



POWERING THE TRANSITION:

CLEAN ECONOMY, CLIMATE ACTION, SUSTAINABLE PROSPERITY

THE ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT ON THE ENVIRONMENTAL GOALS AND
CLIMATE CHANGE REDUCTION ACT AND OUR CLIMATE, OUR FUTURE:
NOVA SCOTIA'S CLIMATE CHANGE PLAN FOR CLEAN GROWTH

2025

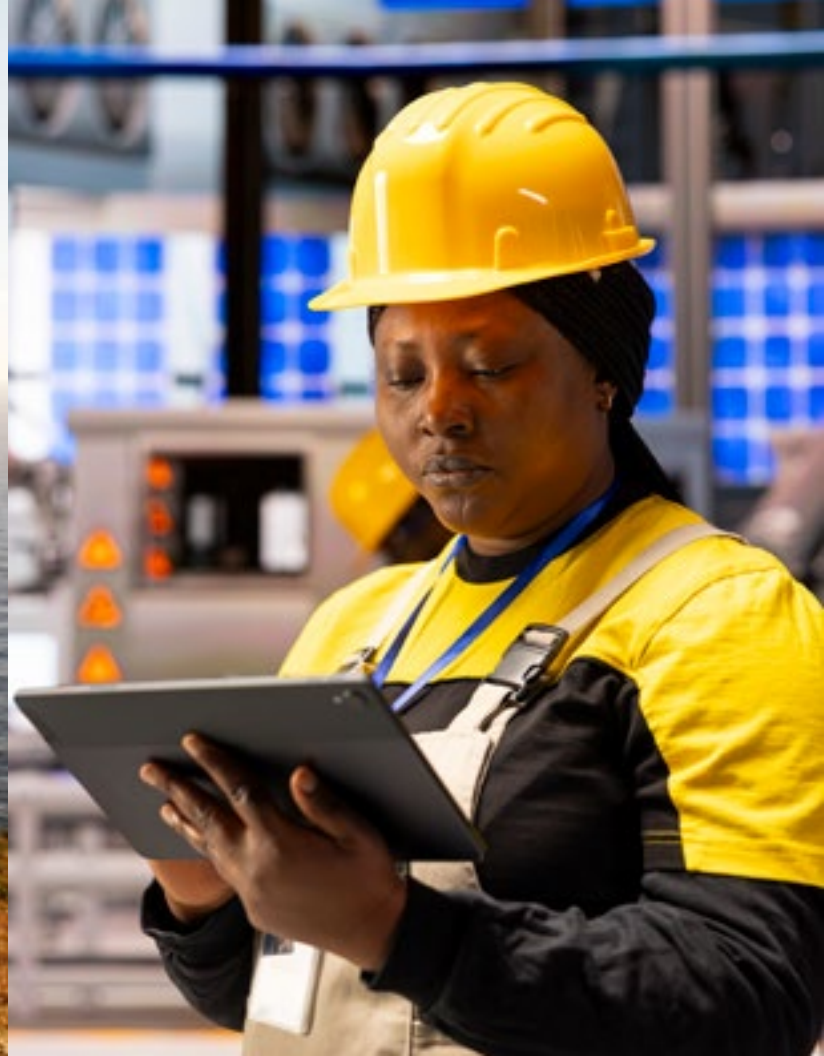




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MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER OF NOVA SCOTIA ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE



I am proud to present this year's progress report on the *Environmental Goals and Climate Change Reduction Act* and *Our Climate, Our Future: Nova Scotia's Climate Change Plan for Clean Growth*.

Together, the *Act* and the plan chart a clear and ambitious path for Nova Scotia towards sustainable prosperity.

A future where we are prepared for climate change impacts, and achieve net zero emissions by 2050. A future where our air, drinking water and environment continue to be protected, but we are also open to the responsible development of our natural resources.

A future where more of our food is produced in Nova Scotia and we have a strong circular economy. A clean energy future.

