

Nova Scotia

Department of Intergovernmental Affairs

Statement of Mandate

2013-2014

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1) Message from the Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs



I am pleased to present the Department's 2013-2014 Statement of Mandate and work for the coming year.

In 2013-2014, I look forward to building on the progress that Nova Scotia has made in intergovernmental relations over the past number of years. This will include working collaboratively with my regional, national and international counterparts, and continuing my productive working relationship with the Prime Minister and his government.

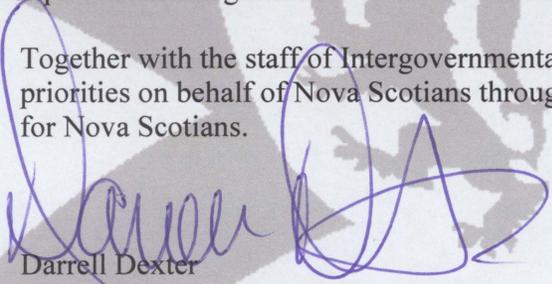
I look forward to hosting Atlantic Premiers this spring as chair of the Council of Atlantic Premiers (CAP). Strengthening regional collaboration on skills will continue to be emphasized in the coming year, through initiatives such as the Atlantic Workforce Partnership. Atlantic joint procurement opportunities will continue to be explored with a view to identifying financial savings through joint purchasing. This year, Atlantic Premiers will also foster new global trade opportunities for regional companies through joint trade activities.

I was pleased to serve as Chair of the Council of the Federation (COF) during 2012-2013 and I look forward to working with the Premier of Ontario as the incoming chair and will continue to collaborate with my fellow Premiers through COF. Building on the outcomes from the July COF meeting and the November 2012 COF International Economic Forum, both held in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Premiers will continue to collaborate to ensure Canada's economic prospects remains strong. In addition, I led a delegation of Canadian Premiers and business leaders on a successful trade mission to China in the Fall of 2012 which positioned Canada's Premiers well to advance our collective and unique trade and investment priorities with our partners and emerging economies.

As a province, we place tremendous value on our relationship with the United States. Strengthening Nova Scotia's trade ties with the southeastern United States, New England, and other states that open markets for local companies will continue to be a priority. In July, I will welcome governors and premiers for the Annual Conference of Southeastern United States / Canadian Provinces Alliance (SEUS / CP). This event will provide a tremendous opportunity to foster business to business exchanges for Nova Scotia companies and I look forward to showcasing Nova Scotia to my colleagues.

Through our relations with other countries we will continue to promote Nova Scotia's interests and increase opportunities for business, education and cultural exchanges. We will welcome diplomats and dignitaries to Nova Scotia to promote and position Nova Scotia internationally.

Together with the staff of Intergovernmental Affairs, I look forward to advancing the province's priorities on behalf of Nova Scotians through the Department's role in helping make life better for Nova Scotians.


Darrell Dexter
Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs

2) Message from the Deputy Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs



I am pleased to provide an overview of the Department's operational priorities for 2013-2014.

This year, Intergovernmental Affairs (IGA) will continue to work closely with other government departments in Nova Scotia, Canadian provinces and territories, the federal government and international governments to advance the interests of Nova Scotians.

An integral part of our work in 2013-2014 will involve providing policy advice to support the Premier's participation in a number of intergovernmental forums. These multi-lateral discussions offer opportunities to advance Nova Scotia's priorities at the regional, national and international level.

In 2013-2014, Nova Scotia will chair two key intergovernmental forums: the Council of Atlantic Premiers and the Southeastern United States – Canadian Provinces Alliance (SEUS / CP). Other forums that allow Nova Scotia to work with state and provincial level governments are the Conference of New England Governors – Eastern Canadian Premiers (NEG-ECP) and the Council of the Federation.

The chair of the Council of the Federation (CoF) – which is comprised of Canada's 13 Premiers – will transition from Nova Scotia to Ontario in 2013-2014. Throughout this transition, Nova Scotia will continue to provide leadership to CoF. Beginning in April, I will bring together Canada's Deputy Ministers of Intergovernmental Affairs to focus on the substantive issues currently influencing the Canadian federation.

