

Statement of Mandate 2015–2016



Aboriginal Affairs

Table of Contents

Message from the Minister..... 3
Message from the Chief Executive Officer 4
Office of Aboriginal Affairs (OAA) Mandate/Mission/Vision..... 5
 Mandate 5
 Mission 5
 Vision 5
Strategic Objectives/Outcomes 5
Government Priorities..... 7
Budget Context 10
Performance Measurement..... 11

Message from the Minister

I am pleased to present the 2015-2016 Statement of Mandate for the Office of Aboriginal Affairs.

The Government of Nova Scotia continues on a journey toward a fair and meaningful relationship with the Mi'kmaq and with Aboriginal people. It is a destination we aspire to achieve as we strive to build an inclusive, informed and prosperous Nova Scotia.

Our relationship with the Mi'kmaq and Aboriginal people matters, now more than ever in our history, and it grows stronger every year.

Aboriginal issues are justifiably growing in prominence, not just in our province, but across Canada, as people work to find common cause and inclusive paths forward. Whether high-profile national court decisions involving land claims or local economic development achievements like the Nova Scotia Mi'kmaw Nation Economic Development Strategy, Aboriginal issues are receiving due prominence on the public agenda.

We have many common goals directly related to objectives identified in the One Nova Scotia process such as increasing economic prosperity through increasing skilled workers and tapping into the potential of Aboriginal youth.

We are leaders nationally in the formal and productive relationship we have with the Mi'kmaq through established mechanisms for issue resolution and collaboration, including the Mi'kmaq-Nova Scotia-Canada Tripartite Forum, Made-in-Nova Scotia Process for negotiation, and formal and collaborative consultation. As with all relationships, there is a need for continuous effort and renewal.

We continue to support and coordinate collaboration and partnership through vehicles such as the Tripartite Forum in education, health, employment and training, social issues, economic development and culture to foster long-term community well-being.

Working together both through formal structures, such as our negotiation process, and collaborative efforts we hope to continue to improve understanding and link our past together to our way forward.

Wela'lin,



Hon. Stephen McNeil
Minister of Aboriginal Affairs

Message from the Chief Executive Officer

It has been an exciting and informative past year, and I look forward to collaborating with Aboriginal partners and government colleagues to address important issues and seek opportunities to continue to improve our relationships with the Mi'kmaq and Aboriginal Nova Scotians.

This year, OAA will continue to work with provincial partners to bring a more corporate, coordinated approach to Aboriginal affairs. The Senior Officials Advisory Committee with representatives from every provincial department will remain focused on high level communication, coordination and collaboration on Aboriginal matters. In particular, OAA will ensure the interests of Nova Scotia and the Mi'kmaq are advanced through well-coordinated, and legally-supported, consultations and negotiations.

We will continue to lead the province's engagement with Nova Scotia's Mi'kmaw communities and Aboriginal organizations through the Mi'kmaq-Nova Scotia-Canada Tripartite Forum, the Made-in-Nova Scotia Negotiations Process, and the Terms of Reference for Aboriginal Consultation and Accommodation. We look forward to implementing the new provincial Consultation Policy which should provide an excellent and standardized roadmap for the consultation process.

National Aboriginal forums, such as the Aboriginal Affairs Working Group and the annual meeting between the Council of the Federation and National Aboriginal Organizations, provide important context and focus for Nova Scotia to link with higher level initiatives that may have impact locally.

In October 2014, Nova Scotia successfully co-hosted the 4th National Aboriginal Women's Summit, a very important focus for high profile issues related to Aboriginal women. We will work to advance NAWS IV outcomes with national and local partners through the National Aboriginal Roundtable on Missing and Murdered Women, collaboration on a national socio-economic action plan, and ongoing work with the Nova Scotia Native Women's Association. We are proud to work with Mi'kmaq and Aboriginal colleagues to participate in these events, collaborate on important issues, and increase public awareness and appreciation of Aboriginal people and their contributions to our province.

