades-old MOU that no longer serves our needs.

NSFM will participate in law amendments in support of Bill 340 and extends an invitation for others to do the same.

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**To:** Bedingfield (rbedingfield@kentville.ca); 'Sandi Millett-Campbell (cao@annapolisroyal.com)'; 'Sarah Mattatall (sarah.mattatall@shelburnens.ca)'; 'Scot Weeres (scot.weeres@westville.ca)'; 'Scott Conrod (sconrod@countyofkings.ca)'; 'Stephane Cyr (cao@munclare.ca)'; 'Susan Higdon (susan.higdon@stellarton.ca)'; 'Tammy Crowder (tammy.crowder@bridgewater.ca)'; 'Tara Maguire (tmaguire@chester.ca)'; 'Terry Doyle (tdoyle@townofph.ca)'; 'Tom MacEwan (tom.macewan@modl.ca)'; 'Tom Ossinger (eossinger@digby.ca)'; 'Troy MacCulloch (tmacculloch@richmondcounty.ca)'; 'Victoria Brooks (victoria@munyarmouth.ca)'; 'Warren MacLeod (warren.macleod@municipalityofshelburne.ca)'  
**Subject:** Update on Housing Needs Assessment Project  
**Attachments:** winmail.dat

Dear Mayors, Wardens, and Municipal Officials,

Note: Information is embargoed until 11:00 am October 23, 2023

Thank you for your support during the Provincial Housing Needs Assessment project. The feedback received during the engagement sessions highlighted that housing issues affect communities in each part of the province.

We could not have had such a high degree of engagement without your help. We heard from over 20,000 individuals through the public survey and 115 employers. We held engagement sessions with each municipality, post-secondary institutions and student leaders, first-voice participants, and stakeholder organizations. The participation of municipalities in this process, providing input and promoting the project, was critical.

I am pleased to let you know that the Provincial Report will be released today along with the Provincial Housing Plan. The embargo is now lifted on the individual municipal reports that you each already received, and they may be shared publicly, if you so choose, following the release of the Provincial report.

If you have any questions about the Housing Needs Assessment, please contact Tunde Awoyiga, Director of Economics & Statistics at [Babatunde.awoyiga@novascotia.ca](mailto:Babatunde.awoyiga@novascotia.ca)<mailto:Babatunde.awoyiga@novascotia.ca>.

Again, we thank you for your support during this project. These reports serve as a foundation for current and future collaboration in housing information and data collection, that will lead to improved evidence-based decision-making.

Thank you,

[cid:image001.png@01DA0593.41BDA550]  
Department of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
8 North, Maritime Centre  
1505 Barrington Street  
Halifax, NS B3J 2M4

Byron Rafuse, FCPA  
Deputy Minister  
Municipal Affairs and Housing

☎ 902-424-4100  
✉ [Byron.Rafuse@novascotia.ca](mailto:Byron.Rafuse@novascotia.ca)<mailto:Byron.Rafuse@novascotia.ca>

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE:

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**Municipal Affairs and Housing  
Office of the Minister**

PO Box 216, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada B3J 2M4 • Telephone 902-424-5550 Fax 902-424-0581 • novascotia.ca

Oct 20/23

Juanita Spencer  
Chief Executive Officer  
Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities  
1809 Barrington Street – Suite 1304  
Halifax NS B3J 3K8  
Via email: [jspencer@nsfm.ca](mailto:jspencer@nsfm.ca)

Dear Juanita Spencer:

I want to take this opportunity to confirm with you Government's plans with regards to the Service Exchange Agreement.

The intention is to complete regulations and approve programs in keeping with the proposed agreement negotiated with SERMGAR and which was presented during consultations this past summer.

To be clear, that means for the 48 municipalities covered by the renegotiated agreement, the legislation and eventual regulations will:

- remove the requirement under the *Corrections Act* for municipalities to make an annual contribution towards corrections;
- remove the requirement under the *Housing Supply and Services Act* for municipalities to pay a portion of the net operating losses for public housing;
- change the *Education Act* so that, in the future, ownership of schools built prior to 1981 would transfer back to the Province when they are deemed obsolete, with municipalities given the first right of offer to purchase the building at a negotiated price;
- update the *Municipal Grants Act* and move elements of the Municipal Financial Capacity Grant formula into regulation so it is more flexible and easier to adapt to the changing needs of municipalities and enabling government to implement the new formula agreed to by municipalities.

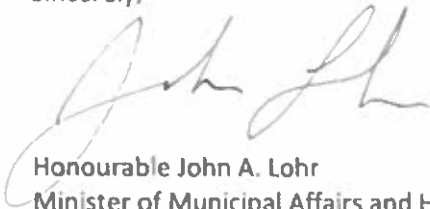
The new legislation and regulations will take effect April 1, 2024.

In addition, our plan is to create a new program for Infrastructure. The originally negotiated Roads Part A will also see a new program created. We have listened to the concerns of Municipalities raised during our consultation process and Part B of roads will be moved to Schedule A for further discussions. Both Infrastructure and Roads Part A will see programs open during the 2024/25 fiscal year.

Juanita Spencer  
Page 2

I trust that this information is helpful.

Sincerely,



Honourable John A. Lohr  
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

C: Byron Rafuse, Deputy Minister, Municipal Affairs and Housing Municipal Affairs and Housing

37,

## June Harding

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**From:** CAO <cao-bounces@municipal-website-venture.com> on behalf of Marie J. Walsh <mjwalsh@cbrm.ns.ca>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 24, 2023 12:40 PM  
**To:** cao@municipal-website-venture.com  
**Subject:** Re: [CAO] letter from Minister

Good Afternoon CAO Colleagues,

I am writing to you in response to the letter that was sent to all CAO's by Minister Lohr but somehow excluded me. I can't tell you how disappointed I am that Minister Lohr attempted to lobby my colleagues behind my back and how unprofessional this is. We CAOs are the subject matter experts that offer advice to our councils. It is not our job to lobby or advocate; it is our elected officials' jobs. You would think that the Minister, as well as his staff, would be aware. It was also brought to my attention that the province has been contacting CAOs directly by phone requesting they provide letters of support or speak at Law Amendments. This activity is unconscionable and repugnant. They are attempting to divide and conquer.