In the coming year, Intergovernmental Affairs will proactively work with Economic and Rural Development and Tourism (ERDT) and Nova Scotia Business Inc. (NSBI) to explore trade opportunities globally. Trade missions enable the Premier, as Minister of IGA, to support Nova Scotia companies and businesses in expanding and emerging global markets. Often, trade efforts are enhanced due to positive government to government relations. Intergovernmental Affairs will lead government relations in support of various trade missions.

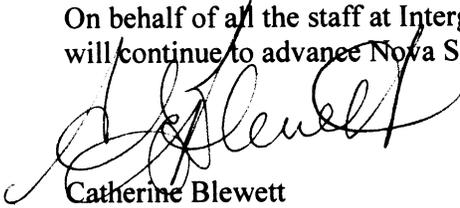
In 2013-2014, Intergovernmental Affairs will continue to foster a productive bilateral relationship with the federal government. I will work with officials at the Privy Council Office (PCO) and other federal departments to advance Nova Scotia's interests in Ottawa.

The department will continue to practice fiscal sustainability and support the government's 'core' priorities. This will be achieved both by reducing costs and increasing efficiency in the Department, and by supporting other Nova Scotia departments in seeking out regional opportunities for collaboration.

Throughout 2013-2014, Intergovernmental Affairs will support government-wide Public Sector Renewal and Employee Engagement initiatives that are underway in the Nova Scotia Public Service and within Intergovernmental Affairs. The Department is committed to enhancing a

healthy, respectful and diverse work environment, so that employees can continue to work for the benefit of all Nova Scotians.

On behalf of all the staff at Intergovernmental Affairs, I look forward to a year of progress and will continue to advance Nova Scotia's priorities in the region, nationally and internationally.



Catherine Blewett
Deputy Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs

3) Department Mandate

Intergovernmental Affairs receives its mandate from section 46D and 46E of the Public Service Act. The Act states that - under the direction of its Minister - the department is responsible for coordinating and advancing the province's interests with the Government of Canada, other provinces, and foreign governments at the national and sub-national levels. It is also focused on serving as a central point of contact for the coordination of the province's intergovernmental priorities and protocol requirements

Vision: A province recognized as a credible, compelling and equitable partner to other jurisdictions that effectively influences intergovernmental policy decisions to the economic and social benefit of Nova Scotians.

Mission: To advance Nova Scotia's interests by creating and pursuing intergovernmental opportunities, providing strategic policy and planning advice on intergovernmental priorities. Building and fostering strategic relationships with other departments and with regional, national and international governments.

4) Government Priorities

The Department of Intergovernmental Affairs is committed to advancing Government's priorities in the following ways:

A. Provide better health care for you and your family

Through the Council of the Federation, and in close collaboration with the Department of Health and Wellness, Intergovernmental Affairs will continue to support the work of the Premiers' Health Care Initiative Working Group on:

- clinical practice guidelines;
- Pan-Canadian drug alliance and Value-Price Initiative for generic drugs;
- team-based models of care;
- continuous improvement principles to achieve efficiency in the delivery of health care services; and
- the appropriateness of certain tests and procedures.

Particular emphasis will be placed on expanding the drug-purchasing initiatives (which Nova Scotia will lead) and to look at ways to improve home care for seniors.

B. Create good jobs and grow the economy

Through our interprovincial and international forums and in close collaboration with departments and agencies across government, Intergovernmental Affairs will support the creation of good jobs and economic growth.