We seek to further opportunities and address challenges facing urban Aboriginal people, a growing and sometimes overlooked segment of the population. Working collaboratively with the new federal Urban Aboriginal Strategy, local organizations such as the Mi'kmaw Native Friendship Centre, municipal government and other provincial departments, we hope to discover and advance unique partnerships and tangible solutions to improve social and economic participation of urban Aboriginal people.

Across Nova Scotia and Canada, the Aboriginal landscape is dynamic, exciting and evolving. I look forward to another year of meaningful progress as we work together to improve economic and social outcomes for Mi'kmaw communities, Aboriginal people and for all of Nova Scotia.



Julie Towers
CEO of Aboriginal Affairs

Office of Aboriginal Affairs (OAA) Mandate/Mission/Vision

Mandate

To promote a coordinated approach within government on matters related to Aboriginal people, represent the interests of the Province in intergovernmental, multilateral initiatives and negotiations, support consultation with the Mi'kmaq and provide research, analysis and policy advice to government on Aboriginal issues.

Mission

To lead Nova Scotia in Aboriginal Affairs by building mutual understanding, respect and a lasting relationship.

Vision

Partnership-Negotiation-Direction

On our journey toward fair and meaningful relationships with Aboriginal peoples, we strive to build an inclusive, informed and prosperous Nova Scotia.

Strategic Objectives/Outcomes

In order to advance the Office of Aboriginal Affairs' broad mandate, it is important to understand the various interests and priorities of Aboriginal peoples in Nova Scotia, and the complex treaty relationship that the Crown has with the Mi'kmaq in Nova Scotia. The Umbrella Agreement (2002) outlines the Province's primary commitments and mechanisms by which we currently advance our relationship with the Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia and Canada: the development and signing of a negotiation Framework Agreement on Aboriginal and Treaty Rights; signing the Mi'kmaq-Nova Scotia-Canada Consultation Terms of Reference, a preferred protocol for conduction consultations with the Mi'kmaq; and a re-commitment to the Mi'kmaq-Nova Scotia-Canada Tripartite Forum. This partnership was formed in 1997 between the Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq, the Province of Nova Scotia, and the Government of Canada, to strengthen relationships and to resolve non rights based issues of mutual concern affecting Mi'kmaw communities.

Looking forward to 2015-2016, the province's ongoing relationship with the Mi'kmaq and Aboriginal people in the province will continue to be strengthened through these existing mechanisms, as well as other national, regional and local forums and working committees. As a small office with a central agency role, providing advice and coordination to all provincial departments and agencies, we have many ongoing initiatives and priorities that are collaborative, integrated and often complex – all of which align with the Government of Nova Scotia's Fiscal, Economic, Education and Demographic (FEED) strategic priorities.

The six strategic objectives/outcomes and priorities of OAA are listed below:

1. Collaborative partnerships to improve social and economic prosperity of Aboriginal communities.

We will continue to work to identify opportunities to improve social and economic prosperity for Nova Scotia's Aboriginal people and communities, which will both increase participation of Aboriginal people and also strengthen the provincial economy. Economic development led by Aboriginal communities is inherently focused on building social enterprise and investing in communities. We will continue to enhance economic development, education and employment opportunities through collaboration with a wide range of provincial departments, federal counterparts and other partners, leveraging limited funding toward common outcomes that support OneNS economic goals. We support innovative initiatives that address complex gaps and emerging opportunities related to community capacity, economic development, employment and skill development, all of which strive to enhance the prosperity of Aboriginal people and all Nova Scotians.

2. Effective coordination and strategic policy advice to Nova Scotia government.

The work of OAA intersects with virtually every government department through the interests, priorities issues and rights of Aboriginal people in Nova Scotia. As a central agency, we provide ongoing coordination and strategic advice for departmental policies, initiatives, issues and opportunities. This objective will be accomplished by continuing to work directly with stakeholders and through a variety of bilateral and interdepartmental committees and structures across the provincial government, including regular meetings of senior officials on respective Aboriginal issues across government to share information, coordinate efforts and collaborate on major initiatives.