We in the CBRM have always supported our municipal colleagues when in need, from providing letters of support for the Yarmouth Ferry to support Antigonish in their structural change conversation. We are not asking our colleagues for anything. If you feel you need or want to write a letter of support or speak at Law Amendments in support the legislation, we respect your individual municipality's decision to do so. What we do not like is this province's determination to lobby and twist each municipality's arm to advocate their legislation. This is against CBRM today but may be any of us tomorrow. We are not trying to block a bill, we are trying to advocate a better deal for NS Municipalities who, in this MOU, have been, yet again, short changed on the Municipal capacity grant which has not been increased in 28 years.

Thank you for your time.

Marie

**Marie J Walsh, CPA, CGA | Chief Administrative Officer**

Cape Breton Regional Municipality

320 Esplanade, Suite 401, Sydney, NS B1P 7B9

📞 902-563-7979 | 📠 902-574-1720 | 📠 902-563-5137



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OFFICE OF THE PREMIER

PO BOX 726  
HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA  
B3J 2T3

October 25, 2023

Dear Councillor,

I wanted to reach out following very productive meetings in Ottawa last week with Minister Wilkinson, Minister Fraser and Minister LeBlanc around the future of energy security in Nova Scotia.

I am excited about the potential for our Province in renewable energy. This starts with ensuring reliable, affordable and clean energy for our future.

Wind, both on- and off-shore, is an important part of our future. We need wind to help us ensure reliable energy sources at affordable rates for Nova Scotians. We also need wind to reach our 2030 targets. I know these are goals you share.

This morning, I participated in a roundtable discussion with the Minister of Environment and Climate Change to reiterate the opportunities in renewable energy.

Nova Scotia has the potential to become a worldwide energy powerhouse.

Not only is this good for the environment, but it is a positive step for more reliable and affordable energy.

Earlier this month, our Government released our Clean Energy Plan. This plan demonstrates our path for energy security for our future. This plan relies heavily on one of our best assets - our wind.

I am pleased to attach that plan for your review.

I am hopeful municipalities across the Province will join me in my excitement and optimism for our wind sector. If you have any questions about our plan, please reach out to our team and we would be happy to walk you through the plan.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Tim Houston'.

Honourable Tim Houston,  
Premier of Nova Scotia

Enclosure: NS Clean Power Plan

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# Nova Scotia's 2030 Clean Power Plan

Nova Scotia Department of Natural  
Resources and Renewables

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## 2030 Clean Power Plan

- ▶ **Flexible.** Implementation of this Plan ensures that NS avoids decades of financial and technological lock-in. This creates flexibility for NS both on the path to coal closure by 2030; while also opening room for future investments in growth sectors like Offshore Wind, Hydrogen, Batteries etc.
- ▶ **Doable. On Time.** All the major electricity legislation or investments required to trigger the core actions of the Plan, and to close coal on time, have already been made by the NS Government, or will be set in motion in the coming months. And all can be delivered in time for 2030.
- ▶ **Affordable.** This Plan centres around Affordability – and ensures that the path to 2030 protects NS ratepayers (who already face high power bills) from being burdened with additional excessive risks or uncontrolled costs.

## Nova Scotia's Electricity Context

Nova Scotia has commitments to:

- ▶ Phase out coal & reach 80% renewables by 2030.
- ▶ Reduce GHGs from electricity by more than 90% (from 10.7 MT in 2005).

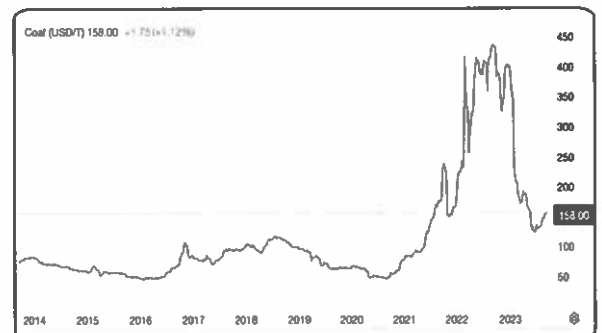
These commitments:

- ▶ Are driven by the Federal requirements for coal closure and new Clean Electricity Regulations.
- ▶ These create significant costs for NS ratepayers.

Unplanned, additional burdens must be managed:

- ▶ Significant fuel cost pressures have arisen from the delayed and under-delivering Maritime Link, which forces increased purchases of expensive coal.
- ▶ More and stronger storms are impacting reliability.

**Historic Coal Prices (USD)**





- ▶ Nova Scotia's electricity system is highly vulnerable to climate change linked events.
- ▶ The past 12 months alone have seen:
  - ▶ Historic Hurricane Fiona, September 2022
  - ▶ Historic Polar Vortex, February 2023
  - ▶ Historic Forest Fires, May 2023
  - ▶ Historic Rain & Flooding, July 2023
- ▶ These types of events will continue to increase in frequency and intensity.

## Maritime Link Update

- ▶ The Maritime Link, Labrador Island Link, and Muskrat Falls facilities have been commissioned, but there remain significant ongoing challenges in receiving the full value of Nova Scotians' investments.
- ▶ Nova Scotian ratepayers have been carrying the double cost burden of not only paying the annual costs of the Link itself, but then also being required to pay – and at soaring global prices – for replacement coal and gas. This fuel was required for some years because of delays in commissioning, now compounded by ongoing under-delivery issues.
- ▶ The future is more promising, but in the meantime, this has created severe fuel cost pressures on NS ratepayers, and an ongoing bill.