- The work of Atlantic Workforce Partnership (AWP) will address skills deficits; enhance training programs and apprenticeship opportunities; recruit and retain immigrants; and build on Atlantic Canada's economic strengths.
- In 2013-2014, Atlantic premiers will continue to explore new global trade opportunities through trade missions which are an important platform to showcase Nova Scotia firms and companies.
- Supporting the Department of Energy, IGA will monitor the intergovernmental elements of the Maritime Link project which will be critical in helping Nova Scotia lessen its dependence on fossil fuels; moving to greener cleaner sources of power; stabilizing electricity pricing; and creating labour opportunities in Nova Scotia, in particular Cape Breton.
- Continuing to support efforts to re-establish a Yarmouth - Maine ferry operation that is privately run and commercially viable. To this end, Intergovernmental Affairs will work with various governments within Canada and the United States.

C. Make life more affordable and end the cycle of poverty

Intergovernmental Affairs will work with the Department of Finance to advance Premiers' interest in making improvements to Canada's retirement income system, as adequate retirement income is essential to the poverty reduction efforts that provinces and territories pursue.

Intergovernmental Affairs will also continue to support commitments made at the Council of the Atlantic Premiers and work with Department of Community Services on exploring areas of collaboration for social housing.

D. Get back to balance and ensure government lives within its means

Through the Council of the Federation working group on Fiscal Arrangements, Intergovernmental Affairs will support the Department of Finance in the development of proposals to modernize fiscal arrangements so every province and territory is able to provide its citizens with reasonably comparable levels of public services at reasonably comparable levels of taxation.

Other priorities include:

- Working with the federal government to identify opportunities for pilot projects and/or joint ventures aimed at delivering quality programs and services effectively and efficiently;
- Continuing to identify joint procurement opportunities with other provinces/territories and support other departments in seeking out and pursuing opportunities for regional collaboration;

- Through the Council of Atlantic Premiers and the Council of the Federation, seeking opportunities to reduce costs and increase efficiencies through joint procurement initiatives and adoption of best practices;
- Continuing to assess internal operations to identify efficiencies; and
- Together with other provincial departments, identifying how potential changes in federal funding for programs and services may generate additional costs or benefits for the province, and work to mitigate negative federal-provincial impacts where possible.

5) Intergovernmental Affairs Core Business Areas 2013-2014

- Government of Canada Relations
- Provincial and Territorial Relations
- International Relations
- Protocol Office
- Government House

6) Performance Measures

Government of Canada Relations

Outcome	Measure	Base Year:	Annual Target: 2013-14	Trends Subsequent year data:	Strategic Actions
Effective approaches to developing Nova Scotia positions and strategies on federal policy.	Percentage of clients satisfied with services used regarding federal policy. Examples of where Intergovernmental Affairs or where Intergovernmental Affairs, in collaboration with other departments and agencies, focused on creating positions, strategies or identifying opportunities on federal policy issues.	2012-2013	80% satisfied with services used regarding federal policy.	N/A	<p>Analyze federal positions and policies.</p> <p>Review, analyze and advise on Throne speech, budget, political platforms, and committees (Federal, Provincial and major municipalities).</p> <p>Analyze perspectives on federal policy, legislation and provide advice to the Premier's Office and NS departments and agencies.</p>

Note: In response to previous survey results, IGA has developed an interview and focus group based review process to ensure that the Department receives qualitative as well as quantitative measures and is achieving substantive outcomes for Nova Scotia.

Government of Canada Relations

Outcome	Measure	Base Year:	Annual Target: 2013-14	Trends Subsequent year data:	Strategic Actions
Effective engagement in advancing constructive dialogue on Nova Scotia's federal-provincial priorities.	Percentage of clients satisfied with support services used to assist departments when advancing Nova Scotia's federal-provincial priorities. Clients feel we were able to engage the federal government in constructive dialogue in priority areas.	2012-2013	80% satisfied with support services used to assist departments when advancing Nova Scotia's federal-provincial priorities. Specific feedback and suggested areas for improvement.	N/A	Identify Nova Scotia's strategic F/P/T interests. Establish constructive working relationships with federal officials. Lead effective management and resolution of bi-lateral Canada/Nova Scotia issues.
Influence on Government of Canada policy and decision making.	Percentage of clients satisfied with services used to influence federal-provincial decision-making. Clients feel Intergovernmental Affairs has influence in federal/provincial discussions directly or indirectly through institutional mechanisms, re: CAP, CoF, etc.).	2012-2013	80% satisfied with services used to influence federal-provincial decision-making. Specific feedback and suggested areas for improvement.	N/A	Mutual interests are determined and realized. Develop strategic partnerships and common positions with other P/T's to influence federal policy and issues.

