

FINE OPTION PROGRAM

An alternative method of fine payment through community work

What is the Fine Option Program?

The Province of Nova Scotia has established a Fine Option Program effective February 1, 1990, to be administered by Correctional Services, Department of Justice.

The Fine Option Program allows an individual to satisfy a fine by performing work for volunteer or not-for-profit community-based organizations, as approved by the Department of Justice. The number of hours or work required of an individual are determined by dividing the amount of the fine by the provincial minimum wage.

Who is eligible to participate?

The Fine Option Program is a voluntary program available to any adult person who has been ordered to pay a fine, except where the fine is for a municipal bylaw or an offence related to the operation or parking of a motor vehicle. All eligible fines must have a current due date. As well, the court costs and victim surcharge portion must be paid in full prior to registration.

Why a Fine Option Program?

The Fine Option Program benefits both the offender and the community. The offender benefits by being able to enter a program which provides an alternate means of paying a fine.

As a result, offenders will no longer be incarcerated solely as a result of being unable to afford to pay a fine. The community directly benefits through the very real work that is completed by the offender. In addition, the community is provided the opportunity to actively participate in the criminal justice system by assisting in the placement and supervision of individuals who choose to register with the Fine Option Program.

Contact Information

For further information, or to register with the Fine Option Program, please contact:

Nova Scotia Department of Justice
Correctional Services Division
PO Box 968, Station M
Halifax, NS B3J 2V9

424-8297
Toll free 1-866-443-6995

*For further information
please contact the local
Community Corrections
Office:*