One of the best opportunities we have to make life better in Nova Scotia is clean energy. We have some of the fastest, most consistent offshore wind speeds in the world and are on the edge of a clean energy breakthrough. We are ready to put wind to work through the Wind West project – which would be a game-changer for the province, the region and the country. Harnessing offshore wind can make Nova Scotia a clean energy powerhouse and bring jobs and investment to our communities. It can also help Canada become a global energy powerhouse.

In addition to wind, we continue to seek opportunities in solar, tidal, green hydrogen and other technologies to green our grid and ensure Nova Scotians have a reliable, secure source of energy. Not only will clean energy help us meet our goal of being net zero by 2050, producing clean energy here will create good-paying jobs and make our economy stronger, while making us less dependent on having to import what we need.

The *Environmental Goals and Climate Change Reduction Act* was developed almost four years ago – and great progress has been made on the Act's 28 goals since our Government's sustainable prosperity vision became the law in 2021. This – the fourth annual report on the *Environmental Goals and Climate Change Reduction Act*, and the 68 actions in *Our Climate, Our Future: Nova Scotia's Climate Change Plan for Clean Growth* -- tell a story. That Nova Scotia is moving forward to a better, more sustainable and prosperous future. That when we work together, we can achieve anything we set our minds to. That we have what it takes to be a global clean energy leader. And so much more.

Our work is not done, however, and the world is a much different place than when the *Environmental Goals and Climate Change Reduction Act* and the Climate Change Action Plan came into effect. Fast action, and a willingness and ability to address economic growth and the sustainability of the planet in a coordinated, linked manner, is needed now, more than ever. That means, for example, unlocking the full potential of our natural resources in a responsible way that supports the transition to a clean energy future.

Every Nova Scotian has a role to play in transitioning our province forward to a more resilient, prosperous and sustainable future. In fact, we owe it to each other, and to future generations, to act with urgency in advancing the vision articulated in the Act and the Climate Change Action Plan.

This report features stories celebrating the inspiring Nova Scotians who are making a difference. I hope you enjoy them.

Together we are making wonderful things happen for our beloved province, and the planet.

Sincerely,

The Honourable Timothy Halman
Minister of Environment and Climate Change

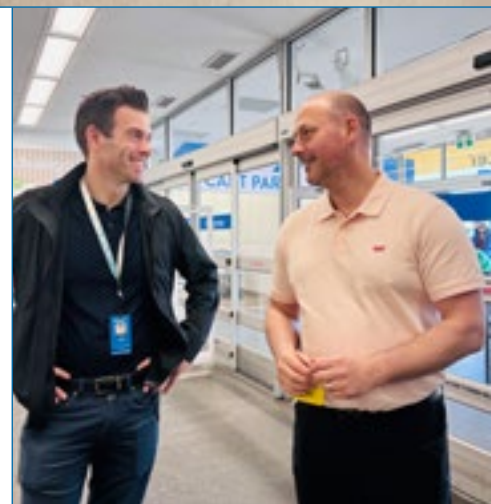
TRANSITIONNS

When people and communities are empowered to take action, they can achieve amazing things.... from protecting coastal communities from climate change impacts to making Nova Scotia a leader in the production of clean energy. Check out their inspiring stories at transitionsstories.ca

TransitioNS celebrates and shares stories about Nova Scotians who are taking action to improve our well-being and quality of life. To make their communities resilient to climate change. To green our grid and make our homes and buildings energy efficient...to lower emissions...protect our land, water and coastal way-of-life....to clean up litter and reduce the amount of waste in landfills...and help those most in need. To change their part of the world.



Walmart Canada and Food Banks Canada are transforming how communities access food—together, they’ve delivered over 200 million meals while advancing bold sustainability goals. Through responsible sourcing, reducing food loss, and a shared commitment to community well-being, their partnership shows how business and purpose can thrive side by side. Minister Halman and Ministerial Assistant Sheehy-Richard joined Walmart Canada, Food Banks Canada and Feed NS to learn more about this new initiative to reduce food waste and improve recyclable packaging.





INTRODUCTION

ACROSS NOVA SCOTIA,
REAL PROGRESS
IS TAKING HOLD.
COMMUNITIES ARE
LEADING. GOVERNMENT
IS INVESTING. AND
PEOPLE ARE ACTING —
AT HOME, AT WORK,
AND IN THE PLACES
THEY CARE ABOUT —
TO BUILD A FUTURE
THAT'S CLEANER,
STRONGER, AND
MORE RESILIENT.