Provincial/Territorial (P/T) Relations

Outcome	Measure	Base Year:	Annual Target: 2013-14	Trends Subsequent year data:	Strategic Actions
Quality advice to the Premier on P/T interests and positions impacting Nova Scotia.	Percentage of clients satisfied on how Intergovernmental Affairs helps to create positions, strategies and/or identifies opportunities on federal policy issues.	2012-2013	80% satisfied that Intergovernmental Affairs focusses on creating positions, strategies or identifying opportunities on federal policy issues.	N/A	Monitor and develop analysis on other P/T activities through media monitoring and intelligence gathering, discussion at PT officials' tables, and bilateral discussions.
			Specific feedback and suggested areas for improvement.		
P/T opportunities for strategic collaboration on federal-provincial/territorial programs and services are identified and implemented.	Percentage of clients satisfied with how Intergovernmental Affairs identifies and implements opportunities for strategic collaboration on F/P/T and P/T issues.	2012-2013	80% satisfied with Intergovernmental Affairs identifying and implementing opportunities for strategic collaboration on F/P/T or P/T issues.	N/A	Establish constructive working relationships through intergovernmental mechanisms and bilateral engagement. Lead and build consensus on national policy issues. Develop strategies to address contentious issues.
			Specific feedback and suggested areas for improvement.		

Provincial/Territorial (P/T) Relations

Outcome	Measure	Base Year:	Annual Target: 2013-14	Trends Subsequent year data:	Strategic Actions
Nova Scotia demonstrates regional leadership.	Percentage of clients satisfied that Intergovernmental Affairs provided leadership on fostering regional collaboration.	2012-2013	80% satisfied with Intergovernmental Affairs providing leadership on regional collaboration. Specific feedback and suggested areas for improvement.	N/A	Leverage meetings of the Council of Atlantic Premiers' (CAP) to raise awareness of Atlantic Canadian issues and priorities. Maximize opportunities for Nova Scotia through CAP. Explore ways to improve the efficient delivery of public services through joint cooperation with the Atlantic provinces.

International Relations

Outcome	Measure	Base Year:	Annual Target: 2013-14	Trends Subsequent year data:	Strategic Actions
Nova Scotia's interests with priority countries are advanced.	Percentage of clients satisfied that Intergovernmental Affairs significantly contributed to the Premier and senior staff being prepared to undertake trade missions abroad.	2012-2013	80% satisfied that Intergovernmental Affairs significantly contributed to the trade missions undertaking by the Premier and his senior staff. Specific feedback and suggested areas for improvement.	N/A	Maximize the Premier's participation in strategic meetings with political and business leaders. Partner with stakeholders in Canada and abroad.

International Relations

Outcome	Measure	Base Year:	Annual Target: 2013-14	Trends Subsequent year data:	Strategic Actions
To maximize the Premier's role in advancing Nova Scotia's position internationally, business development opportunities, investment attraction, and trade opportunities.	Number of international engagements Intergovernmental Affairs assisted with.	2012-2013	Ten business development, investment attraction, and/or trade opportunity engagements Five international relations events/engagements Specific feedback and suggested areas for improvement.	N/A	Identify strategic markets, investment opportunities and international relations related meetings/engagements.
To create jobs and grow key sectors through enhanced U.S. trade relations.	Use sub-national forums to promote trade opportunities in the United States for NS companies.	2012-2013	Specific feedback and suggested areas for improvement.	N/A	Host the 2013 SEUS // CP Conference. Participate in the annual Conference of New England Governors and Eastern Canadian Premiers (NEG/ECP).