3. Coordinated approach to ensure government meets its legal consultation obligations.

With a complex and evolving legal landscape, it is critical that government understands and meets its legal obligations with respect to consultation with the Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia on decisions and projects that may have an adverse impact on Aboriginal and treaty rights. We will continue to coordinate provincial consultation efforts, providing consistent advice, training and tools to ensure that provincial departments are effectively supported in leading consultations with the Mi'kmaq; this work includes implementation of a new Consultation Policy.

4. Positive and productive relationship through negotiations with Canada and the Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq.

The Made-in-Nova Scotia Negotiations Process is a modern treaty making process that strives to avoid litigation in resolving rights-related issues and a means to provide operational clarity as long-term negotiations continue on land, resources and governance related matters. The overarching goals are to enhance legal clarity on Aboriginal and treaty rights, including title, reduce economic disparity for the Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia and continue to foster a positive and productive relationship. We will continue to work with Canada and the Mi'kmaq on the challenges and opportunities in this important area of discussions.

5. Enhanced public awareness and appreciation of Mi'kmaq and Aboriginal history and culture.

Continuing to build understanding of both historical and contemporary Mi'kmaq and Aboriginal context across Nova Scotia is an important and ongoing step in striving toward fair and meaningful relationships with Aboriginal peoples. OAA plays a critical role in sharing these messages and knowledge across the Nova Scotia government. As a province, we must celebrate our diverse cultural heritage and build welcoming and inclusive communities to meet the challenges of today and tomorrow. We will continue to collaborate with Aboriginal organizations, communities and government colleagues to build capacity of organizations, celebrate culture and history, and extend the reach of cultural education opportunities. An important initiative will be follow-through on ideas generated at the March 2015 treaty education symposium.

6. Collaborative and respectful Aboriginal and intergovernmental relations.

As a Province, our relationship with Aboriginal people is critical to build trust, understanding and cooperation on a wide array of issues, root causes and socio-economic opportunities. We strengthen this relationship through ongoing identification and coordination of cross-departmental Aboriginal issues; managing bilateral relationships with the Mi'kmaq; and fostering intergovernmental relationships with Canada and other provinces. The annual meeting between Provincial Cabinet and the Assembly of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq Chiefs is a significant and highly important forum for issue identification and reports on progress on areas of mutual concern. At an operational level, the seven working committees of the Mi'kmaq-Nova Scotia-Canada Tripartite Forum demonstrate a commitment to practical and tangible progress on issues and opportunities to improve social and economic outcomes for the Mi'kmaq, and the province as a whole.

Government Priorities

The Government has set a clear path with four areas of focus – fiscal sustainability, the economy, demographics and people, and education and skills training. A long-term view is fundamental in continuing to improve outcomes along the education, training, employment and economic development spectrum, particularly with Aboriginal organizations and communities. There have been significant improvements in high-school graduation rates for First Nation people in the province, and increasing success in post-secondary training. Fundamental gaps still exist in linking training with long-term employment and workforce attachment, and supporting the development of Aboriginal businesses and entrepreneurship.

Through a wide scope of interconnected intergovernmental efforts and cultivated relationships, the Office of Aboriginal Affairs will support the overall Government priorities in the coming year. This section outlines some of the paths forward to advancing these goals.

A. Fiscal: Balanced budget during mandate and achieve sustainable government (2017-2018).

We will continue to review, streamline and leverage our investments in Aboriginal organizations and communities to maximize capacity building, collaboration and long-term socio-economic outcomes to improve the lives of Aboriginal people in Nova Scotia, which in turn will enhance the province's prosperity and overall sustainability.