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## Atlantic Loop: Update

1. Capital costs have increased by 300%, from \$2.95 Billion in 2020 to more than \$9 Billion today. Burdening everyday Nova Scotian ratepayers with this level of new cost, plus the risk of even more cost escalation, is unacceptable.
2. Quebec has confirmed it does not have the product Nova Scotia required to close coal – firm energy available for sale to meet our winter peak needs.
3. Global supply chain challenges (HVDC equipment, cables); plus the need for all three provinces to complete approvals and negotiations; plus a tight construction industry mean the Atlantic Loop cannot be ready for 2030.
4. Investing in our own energy resources avoids Nova Scotian's having to spend billions on infrastructure in Quebec and New Brunswick.



**2027**  
The year in which we will need new energy supplies

**2026-2027**  
The winter in which we will need new capacity supplies

Calls for tenders have already been launched to meet these needs, and others will follow.

- Hydro Quebec Strategic Plan 2022-26

This option is no longer viable for 2030.

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## Comparative Energy Sources: Costs (\$/MWh)

<b>Atlantic Loop Energy</b>	<b>\$200-\$250</b>	
NS Wind		\$45-\$65
Battery + NS Wind		\$70-\$100
Offshore NS Wind		\$70-\$140
Solar		\$80-\$130
Natural Gas*		\$100-\$170
Imports (from NL, NB, NE)		\$150-\$200
Smart Grid/Efficiency		\$0-\$50

\*Natural Gas may incur carbon costs. However, revenues would be in recycled back to mitigate ratepayer impacts through investments in further GHG investments.

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## Nova Scotia's Historic Opportunity

- ▶ NS has some of the most exceptional winds in the world, with capacity factors that can exceed 50% in the onshore.
- ▶ Our offshore has even more wind potential, providing Nova Scotia a significant advantage in offshore wind and hydrogen.
- ▶ Nova Scotia is also home to world-class expertise in batteries, and rapidly growing new firms.
- ▶ Harnessing these local resources reduces Nova Scotia's dependency on imported coal or natural gas, and enormously strengthens our energy security.
- ▶ Wider electrification will enable NS to replace \$5 Billion spent on bills for imported fuel, by tapping into much cheaper local, renewable power.

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# Nova Scotia's 2030 Clean Power Plan



## New Energy Resources

1. Wind
2. Solar



## Smart Grid Management Tools

3. Batteries and Renewables Integration
4. Electrification and Load Management

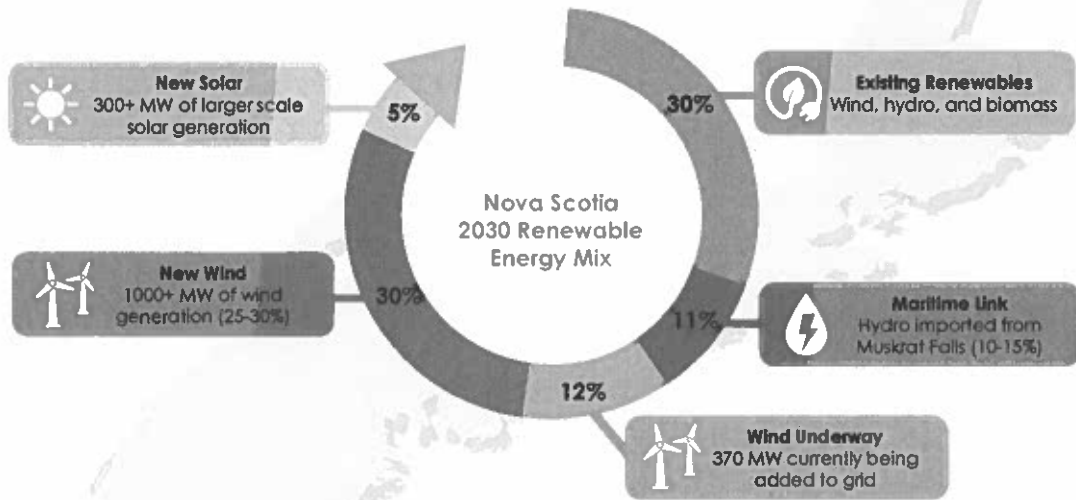


## Resilience and Reliability

5. Transmission
6. Fast-Acting Generation
7. Emergency and Reliability

# Nova Scotia's 2030 Clean Power Plan

Achieve 80% renewables • Close coal • Cut electricity GHGs by 90% • Improve grid resiliency



## Supporting Resiliency and Reliability of the Grid

**Batteries: 300 MW**  
 innovative battery deployment underway

**Fast Acting Generators: 300 MW**  
 New, dispatchable generators

**NS-NB Tie: 500+ MW**  
 New 345kV reliability line to NB to help manage renewables

**Reliability/Emergency Plants: 450 MW**  
 Retain 4 oil/gas units for emergency use

**Load Management: 150 MW**  
 Peak management, demand response, and efficiency

# 1. Wind

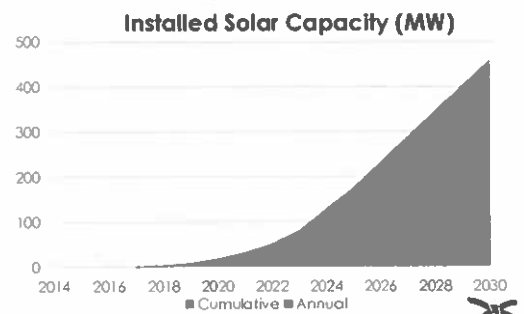
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- ▶ Increase onshore wind generation from 20% to 50%+ of electricity.
  - ▶ Add ~1,000 MW of new wind by 2030 to reduce GHGs and stabilize costs through fixed price contracts.
  - ▶ Plus 370 MW is already underway from the recent RFP.
  - ▶ Confirmed in all scenarios from NSP's Integrated Resource Plan.
- ▶ Wind is widely-agreed to be the lowest cost electricity resource available to Nova Scotia, with the latest RFP costing just 5.3 cents/kwh for 370 MW.
- ▶ **Fall 2023:** Nova Scotia launches the Green Choice Program procurement for the next 350 MW of wind.
- ▶ Additional procurements will follow (est. 2025 and 2027) alongside work to encourage responsible development and mitigate supply chain issues.



