



**NOVA SCOTIA**

**Department of Justice**

**REGULATING PRIVATE SECURITY**

**IN NOVA SCOTIA**

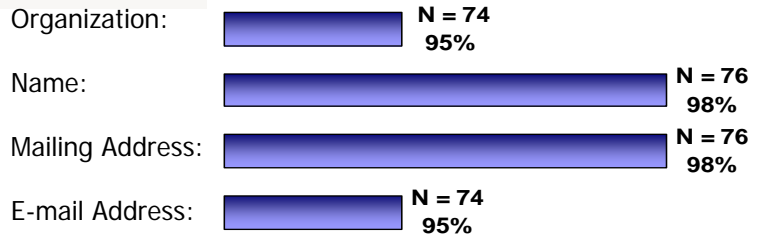
**QUESTIONNAIRE RESULTS**

**APRIL 2007**

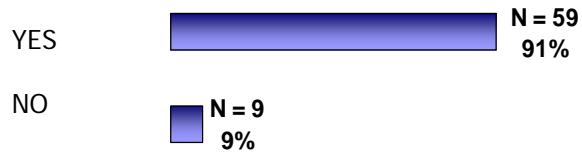
# BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The data compiled from the questionnaire will be general in nature and comments will not be identified with any specific individual or organization. Please enter your identifying information. The following fields are required in order to accurately reflect your responses.

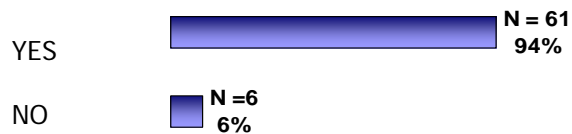
## Total Questionnaires N = 78 Respondents



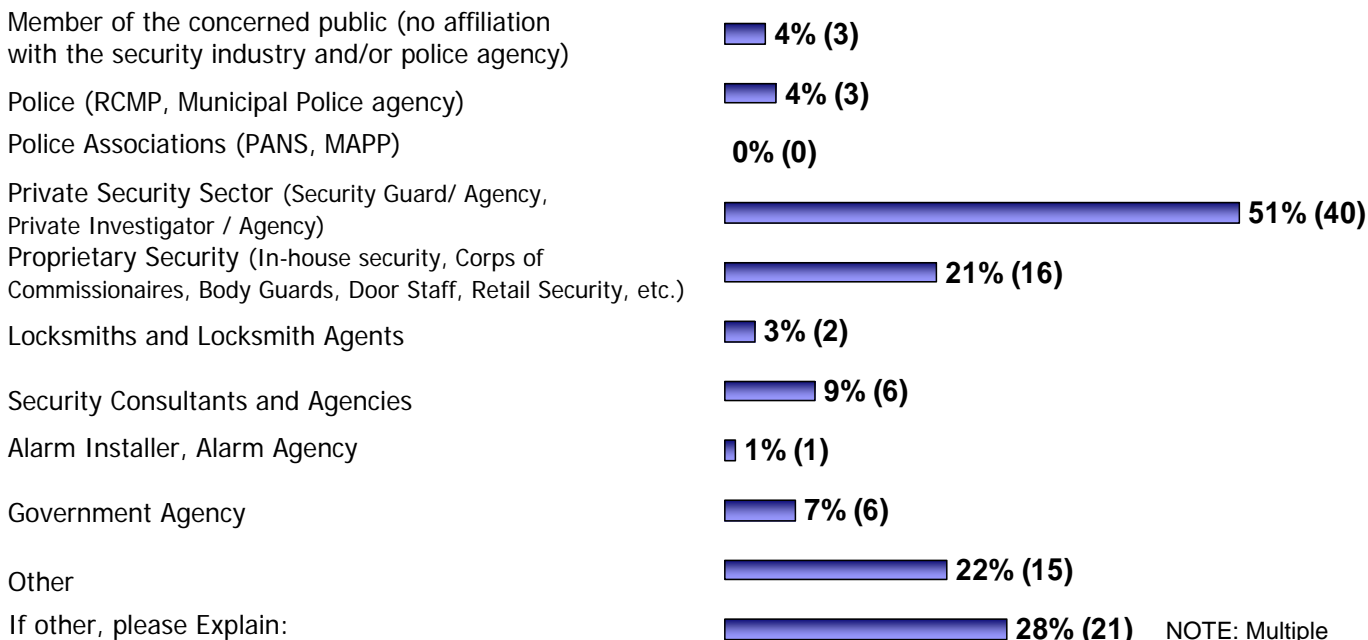
I would like to have my organization included on a list of respondents to be considered for any potential future consultations.