Top to bottom:
Community garden.
Technology research happening in Nova Scotia.
EV charger.
Ledwidge Lumber.

This report tracks Nova Scotia's progress on two climate and sustainable prosperity commitments:

- The [Environmental Goals and Climate Change Reduction Act](#), passed in 2021, outlines 28 ambitious goals to fight climate change, develop a circular economy, protect land, ensure we have clean water and air, and transition Nova Scotia to a clean economy. It is our roadmap to sustainable prosperity.
- [Our Climate, Our Future: Nova Scotia's Climate Change Plan for Clean Growth](#), released in 2022, is a fully funded plan setting out 68 targeted actions to help us get there.

Together, they are the roadmap to guide a clear and ambitious path forward— a path that unlocks Nova Scotia's potential and guides the province toward a cleaner, healthier, and more prosperous future. At their core is a shared vision: growing a clean economy, seizing new business opportunities, taking bold climate action, and supporting the well-being of all Nova Scotians.

We have the essential building blocks of the clean economy right here— onshore and offshore wind, green hydrogen, solar, biomass, tidal, geothermal, and critical minerals. These are not just Nova Scotia's assets—they are assets the world needs to transition to a cleaner, greener future.

We are moving quickly and responsibly to keep more of the value of our resources here at home, in the form of good jobs, economic growth, and lasting infrastructure. This responsible and safe resource development is helping us achieve our ambitious climate goals and contributing to the world's transition toward a sustainable future.

Throughout this report, you'll see how that work is showing up—in classrooms and at kitchen tables, on farms and in community halls, at clean tech start-ups and in municipalities. These stories bring the numbers to life and show how climate action is creating real change, in communities throughout Nova Scotia.

We're already seeing the difference—with lower emissions, more clean energy, more resilient communities, more investment in our economy, and growing momentum across the clean economy. Nova Scotians are benefiting from new training, good jobs, more resilient homes and a sustainable environment. However, there is still more to do. This report is part of our commitment to accountability—it highlights the progress we have made, the work still underway, and the direction we are heading.

Because this isn't just about government. It's about all of us—working together to build a stronger and more resilient province. We all benefit when climate goals are met.



THE STATE OF NOVA SCOTIA

THE *ENVIRONMENTAL GOALS AND CLIMATE CHANGE REDUCTION ACT*,
AND OUR CLIMATE, OUR FUTURE:
NOVA SCOTIA'S CLIMATE CHANGE PLAN
FOR CLEAN GROWTH ADVANCE
SUSTAINABLE PROSPERITY IN NOVA SCOTIA.

EACH YEAR, GOVERNMENT REPORTS ON
THIS WORK.

TRACKING THIS PROGRESS INVOLVES
EXAMINING A RANGE OF DATA TO GAIN A
CLEAR PICTURE OF NOVA SCOTIA'S
ENVIRONMENT, ECONOMY, AND
COMMUNITIES OVER TIME.



The highlights below show the measurable progress we're making together. Each one contributes to the larger story of Nova Scotians building a cleaner economy, stronger communities, and a more sustainable future.



This year, 40.5 per cent of our energy is renewable energy



\$2.4 billion in seafood was exported to over 65 countries in 2024



Nova Scotia has reduced greenhouse gas emissions by 38 per cent from 2005 levels - this is an additional 2.8 per cent compared to last year



36 seafood companies and related organizations received funding to reduce their carbon footprint.