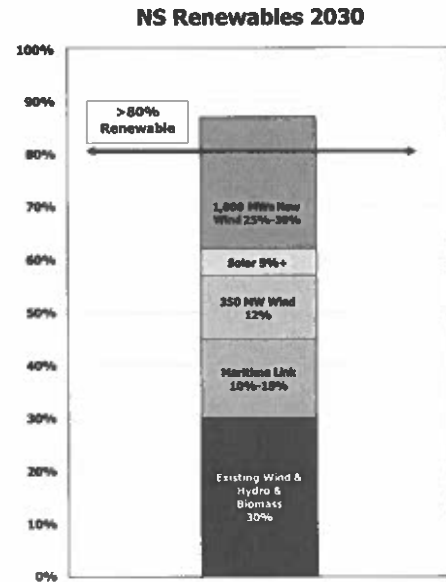
## 2. Solar

- ▶ Significantly expand the use of solar across NS.
  - ▶ Net metering was strengthened in legislation, and 7,000 Nova Scotians have now installed solar.
  - ▶ Demand is growing on farms, businesses, municipalities and First Nations – driven by economics, and a desire for more control over their energy.
  - ▶ The solar industry now employs 500 people today in NS and is on trend to hit 1,000 next year.
- ▶ **Fall 2023:** NS's Community Solar Program and Commercial Net Metering launch this Fall- with more than \$150M in solar investments expected across Nova Scotia's communities in 2024.
- ▶ By 2030, the Nova Scotia Plan expects at least 300MW+ of larger scale solar installed through existing programs.



# Achieving 80% Target & #1 in GHG Reductions

- ▶ More than 80% renewable power can be achieved by building out Nova Scotia's own local renewables.
- ▶ The 2030 Clean Power Plan will also reduce electricity GHGs by more than 90% (from 10.7MT in 2005 to <1MT in 2030 to 0.5 MT by 2035).
- ▶ Nova Scotia is already leading Canada in GHG reductions and by 2030 will be #1 in all of North America.
- ▶ Planning for the future also requires a greener, more flexible, and more reliable grid.

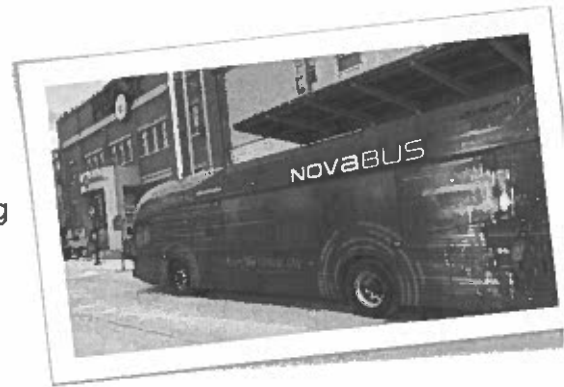


### 3. Batteries and Renewables Integration

- ▶ Battery technology is improving at world-changing rate:
  - ▶ Researchers like Nova Scotian Jeff Dahn and his team (at Dalhousie and with Tesla) have developed batteries that will last 1,000,000 miles in an EV.
  - ▶ These kinds of batteries are now also helping electricity systems, both to manage renewables but also to provide important grid services.
- ▶ Battery prices have fallen by 95% in recent decades. However, the speed of deployment in Nova Scotia will depend on significant Federal funding.
  - ▶ Other investments to strengthen the grid are also required to ensure safety and reliability.
- ▶ **Work underway:** NRR is presently reviewing applications for 300MW of innovative early battery deployment projects, across multiple Nova Scotian sites and communities.

## 4. Electrification and Load Management

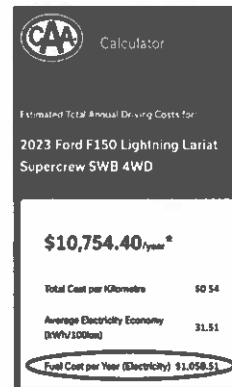
- ▶ Nova Scotians spend \$5 Billion every year for imported fossil fuels like coal, heating oil, gasoline and diesel.
- ▶ A key driver for building a clean electricity system in Nova Scotia is to produce energy savings by electrifying heating and transportation for households.
- ▶ Electrification will reduce energy bills and replace spending on imported fuels with clean local electricity.
- ▶ More Heat Pumps & EVs will also increase electricity needs and peak load on the Grid, especially after 2030.
- ▶ **Next Step:** Manage 150MW of load through Demand Response and low-cost actions like smart EV charging, building code updates, and standards on heat pumps.



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# Electrification

- ▶ The CAA estimates an average vehicle's gas bill is \$2,000-\$4,000. Instead, driving an EV saves you \$1,500 to \$3,000 in fuel costs each year.
- ▶ As the vehicle fleet converts over time, Nova Scotians will save \$1.5 to \$2 Billion/year on gasoline (>70% of which is the cost for the imported fuel).
- ▶ Using Made-in-NS electricity brings those dollars back home.
  - ▶ For instance, bringing that >70% (= \$1.4 Billion) in fuel bills coming back home to NS will create thousands of new jobs.



Owners of EVs in Nova Scotia today, recharge at the equivalent of

**Pump Prices of 35 cents a liter**

## Load Management and Vehicle-to-Grid (V2G)

- ▶ Many EVs can power your home for days if the power goes out. And some Nova Scotians are already using their vehicles as generators during storms.
- ▶ This capability will also allow vehicle owners to support the grid with their cars.
- ▶ **Work underway:** NS is developing programs that will enable Nova Scotian drivers to unlock the full value of their vehicles and also reduce ratepayer costs by avoiding new investments.