I would like to have my name included on a list of respondents to be considered for any potential future consultations.



## Which of the following applies to you? Please check one



NOTE: Multiple responses

# PART 1 LICENSING

## Question # 1

### Who should be licensed?

The province of Nova Scotia is proposing to expand the licensing regime to include the following security occupations that are currently not licensed. **Please indicate whether you believe they should be licensed by checking YES/NO and explain WHY**

#### Corps of Commissionaires

YES 67



**N = 74**  
**93%**

NO 7



WHY?



#### In-House Security

YES 58



NO 15



WHY?



#### Personal Protection (Bodyguards)

YES 58



NO 15



WHY?



#### Door Security (Bouncers)

YES 62



NO 13



WHY?



#### Locksmith & Locksmith Agencies

YES 60



NO 14



WHY?



## Who should be licensed?

Alarm Installers &  
Alarm Agents

YES 60



NO 12 18%



WHY?



Security Consultants &  
Agencies

YES 61



NO 11



WHY?



Guard Dog Handlers &  
Guard Dogs

YES 61



NO 11



WHY?



Other:

YES 32



NO 3



WHY?



## Licensing Classification Question # 2

Private security functions and responsibilities can differ considerably among practitioners. With the growth of the industry, roles and functions of practitioners are evolving and becoming increasingly diverse.

How should this be reflected a licensing classification system ?

Different licenses for different categories of security work (alarm installers, bouncers, floor walkers armed guards).

YES 65



NO 8

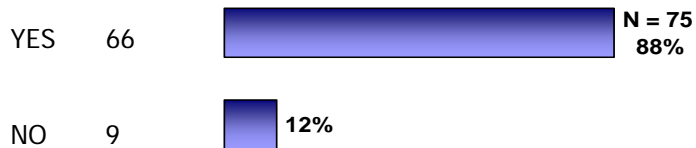


## Licensing Classification Question # 2 Con't

Varying levels of security licenses i.e. Level I = Private Guard, Level II Senior Guard, Level III = Supervisor/Manager



Endorsement on licenses for functions requiring specific authority ( use of equipment such as batons, handcuff use and guard dogs)



### Suggestions/ Comments for a licensing classification system



## Licensing Minimum Requirements Question # 3

The current legislation requires that an applicant for a private investigator, private guard or armed guard license be A)at least nineteen (19) years of age, B)pass a criminal records screening, C) be a Canadian citizen or entitled to work in Canada and D)pay the prescribed fees. NOTE: A member of a police agency is prohibited from engaging in the business of acting as a private investigator or private guard. The same conditions also apply to an applicant for a business license with the additional requirements of evidence of liability insurance, pre-approval of applicant's business name and approval of uniforms and vehicle markings to be used by the business. Licensing of in-house security personnel would require the employer to be registered with government as a security employer. While it is not proposed that proprietary companies pay a licensing fee, an administration fee will be required to register.

### Should any of the above requirements for a license be changed?



### Please Explain:



## Licensing Minimum Requirements

### Question # 4

Are there additional licensing criteria requirements that should be considered?



## Licensing Minimum Requirements

### Question # 5

Licensing of in-house security personnel would require the employer to be registered with government as a security employer. While it is not proposed that proprietary companies pay a licensing fee, an administration fee will be required to register the company.

Should there be specific requirements in order for a proprietary business or organization to be a registered Security Employer in Nova Scotia? Please outline recommended requirements

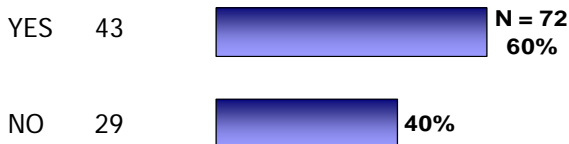


## Licensing Minimum Requirements

### Question # 6

Many jurisdictions in Canada require that security business applicants post a surety bond ranging from \$5,000 to \$15,000. A bond is obtained through an insurance company and is required in order to offer some protection to the public

Should Nova Scotia implement a minimum surety bond?



If yes, what amount should the surety bond for business applicants be?

