

# Low Carbon Communities 2021-2022

## Assessment Criteria

- ❑ **Proposals will be evaluated by Nova Scotia (NS) Government staff. Projects are scored on the extent to which it meets each criterion listed in the application form.**
- ❑ **Applicant and application must meet all eligibility requirements outlined in the Program Description at <https://novascotia.ca/low-carbon-communities/>.**
- ❑ **We encourage applicants to contact Program Staff to discuss their applications:**

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OR

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**Disclaimer:** The “High Score” and “Low Score” examples listed below are a guide to support applicants bringing forward strong submissions.

Criteria	Scoring
<b>1.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>15%</b>
<b>1. Project addresses an identified challenge or opportunity within the community, with the aim of greenhouse gas (GHG) reductions.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ <b>High Score:</b> The applicant has clearly defined the scope and purpose of their project and has demonstrated how it supports GHG reductions.</li><li>× <b>Low Score:</b> The applicant has somewhat described the scope and purpose of the project, but some elements are ambiguous. The drive behind it may be unclear or undefined. The applicant hasn't clearly demonstrated the link between this project and how it will support long-lasting GHG reductions.</li></ul>	
<b>2. Project deliverables are specific, measurable, attainable, relevant and time-based (SMART) and the applicant will be able to report back on the completion of the deliverables.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ <b>High Score:</b> The applicant has listed SMART deliverables of the project. The project identifies a plan to complete the deliverables, and ability to report on the completion of the project.</li><li>× <b>Low Score:</b> The applicant has listed deliverables that are too broad, unmeasurable, unrealistic/unfeasible, and/or unrelated. The deliverables do not have clear deadlines.</li></ul>	

<b>2.0 PARTNERSHIPS AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT</b>	<b>15%</b>
<b>1. The applicant has involved key stakeholders and partners to collaborate on the project.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ <b>High Score:</b> The applicant has involved key stakeholders and partners in the project or demonstrated efforts to involve potential partners. Projects that have the potential to leverage federal funding for full scale implementation will be scored highly.</li><li>× <b>Low Score:</b> The applicant has not involved key stakeholders or partners in the project or demonstrated efforts to involve potential partners.</li></ul>	
<b>2. The applicant has effectively engaged with all relevant groups impacted by the project or has a plan to do so.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ <b>High Score:</b> The applicant has engaged with relevant groups and/or has a plan to do so.</li><li>× <b>Low Score:</b> The applicant has not engaged with relevant groups nor has a plan to do so.</li></ul>	

3.0 STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT	40%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>High Score:</b> The applicant has identified how the project aligns with the listed strategic areas.</li> <li>× <b>Low Score:</b> The applicant is not able to demonstrate the project’s alignment with the listed strategic areas.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>GHG Reduction Potential:</b> Either the project itself, or future stages of the project, will reduce GHGs in the community. Where possible, there is a plan to measure and report the GHG reductions. <b>(8pts)</b></p>	
<p><b>Learning by Doing, Knowledge Transfer and Innovation:</b> The project will help the province transition to a low carbon future by testing new systems, concepts or models to NS and develop learnings or best practices for this purpose. <b>(8pts)</b></p>	
<p><b>Local Economic Benefits, Jobs, Skilled Trades:</b> The project enables the creation of new jobs or supports continued employment. Local suppliers and consultants will be sourced. Job skills or expertise will be developed in building efficiency, clean electricity, clean transportation sectors. <b>(8pts)</b></p>	
<p><b>Community-Driven Initiative:</b> The project, or project idea, was developed by the community or a community-identified need. The project is shaped by community context, needs and aspirations. Local leadership is involved in the project. <b>(8pts)</b></p>	
<p><b>Equity and Inclusion:</b> The project implements actions that will benefit or serve and support traditionally underserved populations including but not limited to First Nations, African Nova Scotians, persons with a disability, new immigrants, public housing residents and people living on low incomes. <b>(8pts)</b></p>	
4.0 MEASURABILITY & EVALUATION	15%
<p><b>1. The project goals, methods and indicators of success are listed.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>High Score:</b> The applicant has identified project goals, methods and indicators of success that are measurable, attainable and relevant for low carbon solutions.</li> <li>× <b>Low Score:</b> The applicant has poorly described the project goals, methods and indicators of success. The methods are not effective to report on the indicators of success.</li> </ul> <p><b>2. The applicant identifies how it will provide ongoing support to ensure success over time.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>High Score:</b> The applicant demonstrates forethought into the continuation of this work either through future phases that build on this project, or through maintenance efforts.</li> <li>× <b>Low Score:</b> The applicant does not demonstrate intention to continue the delivery of this project over time. The applicant has not demonstrated future phases that build on the project, nor plans to maintain this work.</li> </ul>	
5.0 BUDGET AND WORKPLAN	15%
<p><b>1. The applicant has a clear understanding and has scoped the associated costs of this project and how it will be funded.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>High Score:</b> The project costs are detailed and the required funding for this project has been identified, confirmed, or confirmation is imminent.</li> <li>× <b>Low Score:</b> The project costs are not detailed, and the funding for this project is not confirmed.</li> </ul> <p><b>2. The applicant has a clear understanding of how the project will be managed and completed on time.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>High Score:</b> The workplan is detailed with clear milestones and clear timelines to complete the project.</li> <li>× <b>Low Score:</b> The workplan lacks detail with undefined milestones and ambiguous timelines.</li> </ul>	