B. Economy: Create climate for private sector and social enterprise economic growth to support OneNS economic goals.

Aboriginal communities naturally approach economic and business development from a social enterprise and community development perspective, where the bottom line is not purely generating revenue but also community benefit and well-being. Fostering this inherent philosophy and continuing to provide opportunities for individuals, communities, and businesses to build economic and social engines is critical. We will continue to leverage available provincial and federal resources, and connections to industry through formal consultations and collaborative efforts, to maximize community benefit and build community capacity. Cape Breton University's In.Business Aboriginal youth business mentorship program is an excellent example of a program designed to build future business and entrepreneurial leaders that we are proud to support. We continue to explore opportunities to increase First Nations' access to capital by investing in Ulnooweg Development Group's ongoing efforts to leverage private sector funding for significant economic, business and infrastructure development initiatives. Specific pilot projects and initiatives in the natural resources and renewable energy sector are providing the Mi'kmaq and Nova Scotia with new opportunities to leverage and build skills and fully engage the Mi'kmaq in the provincial resource industries (for example, the Assembly of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq Chiefs Wind Energy Projects, and the Mi'kmaw Forestry Initiative). In addition, ongoing efforts to enhance clarity and cooperation on formal consultation can improve relationships and build strong foundations for economic development projects moving forward, building a predictable and mutually beneficial climate for business development in the province.

C. Education: Increase workforce participation and entrepreneurship by improving early childhood and P-12 education systems and continually improving opportunities for skills development and knowledge through post-secondary education, training and apprenticeship.

While many systemic barriers persist, there are also opportunities through collaborative mechanisms such as the Mi'kmaq-Nova Scotia-Canada Tripartite Forum to identify issues and close gaps through targeted interventions, particularly focused on bridging gaps between high school graduation, post-secondary education and workforce participation. OAA supports and facilitates initiatives related to education, skill development and apprenticeship with an aim of increasing Aboriginal entrepreneurship and participation in the workforce. Investing in programs such as the Nova Scotia Youth Conservation Corps, specifically a new Aboriginal Leadership Pilot, will increase opportunities for Aboriginal youth to gain valuable transferable skills and experience. In addition, we will support implementation of Nova Scotia's Action Plan for Education, particularly actions focused on improving curriculum and fostering an inclusive learning environment

D. Demographics: Increase net interprovincial in-migration and international immigration levels; enhance wellness and health initiatives; enhance workforce participation of youth, older workers and marginalized communities; and enhance communities and social well-being.

The Aboriginal population is the youngest and fastest growing segment of the Nova Scotia population, and embodies tremendous potential for full engagement in the workforce and the economy. Through coordination and cohesive facilitation, OAA will seek to enhance opportunities related to Aboriginal education, training, employment and economic development. A key priority of the Nova Scotia Mi'kmaw Nation Economic Development Strategy is to better link training and skill development with community and commercial development opportunities. OAA will continue to work through the Mi'kmaq-Nova Scotia-Canada Tripartite Forum and with Labour and Advanced Education, Economic Rural Development and Tourism and Aboriginal organizations on important initiatives to close gaps and improve employer understanding and respect of cultural differences, attitudes and readiness.

Budget Context

Office of Aboriginal Affairs			
	2014 – 2015 Estimate	2014 – 2015 Forecast	2015 – 2016 Estimate
Salary & Employee Benefits	1,465,000	1,126,000	1,462,000
Operating Costs	1,052,000	688,000	785,000
Grants & Contributions	1,153,000	1,678,000	1,153,000
Total Gross Departmental Expenses	3,670,000	3,492,000	3,400,000
Additional Information:			
Ordinary Recoveries (Chargeable to Other Depts.)	(8,000)	(82,000)	(8,000)
TCA Purchase Requirements	1,000,000	1,300,000	500,000
Total Net Departmental Expenses	3,662,000	3,410,000	3,392,000
Provincial Funded Staff (FTEs)	15.3	12.5	15.5