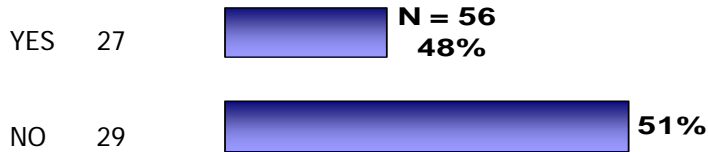


## Licensing – Licensing Period

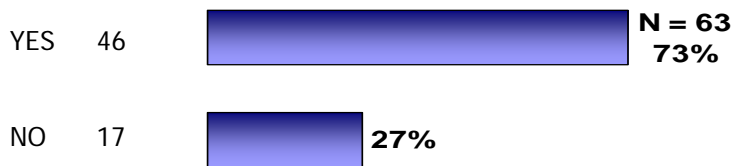
### Question # 7

Currently, all licenses for both companies and individuals, regardless of the issuance date, must be renewed by March 31st. While this allows companies to submit renewals for all employees at the same time, it results in some licenses being valid for a much shorter period than 12 months. **Which of the following licensing period options would you support? Please choose option A OR B**

**A) Maintain current status (keep current licensing year April 1st to March 31st of the following year)**



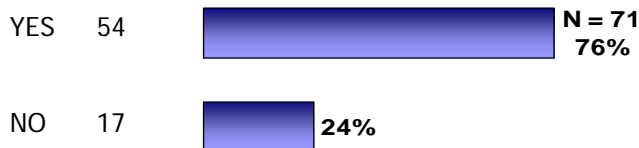
**B) Licenses to be valid for a 12 month period from the date the application is approved**



## Licensing – Licensing Period

### Question # 8

**If the current licensing year is maintained, should applicants applying after January 1st be given the option of up to a 15 month license ? (i.e. license would be valid for the remainder of the fiscal year as well as the next fiscal year)**



**Please Explain:**  **N = 50**  
**64%**

## Licensing – Licensing Period Question # 9

Should the general licensing period be longer than 12 months regardless of when the application is received?



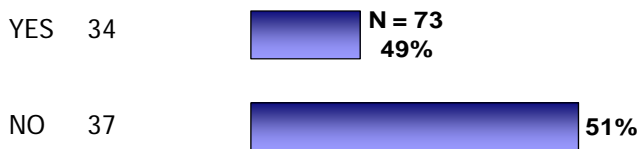
If yes, how long should the license be valid for and why?



## Licensing – Multi Licenses and Portability Question # 10

Currently, security practitioners can be employed by more than one company as long as they obtain separate licenses for each company. This ensures that individuals work only under the authority of a company rather than as independent security practitioner. It also places responsibility on companies to retrieve expired, revoked or suspended licenses. Some larger jurisdictions are considering portable licensing (licensing individuals rather than licensing through the company).

Do you agree with portable licensing?



Please explain:



## Licensing – Multi Licenses and Portability Question # 11

If portable licensing is implemented, how could this be effectively managed to ensure accountability and monitoring of individual security practitioners? Please Describe:



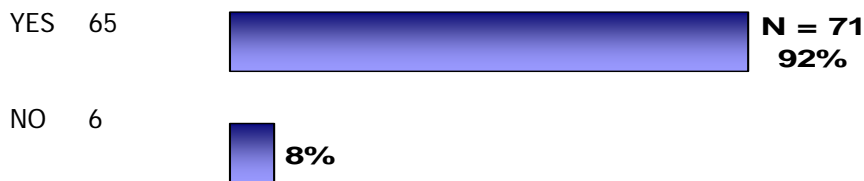
## PART II TRAINING AND STANDARDS

### Minimum Training and Testing Standards

#### Question # 12

Currently in Nova Scotia, the only mandatory training requirements for security personnel relate to those licensed as armed guards and those with the authority to carry equipment. Pre-employment security training prior to the issuance of a security license has been mandatory in British Columbia since 1996 and subsequently has been implemented in other jurisdictions in Canada. The Canadian General Standards Board provides a guideline for minimum training for security guards and supervisors.