# 5. NS-NB Regional Transmission



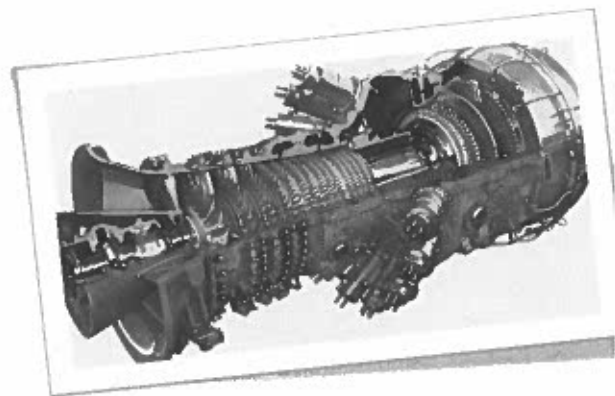
— Stage 1 Salisbury, NB, to Onslow, NS  
 — Stage 2 Salisbury, NB to Point Lepreau, NB

Nova Scotia's electricity system is only weakly connected to the North American grid, through New Brunswick.

- ▶ A new 345kV line to NB is needed to manage renewables, boost reliability and resiliency.
  - ▶ This NS-NB Reliability Tie will run from Onslow to Salisbury, enabling 500MW+ of imports/exports. This project is expected to be online in 2028.
  - ▶ Extending this line to Point Lepreau would enable greater access to NB, New England, and Quebec.
  - ▶ This new line and extension can be completed by 2029 at a total cost of ~\$1.4B, far less than the Atlantic Loop.
  - ▶ This supports regional population growth; enhances reliability; and enables more energy trading.
  
- ▶ Work underway: Interprovincial & Federal talks are underway to support these transmission investments.

## 6. Hydrogen-Capable/Flex-Fuel Generators

- ▶ By 2030, and with coal closed, the NS system will still need options that can run for a few days if it is not windy, to ensure power during winter peaks, or should storms/events impact transmission lines.
- ▶ This will require a certain, limited amount of new, fast-acting, dispatchable generation by 2027.
- ▶ Manufacturers are designing new units capable of burning green hydrogen or bio-fuels to reduce GHGs.
  - ▶ Before investments are made, options that could use a domestic clean fuel will be considered.
- ▶ **Next step:** Finalize technology choice, location, and timing for 300MW of fast acting generation.



## 7. Emergency and Reliability Back-Up

- ▶ Nova Scotia has relied for decades on coal-fired generators for storms or extended cold spells.
- ▶ Many of these units retained the dual-fuel ability to burn oil, to ensure greater reliability during emergencies and when back-up was needed.
- ▶ We will retain some of these units' capabilities to ensure sufficient emergency and back-up:
  - ▶ These will be used, as at present, very infrequently (<1% of the year), with similarly small GHGs of <0.05 MT (vs NS Electricity GHGs of 10.7 MT in 2005).
  - ▶ This saves ratepayer more than \$500 Million.
  - ▶ Every IRP scenario includes retaining at least 3 oil plants (450MW capacity) at 10% of the cost of alternatives.



# Nova Scotia's 2030 Clean Power Plan

### Wind

Add 1,000+MW new onshore wind by 2030 (offshore potential post-2030)  
Green Choice procurement has begun, more every 18 months

### Solar

Net Metering now well-established and growing each year  
300MW+ large Solar by 2030 - Commercial begun, Community in Fall

### Batteries + Renewables Integration

300-400MW Batteries by 2030  
Additional renewable integration investments for reliability underway

### Electrification/Load Management

Peak Management, Demand Response and Efficiency investments  
to reduce 150 MWs of peak and peak growth

### Transmission

A new NS-NB Reliability Tie transmission line in service pre-2030  
Potential to extend new transmission to Point Lepreau, NB by 2030

### Fast-Acting Generation

300MW Hydrogen Capable/Flex-Fuel generators by 2030  
Potential for 300+ MWs additional in 2030 or later

### Emergency & Reliability Back-Up

450+MW Emergency/Back-up oil generators (use of existing plants)  
Potential 100+ MW Coal-to-Gas conversions 2030

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## Clean Electricity Solutions Task Force

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- ▶ The Task Force will:
  - ▶ Examine electricity infrastructure needs for reliability, capacity and storage to meet climate change goals.
  - ▶ Examine connections to other essential services such as telecommunications.
  - ▶ Review the *Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board Act* in terms of electricity generation, transmission and rates.
  - ▶ Engage subject matter experts, the Mi'kmaq and other interested Nova Scotians.
  
- ▶ The report from the Task Force will be available early in 2024.

## Flexibility – for 2030 and post-2030

- ▶ Nova Scotia must avoid taking on too-large new risks (especially post-Maritime Link) or long-term constraints that limit adoption of new, local renewable energy.
- ▶ Our decisions will always consider the current price, timing, volume, product, risk, and local content.
- ▶ The 2030 Plan retains flexibility to add new supply:
  - ▶ As population and load growth are expected.
  - ▶ By backing out even more fossil use (<1.0 MT in 2030), by limiting new fossil investments.
  - ▶ Procurement can then select the best technology available, whether on or offshore wind, solar, hydrogen, or something new, like geothermal.



## Post-2030 Energy Options

- ▶ Global efforts to decarbonize electricity generation are accelerating, and new technologies are emerging one after the other into the mainstream.
- ▶ Given this, by 2030, Nova Scotia will possess far more options, and more knowledge, about workable, cost-effective solutions that fit our conditions.
  - ▶ There is enormous promise for the use of offshore wind in Nova Scotia after 2030, as well as hydrogen (potentially before 2030).
  - ▶ The rapid growth of EVs will bring new load but also bring entirely new grid management tools, with enormous potential to reduce system investments.
  - ▶ New long-duration batteries technology, geothermal energy, and bio-energy will also become increasingly cost-effective.
  - ▶ NB may have power available from its Small Modular Nuclear Reactors (SMRs).