Performance Measurement

1. Collaborative partnerships to improve social and economic prosperity of Aboriginal communities.					
Outcome	Measure	Base Year	Annual Target 2015-2016	Trends, Previous Year Data	Strategies to Achieve Target
Productive collaborations with provincial departments and external partners.	<p>Departments and agencies satisfaction with advice and support provided by OAA.</p> <p>Leverage value achieved through strategic funding on collaborative social and/or economic initiatives.</p> <p>Specific feedback and exceptional items noted.</p>	<p>New strategic objective; base year 2015-16.</p> <p>Quantitative and qualitative results from a short focus group and one-on-one interviews with provincial partners in OAA-related initiatives.</p>	<p>Improve on the satisfaction level of focus group as compared to baseline data (TBD).</p> <p>Increase funding leveraged through collaborative initiatives.</p> <p>Specific feedback and exceptional items noted</p>	<p>In 2014/15, OAA coordinated provincial participation in and funding support for a number of collaborative partnerships targeting social and economic outcomes, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq Nation Economic Development Strategy • Aboriginal Peoples Television Network (APTN) Aboriginal Day Live • Nova Scotia Youth Conservation Corps • NS Native Women's Association sexual violence capacity (3-year initiative with DCS & DOJ) • First Nations Gaming • Mi'kmaq Legal Support Network • Tripartite Forum Project Fund for Social and Economic Change 	<p>Manage interests and leverage provincial funding for initiatives, projects and organizations that advance social and economic outcomes. This includes ongoing participation in the Nova Scotia Sharing Group (coalition of relevant provincial and federal departments with an interest in community economic development, employment and cultural/tourism development), coordination through department senior officials and bilateral relationships with key departments.</p> <p>Continued efforts to increase Aboriginal workforce and participation in the economy through a number of mechanisms, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing access to training, skill development and employment • Coordinating with Office of Aboriginal Affairs, Labor and Advanced Education /Economic Rural Development and Tourism departments • Continuing involvement in Shipbuilding Working Group to maximize opportunities related to employment and training • Improving urban Aboriginal participation in the economy through participation in the development of local and regional planning and partnership development <p>Continued investment in and provincial leadership of the Mi'kmaq-Nova Scotia-Canada Tripartite Forum, specifically the Project Fund for Social and Economic Change, which supports strategic projects and initiatives of the seven working committees to advance complex projects and tackle issues of importance to the Mi'kmaq.</p>

2. Effective coordination and strategic policy advice to Nova Scotia government.

Outcome	Measure	Base Year	Annual Target 2015-2016	Trends, Previous Year Data	Strategies to Achieve Target
Effective coordination and strategic advice provided to departments and agencies.	Departments and agencies satisfaction with advice and support provided by OAA, and/or Specific feedback and exceptional items noted.	Quantitative and qualitative results from a short focus group and one-on-one interviews with provincial partners in OAA-related initiatives.	Improve on the satisfaction level of focus group as compared to baseline data (TBD). Specific feedback and exceptional items noted.	In 2014/15, OAA provided a wide range of policy and strategic advice, and support on key initiatives and funding programs, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marine Strategy • Cultural Strategy • Regional Enterprise Networks • Safe Drinking Water for First Nations Act (Bill S-8) • Mi'kmaw Cultural Activities Program 	Provide research, policy advice and communications that are timely, accurate, strategic and of value to departments. Coordinate and bring together departments around Aboriginal issues, developments and opportunities of mutual interest and in conjunction with provincial priorities and strategies (e.g., Cultural Strategy). Coordinate interests and activities through department senior officials, deputy ministers, and bilateral relations with key departments, including Labor and Advanced Education, Economic rural Development and Tourism, Nova Scotia Department of Environment and Department of Justice.