Protocol

Outcome	Measure	Base Year: 2006-2007	Annual Target: 2013-14	Trends Subsequent year data:	Strategic Actions
Official Visits	Number of visiting countries where the interests of the province are profiled.	18	25	2008-09 - 37	Through official visits of priority countries.
To promote the interests of the province to other governments.		11	10	2009-10 - 16	Targeted opportunities for business, education, and cultural exchanges.
		100%	100%	2010-11 - 7**	
		100%	100%	2011-12 - 32	
To increase profile of the province.				2012-13 – 5***	Promote the interests of the province.

** The 2010 Royal Tour impacted on the number of visits that could be accepted.

***The 2012 Council of the Federation meetings impacted on the number of visits that could be accepted.

Engagement of Honorary Consuls and departmental support remains at 100%.

Protocol

Outcome	Measure	Base Year: 2006-2007	Annual Target: 2013-14	Trends Subsequent year data:	Strategic Actions
Official Events:	Number of Nova Scotia performers, cuisine and historic venues profiled.	100%	100%	2008-09 - 19	Identify Nova Scotia performers and cuisine.
To profile performers, local cuisine, and historical venues to national and international visitors through official events.		90%	90%	2009-10 - 17	Host events at Government House and Province House.
		90%	100%	2010-11 - 32	
				2011-12 - 48**	Incorporate tours to heritage sites during official visits and conferences.
				2012-13 – 29 ***	
			** 48 include 20 events for visit of the Governor General and 14 events for NEG/ECP Conference.		
			*** Includes events organized for CoF.		

Protocol

Outcome	Measure	Base Year: 2006-2007	Annual Target: 2013-14	Trends Subsequent year data:	Strategic Actions
Order of Nova Scotia: To encourage Nova Scotians to take pride in their province and its people and encourage the pursuit of excellence.	Number of nominations and re-nominations received.	75 5 (6 if a youth is selected)	75 5	2008 - 68 2009 - 74 2010 - 75 2011 - 76 2012 - 84	Deliver The Order of Nova Scotia program.
Premier's Congratulatory Message Service. To recognize deserving Nova Scotians annually, including retiring civil servants.	Number of Nova Scotians recognized	1700 Birthday/Retirement/ Anniversary Certificates Total: 1700	1700 Birthday/ Anniversary Certificates 200 Retirement Certificates Total: 1900	2008 - 09 - 1991 2009 - 10 - 1762 2010 - 11 - 1509 2011 - 12 - 1414 2012 - 13 - 1362	Deliver Premier's Congratulatory Certificate Service.

Protocol

Outcome	Measure	Base Year: 2006-2007	Annual Target: 2013-14	Trends Subsequent year data:	Strategic Actions
Government Gift Bank: To promote Nova Scotia artisans working in different mediums that represents the diverse communities and cultures of Nova Scotia.	Number of times artisans profiled from diverse communities across the province. Monthly sales.	70	75	2008 - 80 2009 - 75 2010 - 75 2011 - 75 2012 - 75	Operate the Nova Scotia Gift Bank.



Government House

In spring 2011, Bill 52 respecting the Government Administration Amendment (2011) Act amended The Public Service Act s. 46(e) to include Government House under the mandate of Intergovernmental Affairs.

For 2013-2014, Government House continues to meet its federal and provincial obligations and operates within its mandate and funding allocations.



7) Budget Context

Appendix C

IGA Budget Context Chart

Intergovernmental Affairs			
	2012-2013 Estimate	2012-2013 Forecast	2013-2014 Estimate
Program & Service Area	(\$thousands)	(\$thousands)	(\$thousands)
Gross Departmental Expenses:			
Administration (head office)	2,918	2,288	2,208
Government House	852	812	812
Ottawa Office	224	100	---
Protocol Office	685	681	548
Total Gross Departmental Expenses	4,679	3,911	3,568
Additional Information:			
Fees and Other Chargeables	(125)	(170)	(125)
Ordinary Recoveries	280	103	30
TCA Purchase Requirements	0	0	0
Provincial Funded Staff (FTEs)	30.71	27.4	27.5