## Nova Scotia's 2030 Clean Power Plan



The elements of Nova Scotia's 2030 Plan are clear, implementable, and limit ratepayer risk and investment. The Plan:

- ▶ Closes coal by 2030.
- ▶ Achieves and exceeds the 80% Renewable Energy Standard.
- ▶ Cuts Nova Scotia's total GHGs by >53%, the best in Canada.
- ▶ Moves NS electricity onto long-term, stably-priced renewables.
- ▶ Creates jobs in every community through solar, heat pumps, and wind.
- ▶ Ensures the Greener Grid is also a More Reliable Grid.
- ▶ Expands Atlantic regional ties.
- ▶ Limits ratepayer risk by avoiding billions in locked in new capital costs to 2075.
- ▶ Expands personal choice.
- ▶ Puts competition at the heart of energy generation and grid management in NS.
- ▶ Enables household and business bill savings – across all energy bills.

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INFRASTRUCTURE CHALLENGE](#)

# Canada's housing challenge is also an infrastructure challenge



November 2, 2023

*The president of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and mayor of Gore Scott Pearce, and the Chair of FCM's Big City Mayors' Caucus and mayor of Halifax Mike Savage, issued the following today ahead of the federal government's anticipated Fall Economic Statement.*

"With Canada having recently surpassed a population of 40 million people, every corner of our country is turning attention to the opportunities and challenges that come with a growing nation. Growth demands action, and nowhere is this felt more urgently than in

municipalities, where Canadians expect excellent public services and a high quality of life.

“That is why FCM is leading the national call for a new municipal growth framework: a new revenue tool or a set of revenue tools that are tied to Canada’s growth and potentially redefines how we work across government. As our nation grows, the need for municipalities to confidently meet that growth is clearer than ever, and they need the resources to do it. Increasingly, municipalities are on the frontlines of challenges related to homelessness and mental health, climate change and more.

“No challenge is more pressing than that of housing. And new housing depends on essential—but often invisible—municipal infrastructure. When Canadians move into a new home, they are not just expecting four walls and a roof. They expect sinks with running water, rooms that light up at the flick of a switch, a predictable system that hauls away garbage to a safe disposal site, local emergency services at the ready, and libraries, parks, and municipal programs that turn housing units into communities. These are not optional. Municipal infrastructure is the foundation for new home construction. And it requires immense public investment—resources that many municipalities and cities currently do not have at the scale required to meet Canada’s housing targets.

“All orders of government need to work together to solve Canada’s housing crisis. That starts with a recognition of—and commitment to solve—the very real but often unseen challenge of ensuring Canada’s public infrastructure can support the housing growth Canadians expect. The federal government has signaled that new details about their next generation of infrastructure funding are coming soon. Those details, and the upcoming Fall Economic Statement, must commit to infrastructure funding that not only meets the scope of our current challenges, but also recognizes the immense work and investment ahead if we are to meet the CMHC home building targets of 5.8 million

homes by 2030—roughly doubling the annual rate of housing construction.

“Over the last year, municipalities and the federal government have been partnering through the Housing Accelerator Fund to increase the pace of housing development and increase density. Municipal leaders are committed to playing their part to increase housing supply. HAF funding is supporting municipalities to modernize land-use regulations and improve planning and approval processes, as well as upgrade or expand infrastructure to unlock new housing supply. The success of HAF shows that different orders of government can work together to address the housing crisis. Now we need to scale up efforts to match the level of growth that Canada is experiencing.

“FCM is calling for significant new federal investment in municipal infrastructure to enable municipalities to approve and service more housing construction more quickly. FCM’s recommendations include: doubling the Canada Community Building Fund (CCBF) to \$4.4 billion and increasing the annual index to 3.5%; \$1 billion per year for 10 years for a new federal water and wastewater infrastructure program; and an investment of \$500 million annually in municipal community, culture, and recreational infrastructure. As municipalities seek to protect communities from the effects of a changing climate, FCM is also calling for an immediate top-up to the DMAF program totaling \$2 billion, with an additional \$1 billion earmarked each year for the next decade.

“To ensure uninterrupted federal funding for public transit, FCM is calling for the Permanent Public Transit Fund to be established in legislation in 2024, with new funding available for planning and design costs and a mechanism to approve projects for capital funding. The fund must also provide no less than \$3 billion per year for a full range of eligible capital expenses, indexed at 3.5% per year starting in 2026.

“Canada is growing. Communities are growing. Municipalities are working every day to deliver the quality of life Canadians deserve. With

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other orders of government as partners, we meet Canada's needs today, and in the future."

*The Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) unites over 2,000 local governments at the national level, representing more than 90 per cent of Canadians in every province and territory.*

**For more information:** FCM Media Relations, (613) 907-6395, [media@fcm.ca](mailto:media@fcm.ca)

Big City Mayors' Caucus

Infrastructure

Municipal finance



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Ottawa, Ontario  
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T. 613-241-5221

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## June Harding

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**From:** Jackson, Natasha <Natasha.Jackson@novascotia.ca>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 26, 2023 1:23 PM  
**To:** townoflockeport@ns.sympatico.ca  
**Cc:** mmichael.kozak66@gmail.com  
**Subject:** June: A note of thanks from Natasha Jackson

Good day, June. A note of thanks from Natasha.

It was wonderful to meet you last Thursday. Thank you so much for taking time out of your staff training to say hello.

As mentioned briefly, municipalities play a critical role in ensuring that Nova Scotia is a welcoming and inclusive place where everyone will want to stay, whether they are new to the province or they have been here for generations. To reach 2 million residents by 2060, the goal of the province's Growth Strategy, our communities must be places where people want to come, live, and raise their families.

In my role as Director of Community Engagement with Municipal Affairs & Housing, I am working across government, and with municipalities, to apply an equity, diversity, inclusion, and accessibility (EDIA) lens to initiatives that nurture inclusive communities. A community of practice (CoP) was launched during a pre-conference workshop of the recent AMA conference. The CoP will offer a safe and rich learning space for municipalities to openly share their current EDI initiatives, ask questions, explore solutions to challenges, and draw inspiration from one another's success stories. Stay tuned through the AMA listserv for more details. That said, please know I am here should you wish to chat, at any time.