3. Coordinated approach to ensure government meets its legal consultation obligations

Outcome	Measure	Base Year	Annual Target 2015-2016	Trends, Previous Year Data	Strategies to Achieve Target
<p>The provincial government has consistent and effective mechanisms for consulting with the Mi'kmaq and coordinating with the federal government.</p>	<p>Consultation Terms of Reference. Canada-NS MOU on Consultation Cooperation. New consultation policy. Department-specific guidelines for consultation. Departments receive timely and consistent consultation advice. Consultation advisors assist departments in maintaining their consultation records. Legal risk associated with consultation is managed effectively.</p>	<p>Consultation Terms of Reference formally signed in August 2010. Interim consultation policy developed in 2007. Canada-NS MOU on Consultation Cooperation signed in October 2012.</p>	<p>Implement annual work plan of the Canada-NS MOU on Consultation Cooperation. Implementation of the new consultation policy. Organize Atlantic Canada Consultation Practitioners meeting.</p>	<p>2013/14 - The Mi'kmaq-NS-Canada Consultation Terms of Reference was implemented. It is the first of its kind in Canada and is considered a best practice nationally and internationally. 2014/15 – Completion of the new Consultation Policy 2014/15 Finalization of 3 Party Review of the Consultation Terms of Reference Changing national legal landscape on duty to consult has implications in Nova Scotia.</p>	<p>Implementation of the new Consultation Policy. OAA Consultation Division will work closely with departments to develop their consultation guidelines. Develop and implement the 2015/16 work plan of the Canada-NS MOU on Consultation Cooperation. Manage First Nation relationships who have chosen to consult outside the Consultation Terms of Reference. Co-lead the organization of Atlantic Canada Consultation Practitioners semi-annual meeting with Environment Canada</p>

<p>Provincial departments rely on advice from OAA consultations and are effectively supported in their consultations with the Mi'kmaq.</p>	<p>Relevant departments are consulted effectively. Consultation advisors assist departments in maintaining their consultation records. Legal risks associated with consultation are managed effectively.</p>	<p>Consultation guidelines drafted by Nova Scotia Environment. 59 active consultations in 2011/12. 108 active consultations in 2012/13. 120+ active consultations in 2013/14. 110 active consultations in 2014/15.</p>	<p>Develop/implement operational guidelines for consultation with key departments. The provincial government meets its legal obligations to consult. Continue to provide consultation training.</p>	<p>2014/15 – OAA advised NS departments on more than 110 consultations with the Mi'kmaq. Implemented multi-year \$2 million funding agreement with Mi'kmaq Chiefs and the Kwiilmu'kw Maw-klusuaqn Negotiations Office to help them further develop their capacity to negotiate and participate in consultations with the Province. 2014/15 – Provided Consultation training to 50 staff jointly with federal partners and line departments.</p>	<p>Key departments are assigned a consultation advisor. Consultation advisors utilize common tools when advising departments. Consultation advisors maintain complete consultation records. Continue to provide capacity funding and support to the Assembly of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq Chiefs to participate in consultation. Provide capacity funding and support to Sipekne'katik First Nation to participate in consultation. Work with federal colleagues to provide joint consultation training to federal and provincial staff, deliver consultation course as listed in PSC calendar and deliver training to line departments.</p>
--	--	--	---	---	--

4. Positive and productive relationship through negotiations with Canada and the Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq

Outcome	Measure	Base Year	Annual Target 2015-2016	Trends, Previous Year Data	Strategies to Achieve Target
Advance Federal/Provincia l/Mi'kmaq work towards a modern treaty through the Made-In-Nova Scotia Process	All parties remain committed to the 2007 Mi'kmaq-Nova Scotia-Canada Framework Agreement and to making progress, including interim arrangements, on priority negotiation topics as they work toward a constitutionally protected Accord that sets out the manner in which the Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia will exercise their rights respecting land, resources and governance.	Made-In-Nova Scotia Process Mi'kmaq-Nova Scotia-Canada Framework Agreement signed February 23, 2007, formalized the beginning of negotiations on Aboriginal and treaty rights issues among the Mi'kmaq, Nova Scotia and Canada. The parties meet monthly and are guided by mutually agreed upon work plans.	Continued tripartite negotiations with the Mi'kmaq and Canada towards a mutually beneficial agreement. Continue to enhance clarity on Mi'kmaq rights, title and treaty-related issues; improve relations; and reduce social and economic disparity for the Mi'kmaq. Consider implications of Sipekne'katik withdrawal from the Made-In-Nova Scotia Process.	2014/15 – The parties continue to negotiate and meet on a monthly basis or as needed. \$1 million agreement made with Mi'kmaq Chiefs (KMKNO) over two years to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop citizenship criteria including identification of beneficiaries; • Development of a ratification process; • Support for increased communication with communities; and • Development of a corporate entity for potential future agreements related to treaty and Aboriginal rights including title. Continued purchase of land to be held for negotiations which can be drawn on in the future for negotiated agreements. Increased relevance of evolving Treaty and title case law nationally may have implications in NS.	Monthly Main Table meetings with federal and Mi'kmaq negotiation teams. Ongoing work in key Aboriginal right and treaty-related areas. Negotiate a Treaty Related Measure(s) on Fisheries Governance and begin draft MOU Chapter. Continue drafting Parks MOU Chapter and begin management plan discussions. Continue to explore land and geography extent of claim issues. Continued discussion on Mi'kmaq governance, development of Mi'kmaq constitution, ratification process, citizenship criteria and identification of beneficiaries. Continue to develop the Wildlife MOU Chapter and begin discussions on Wildlife Management Agreements. Purchase land identified of interest to the Mi'kmaq to be held in support of negotiations. Continue consensus building on forestry issues with the intended issuance of a 3-year pilot forest management agreement between DNR and the Mi'kmaq to build forest management capacity. Review of Customary Law Pilot Project for Regulatory Offences related to wildlife.

5. Enhanced public awareness and appreciation of Mi'kmaq and Aboriginal history and culture

Outcome	Measure	Base Year	Annual Target 2015-2016	Trends, Previous Year Data	Strategies to Achieve Target
Greater awareness of the Mi'kmaq culture and history provides a foundation for positive relations and support.	<p>Number of public servants participating in Aboriginal training programs</p> <p>Number of events with an education or public awareness purpose</p> <p>This measures activity level not progress toward an outcome</p> <p>Treaty education integrated into NS curriculum</p>	<p>2013/14 – Mi'kmaq History Month (MHM) Committee established</p> <p>2013/14 – MHM website developed</p> <p>2014/15 – Provided consultation training to 50 provincial and federal staff</p> <p>2015/16 – base year for Aboriginal context training</p>	<p>Increase in participation of public servants in Aboriginal training offered by OAA/PSC.</p> <p>Tracking of implementation of Treaty education curriculum.</p> <p>Specific feedback and exceptional items noted.</p>	<p>2014/15 – Lead/host organization (CMIM) formally endorsed by the Assembly of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq Chiefs</p> <p>2014/15 – Three major national Aboriginal events hosted in Nova Scotia, raising profile of Aboriginal culture and priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • APTN Aboriginal Day Live & Celebrations • AFN Annual General Assembly • National Aboriginal Women's Summit IV <p>Aboriginal issues increasing in profile both nationally and locally</p> <p>2014/15 – Reintroduction of Aboriginal context in NS training with PSC for public servants</p>	<p>Promote public awareness of the Mi'kmaq in Nova Scotia through Treaty Day and Mi'kmaq History Month and other cultural and heritage expression opportunities.</p> <p>Communities Culture Heritage / Office of Aboriginal Affairs and Council of Mainland Mi'kmaq collaborating to build community capacity and MHM event planning infrastructure for future years.</p> <p>October 2015 marks the 22nd anniversary of the proclamation of Mi'kmaq History Month.</p> <p>OAA is an active champion/participant in Treaty Day, Mi'kmaq History Month and National Aboriginal Day. We will work to enhance social media presence and communications around important events and activities taking place across the province.</p> <p>OAA has recognized the importance of having a wide range of Mi'kmaq/Aboriginal resources available to support student learning in Nova Scotia.</p> <p>Continued development and promotion of training for NS public servants, including Aboriginal Context in NS and Consultation Training.</p> <p>Collaborate with Department of Education on integration of Treaty education into provincial curriculum through support of symposium and relationship building with external stakeholders.</p>