**Should mandatory training standards be implemented for security guards and supervisors in Nova Scotia?**



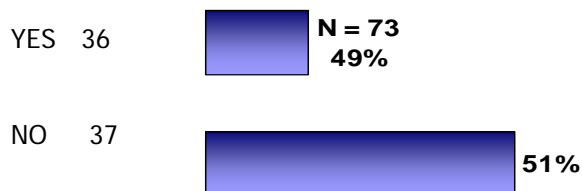
**Please outline recommended training requirements**



## Minimum Training and Testing Standards

### Question # 13

**Should security personnel be permitted to work prior to the completion of mandatory training?**



**If yes, how could this be implemented without compromising public safety?**



## Minimum Training and Testing Standards

### Question # 14

What training standards should be implemented for security personnel other than security guards and security supervisors? Please Outline: *For example; Personal Protection Agents, Door Security, Guard dogs and Handlers, Security Consultants, Locksmiths and Alarm Agents.*



## Minimum Training and Testing Standards

### Question # 15

Should provisions be made for those currently working in the security industry to be 'grand-parented' into the licensing regime without meeting the mandatory training requirement ?



If yes, how could this be implemented without compromising public safety?



## Minimum Training and Testing Standards

### Question # 16

Please outline the length of experience and type of proof that should be required if 'grand-parenting' is considered ?



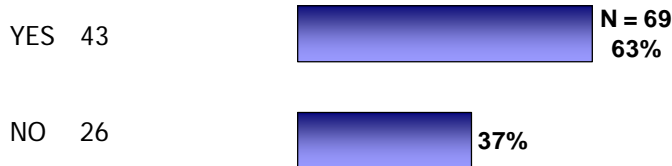
## PART III GOVERNANCE

### Accountability

#### Question # 17

The effectiveness of any legislation is dependant to a large degree upon the system established for enforcement and monitoring of compliance with legislative requirements. Regulators must have the appropriate legislative authority to enforce compliance to standards. An effective enforcement system requires powers of inspection, investigation, audit, and remedial action.

**Do you have any concerns in relation to compliance with current regulations governing the security industry?**



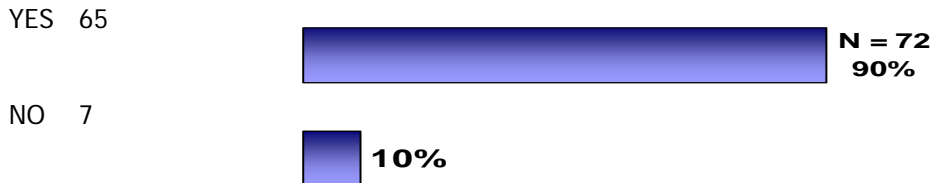
**If Yes, please list your concerns.**



### Accountability

#### Question # 18

**Should there be a Code of Conduct (standards of practice) for all agencies and all security personnel?**



**If yes, what should it contain?**



### Complaint and/or Appeal Process

#### Question # 19

Our objective is to develop complaint and appeal processes that are fair and transparent as well as cost effective. The number of steps employed in relation to a complaint may differ depending on the content and seriousness of the complaint. Not all complaints require a full investigation.

**What steps should be included in an investigation of a complaint?**



## Complaint and/or Appeal Process

### Question # 20

If an agency and/or security personnel is dissatisfied with the decision of the Registrar, should a formal appeal process be in place to appeal the decision ?



If yes, please outline possible steps to the appeal process.



## PART IV IMPLEMENTATION AND CONSULTATION

### Implementation

### Question # 21

Implementation of the proposed changes will ensure that public safety interests are addressed while also fostering a positive business environment for the security industry in Nova Scotia. This level of change will have a significant impact on the governance of the security industry and will require planning in order to comply with new legislation.

What issues should be considered in developing a process for the implementation of new legislation?

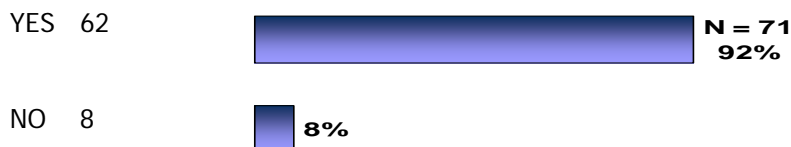


## Consultation with Industry and Stakeholders

### Question # 22

The establishment of an ongoing mechanism for consultation on private security regulation would be beneficial for both security regulators and for the security industry. An effective forum requires input from all sectors of the security industry. This is a dilemma given the competition within the industry and the fact that there is no one entity, or even a number of entities, that can be viewed as representing the industry as a whole.

Do you feel that a forum should be established for on-going consultation with the security industry?



If yes, who should be involved?



## Consultation with Industry and Stakeholders Question # 23

How can representatives be chosen ?



## Consultation with Industry and Stakeholders Question # 24

Do you have any other recommendations that should be considered for the proposed private security legislation?