I look forward to the opportunity to connect and discuss how I may be able to support you and your community in this area of work. I have cc'ed Michael on this note. I am grateful to him for making the in-person introduction.

All the best,  
Natasha



Department of  
Municipal Affairs &  
Housing

**Natasha Jackson** (she/her)  
Director/Executive Lead  
Community Engagement  
Maritime Centre  
1505 Barrington St, 8-North  
Halifax NS, B3J 3K5  
(902)483-4269  
[Natasha.Jackson@novascotia.ca](mailto:Natasha.Jackson@novascotia.ca)

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23 October, 2023

Honourable Diane Lebouthillier  
Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard  
House of Commons  
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6  
min@dfo-mpo.gc.ca  
(via e-mail)

Dear Minister Lebouthillier,

First, we would like to congratulate you on your recent appointment as Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and Canadian Coast Guard. We enjoyed regular communication with your predecessor and her staff, and we hope to continue that dialogue with you as you manage this ongoing situation. We all agree that the Federal Government should meet the treaty obligations for which they are responsible, but we believe this needs to be balanced with the potential public safety and economic impacts on our coastal communities. As you are likely aware, South West Nova Scotia is home to many Indigenous communities and is also home to a significant portion of Atlantic Canada's total oceans sectors.

We are writing as the Mayors and Wardens of 11 Municipal units in southwest Nova Scotia to request a meeting with you where we'd like to discuss ongoing challenges around Indigenous and non-Indigenous fishers and the economic concerns of our municipalities and residents. We are working together to ensure efficient coordination and clarity of communication around these significant issues.

In 2021, we had encouraging discussions with Minister Joyce Murray. Those conversations gave us a platform to express the challenges faced by Indigenous and non-Indigenous fishers and their ripple effects on our communities. Those conversations left us optimistic.

However, despite those assurances, illegal fishing and out-of-season harvesting persist, casting a shadow over our communities' safety and economic well-being. It's imperative that these challenges are addressed promptly.

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We respectfully request a meeting with you to discuss these enduring issues and your vision to change this narrative. Our communities are genuinely seeking clarity and action.

An in-person discussion, we believe, would be the most effective way to understand and support each other's perspectives. Chris Frotten, Chief Administrative Officer at the Municipality of Barrington will coordinate with your office on our collective behalf. He reachable at 902-637-2015 or [cfrotten@barringtonmunicipality.com](mailto:cfrotten@barringtonmunicipality.com).

We look forward to a fulsome discussion with you at your earliest opportunity.

Sincerely,



Warden Danny Muise  
Municipality of Argyle



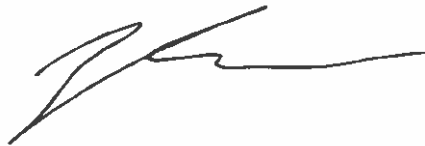
Mayor Rex Stoddard  
Town of Clark's Harbour



Warden Eddie Nickerson  
Municipality of Barrington



Mayor Ben Cleveland  
Town of Digby



Warden Yvon LeBlanc  
Municipality of Clare



Mayor Cory Nickerson  
Town of Lockeport



Warden Linda Gregory  
Municipality of Digby



Mayor Harald Locke  
Town of Shelburne

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**Warden Penny Smith**  
**Municipality of Shelburne**



**Mayor Pam Mood**  
**Town of Yarmouth**



**Warden John Cunningham**  
**Municipality of Yarmouth**

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23 October 2023

Mr. Mike Kelloway, M.P.

Member of Parliament Cape Breton—Canso

Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard

House of Commons

Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

Mike.Kelloway@parl.gc.ca

(via e-mail)

Dear Mr. Kelloway,

As representatives of the 11 Southwest Nova Scotia municipalities, we are reaching out following our last conversation in 2022. We truly valued the time you took to understand and discuss the fisheries challenges that significantly impact our communities. There continues to be illegal harvesting, wasteful dumping of lobsters and tension in our communities – including arrests recently for violence.

Despite the assurances we garnered from our meetings with the two previous Ministers of Fisheries and Oceans and the Coast Guard, the issues surrounding illegal fishing and out-of-season harvesting remain persistent. These concerns are casting a tangible shadow over our communities' safety, economic well-being, and the harmonious collaboration we aim to achieve.

We have requested a meeting with the new Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and Canadian Coast Guard, Minister Lebouthillier, and hope you can be present. Your insight and experience are critical to this discussion in seeking tangible solutions to this ongoing and extremely serious situation. If Minister Lebouthillier is not willing to meet with us, we would still request a meeting with you to better understand what the Federal Government is doing on this issue.

Please have your office contact Chris Frotten, Chief Administrative Officer for the Municipality of Barrington at 902-637-2015 or cfrotten@barringtonmunicipality.com to consider dates and times that might work for an in-person visit to our region.

Sincerely,



Warden Danny Muise  
Municipality of Argyle



Mayor Rex Stoddard  
Town of Clark's Harbour



Warden Eddie Nickerson  
Municipality of Barrington



Mayor Ben Cleveland  
Town of Digby



Warden Yvon LeBlanc  
Municipality of Clare



Mayor Cory Nickerson  
Town of Lockeport



Warden Linda Gregory  
Municipality of Digby



Mayor Harald Locke  
Town of Shelburne



Warden Penny Smith  
Municipality of Shelburne



Mayor Pam Mood  
Town of Yarmouth

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Cunningham', written in a cursive style.

**Warden John Cunningham**

**Municipality of Yarmouth**

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## June Harding

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**From:** Build Nova Scotia <info@buildns.ca>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 1, 2023 11:16 AM  
**To:** townoflockeport@ns.sympatico.ca  
**Subject:** Province Invests in New Cellular for Nova Scotia Program

[View this email in your browser](#)



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## Province Is Taking Action to Bring Cell Service to All Nova Scotians

### Cellular for Nova Scotia Program - Fall 2023 Update

On October 26, 2023, the Province announced it is investing \$47.3 million to start the new Cellular for Nova Scotia Program to expand telecommunications infrastructure and communications networks throughout the province.