6. Collaborative and respectful Aboriginal and intergovernmental relations					
Outcome	Measure	Base Year	Annual Target 2015-2016	Trends, Previous Year Data	Strategies to Achieve Target
Improved relations between the Government of Nova Scotia and Aboriginal communities and organizations.	Increase in the percentage of departments and agencies that are satisfied with their working relationship with Aboriginal communities and organizations, and/or Specific feedback and exceptional items noted, including social media comments.	2005/06 - 80% were satisfied/somewhat satisfied	To increase % of respondents who are satisfied / somewhat satisfied to 95%. Specific feedback and exceptional items noted.	No survey in 2014/15; planned for 2015/16 (5-year cycle) Annual meeting with Cabinet and Assembly of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq Chiefs resulted in commitments for economic development collaborations. Provided leadership in supporting departments a participating in seven Tripartite Forum working committees. 2010/11 – 91% were satisfied/ somewhat satisfied 2005/06 - 80% were satisfied/ somewhat satisfied	Work with departments and Aboriginal communities and organizations to address a range of issues affecting their communities. Ongoing identification and coordination of cross- departmental Aboriginal issues. Continuation of strategic advice and policy analysis to departments and agencies. Working with departments and agencies to apply national strategies to provincial approaches. Continue providing funding to support consultations, and for Chiefs to increase communication with communities and prepare for future agreements for treaty and Aboriginal rights and title. Coordination of the 6 th annual Assembly of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq Chiefs and Provincial Cabinet meeting.

<p>The interests of Nova Scotians are effectively represented in inter-governmental, tripartite, and bilateral initiatives and negotiations.</p>	<p>Increase in the percentage of government departments and agencies who agree that OAA effectively represents the interests of Nova Scotians, and/or</p> <p>Specific feedback and exceptional items noted.</p>	<p>2005 – 96% strongly agree/agree</p>	<p>To maintain % of respondents who strongly agree/agree at 96%.</p> <p>Specific feedback and exceptional items noted.</p>	<p>No survey in 2014/15; planned for 2015/16</p> <p>Through numerous intergovernmental forums OAA supported for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • heritage preservation initiatives, • economic development opportunities, • Early Childhood Education programs, • access to mental health and addictions services, • Eskasoni Crisis Line, recreation opportunities and initiatives to address family violence. <p>2010/11 - 92% strongly agree/agree</p> <p>2005/06 – 96% strongly agree/agree</p>	<p>Ongoing participation and coordination of provincial role in the Mi'kmaq-Nova Scotia-Canada Tripartite Forum and the Made-in-Nova Scotia Process.</p> <p>Foster intergovernmental involvement and collaboration in national (e.g., Aboriginal Affairs Working Group) and regional initiatives.</p> <p>Collaborate on social and economic priorities through the Mi'kmaq-Nova Scotia-Canada Tripartite Forum. OAA actively participates in seven working committees (Culture & Heritage, Education, Economic Development, Health, Justice, Social, Sport & Recreation), and provides provincial leadership on Steering, Officials and Executive committees.</p> <p>Engage Federal, provincial and territorial governments on a regular basis to share information and discuss issues of common concern, and engage in important national-scope discussions with Aboriginal organizations and leaders, for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Roundtable on missing and murdered Aboriginal women • Aboriginal Affairs Working Group meeting in May 2015 • Assembly Chiefs & Cabinet Meeting in spring 2015 • Council of the Federation / National Aboriginal Organization annual meeting summer 2015
--	---	--	--	---	--