Build Nova Scotia has been charged by the Province to plan, design, and manage the implementation of expanded cellular coverage throughout the province.

Led by Build Nova Scotia, this will involve a two-phased approach:

- The first Request for Proposals (RFP) is seeking innovative and cost-effective proposals to install cellular equipment on existing provincially-owned towers and other existing towers and/or infrastructure identified by proponents to expand cell coverage in underserved areas. The focus is on more immediate innovative solutions.
- RFP 2 will follow to seek solutions to address remaining gap areas.

This will also ensure that the solutions identified are sustainable and are being coordinated with federal and provincial initiatives planned or underway, while ensuring maximum coverage as early as possible.

This investment is based on an initial understanding/analysis of the anticipated cost however responses to the RFPs will better determine exact costs. Build Nova Scotia will look to maximize investments from and leverage key partnerships with the Federal Government, municipalities, and the private sector.

The coverage objective is to provide cellular coverage to 99% of Nova Scotia where people live, work, and travel. This is for Basic Voice Call service.

Overall, the goal is to achieve the following coverage targets throughout the populated areas of the province:

1. 99% coverage for Basic Voice Call service
2. 95% coverage for Standard-Definition service (eg. emails, web browsing and social media)
3. 85% coverage for High-Definition service (eg. video conferencing, movie streaming, and other data intensive applications)

The initial focus will be in major transportation corridors and areas with civic addresses.

A separate \$3.3 million is being invested to build four new trunked mobile radio 2 (TMR2) towers to expand radio coverage for first responders in West Bay Road/Marble Mountain, Pleasant Bay in Inverness County, Framboise, Richmond County, and Greenfield in Queen's County.

These areas were identified as strategic locations that would play a role in the expansion of rural coverage for the TMR2 Public Safety Radio network. This could also help improve cell coverage access if telecommunications providers attach their equipment to those towers to extend coverage.

In 2022, Build Nova Scotia commissioned a cell gap study on behalf of the Province to study cell service levels and identify critical gaps throughout the province. This study and additional analysis has provided a clearer understanding of a common challenge experienced across the country and helped define the scope of the problem. This will continue to be refined with ongoing discussions and RFP responses.

Through the program, a comprehensive strategy to increase cell coverage will involve working with telecommunications companies and government partners.

**[Click here for the full site and more information.](#)**

"Having reliable cell service is essential for Nova Scotians. It's a matter of safety, and it's something we all count on constantly. The current situation needs to be addressed, and we are the first government in 30 years to address this critical issue."

- Kim Masland, Minister of Public Works and  
Minister responsible for Build Nova Scotia

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

**Q. What is this project?**

A. Build Nova Scotia is establishing the \_\_\_\_\_ to expand telecommunications infrastructure and communications networks throughout the province. Through the program, a comprehensive strategy will improve cell coverage for both civic addresses and major roadways. It will involve working collaboratively with all partners in the telecommunications industry and across government.

**Q. What is the \$47.3 million in funding that was announced?**

A. Government is investing \$47.3 million to start the new Cellular for Nova Scotia Program to expand telecommunications infrastructure and communications networks throughout the province.

This investment is based on an initial understanding/analysis of the anticipated cost however responses to the RFPs will better determine exact costs. Build Nova Scotia will look to maximize investments from and leverage key partnerships with the Federal Government, municipalities, and the private sector.

**Q. Is there anything planned to improve communications emergency services in this program?**

A. Yes. A separate \$3.3 million is being invested to build four new trunked mobile radio 2 (TMR2) towers to expand radio coverage for first responders in West Bay Road/Marble Mountain, Pleasant Bay in Inverness County, Framboise, Richmond County and Greenfield in Queen's County.

These areas were identified as strategic locations that would play a role in the expansion of rural coverage for the TMR2 Public Safety Radio network. This could also help improve cell coverage access if telecommunications providers attach their equipment to extend coverage

**Q. What are you looking for from this initial RFP?**

A. The Cellular for Nova Scotia Program includes a phased approach. The seeks proposals for innovative ways cellular coverage can be improved using current government infrastructure or existing privately owned towers in a fast and cost-effective manner.

The focus on phase 1 (RFP 1) is seeking more immediate innovative solutions to improve cellular coverage to underserved locations. RFP 2 will follow to seek solutions to address remaining gap areas.

**Q. Will I have access? What will this provide?**

A. The strategy will include closing the gaps and reducing the underserved areas as quickly as possible. That said, filling those gaps will involve installing significant amounts of additional telecommunications equipment throughout the province, which will take time. The initial RFP is anticipated to close late this fall.

Build Nova Scotia recognizes that implementation periods will vary with the scope and complexity of the proposed projects. The goal is to have these initial projects substantially completed by December 31, 2024.

**To view the full list of FAQs, visit**



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### **Satellite Internet Service Rebate Reminder**

A reminder that our Satellite Internet Service Rebate Program is still active, and you could be eligible for a one-time rebate of up to \$1000 on select satellite internet hardware and installation solutions. Please note if you are in a current project area for high-speed internet that is not yet complete, those projects continue to advance and you can switch from satellite to wired/fibre/fixed wireless once access is available.

For more information on the rebate, and how you can apply, click the link here.

For a quick overview guide on the program, click the link here.

As of September 2023, 87,035 homes and businesses have been connected through the Internet for Nova Scotia Initiative since it was established in 2018 and have access either through traditional Initiative projects or the Satellite Internet Service Rebate Program. To date, we have 96.2% coverage with access to connections continuing to happen.

**Satellite Internet Service Rebate - Address Look-Up**

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**Build Nova Scotia Website**



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***If you have questions, please contact us at [satellite@buildns.ca](mailto:satellite@buildns.ca) or by calling [1-800-298-2854](tel:1-800-298-2854).***

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**Our head office address is:**

Build Nova Scotia  
Suite 301 - 1875 Upper Water Street  
Halifax, Nova Scotia  
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