Examples include:

- \$250,000 for Membertou Fisheries Ltd. Partnership to help build charging stations for electric boats for catching lobster
- \$100,000 for the Brazil Rock Lobster Association to put solar and wind power on 18 lobster boats
- \$50,000 for Yarmouth Bar Fisheries to install solar panels that will result in a net-zero seafood processing live holding facility



To date, over \$11.1 million has been invested in 43 community-led climate action projects through the Sustainable Communities Challenge Fund



In 2023, environmental and clean technology contributed \$1.1 billion in GDP to the Nova Scotia economy, while reducing environmental impacts. This is a 3.6 per cent increase from 2022¹



This year, the [Clean Fuels Innovation Fund](#) invested \$3 million in seven projects across the province. Examples include:

- \$367,500 invested in Halifax Transit for a hydrogen dual-fuel bus demonstration project
- \$221,250 invested in the Municipality of the County of Richmond-Strait of Canso clean fuels domestic use strategy



More than 1,000 local businesses have signed up for Nova Scotia Loyal



Five offshore wind zones were proposed for designation. Nova Scotia has some of the fastest, most consistent offshore wind speeds in the world which have the potential to produce enough energy to power about 27 per cent of Canada's needs



By July 2024, Nova Scotia's population increased by 1.88 per cent. Since July 2023, that means 19,888 more people now call Nova Scotia home

¹ Source: 2023 Data

https://novascotia.ca/finance/statistics/topic_news.asp?id=20598&fto=22v&rdval=2025-01

ENVIRONMENTAL GOALS AND CLIMATE CHANGE REDUCTION ACT

The *Environmental Goals and Climate Change Reduction Act* is a legislated transformative commitment to build a healthier, more sustainable, more prosperous and resilient future. It supports all Nova Scotians as we work together to unlock our potential, grow the clean economy, protect the environment, and deliver benefits to communities and people.

Through its 28 targeted goals, the Act is:

- leading the way for Nova Scotia to become a clean energy powerhouse with the production and export of clean energy, using our wealth of natural resources – we have what it takes to meet the energy needs of Canada and the world.
- creating good jobs by increasing renewable energy opportunities here at home, while also decreasing our greenhouse gas emissions.
- attracting more clean energy projects through a more streamlined and straightforward path for environmental assessments. A path that supports early, meaningful participation by the Mi'kmaq and the public. This is creating jobs and economic growth while ensuring our environment remains protected.
- responsibly unlocking our critical and strategic minerals to support global decarbonization. This is generating economic opportunity and will help the planet achieve net-zero emissions.
- supporting innovators who are growing a more inclusive and circular economy. This supports the sustainable use of resources, creates jobs and saves municipalities money.
- supporting local entrepreneurs by making it easier for Nova Scotians to identify, purchase, and support local products. This builds our resilience.

Top to bottom:

Port of Halifax.

A Nova Scotia quarry.

Municipality of Colchester composting facility, in Kempton.

Larch Wood, a business in Cape Breton that specializes in making hand-crafted wooden end-grain kitchen cutting boards, countertops, flooring and more.



The Act is grounded in principles of equity and shared responsibility.



It is guided by Netukulimk—the Mi'kmaq concept of using the natural bounty provided by the Creator for the self-support and well-being of the individual and the community by achieving adequate standards of community nutrition, and economic well-being, without jeopardizing the integrity, diversity or productivity of the environment.



The *Environmental Goals and Climate Change Reduction Act* is a resolute commitment to action. It calls on government, communities, and partners across sectors to take coordinated, sustained action toward a better future.

The challenges of climate change are real, but so is our ability to act. Together, we are building a stronger, more climate-resilient Nova Scotia.

[Get more details on the Act and review past progress reports.](#)



OUR CLIMATE, OUR FUTURE: NOVA SCOTIA'S CLIMATE CHANGE PLAN FOR CLEAN GROWTH

Our Climate, Our Future: Nova Scotia's Climate Change Plan for Clean Growth is our fully funded roadmap to reaching the goals set out in the *Environmental Goals and Climate Change Reduction Act*.

Since the plan was launched in 2022, **\$273.7 million** has been committed to help Nova Scotians adapt to climate change and accelerate the transition to cleaner energy and infrastructure. This investment has created jobs, increased business resiliency, and is moving us toward being a province that is prepared, connected, and climate-ready.

The plan has 68 actions to help Nova Scotia:

- cut greenhouse gas emissions and achieve a net-zero emissions future by 2050
- adapt to the changing climate
- grow a strong and competitive clean economy with opportunities for everyone

The plan focuses on three key areas:

1. Responding to Climate Impacts

- increasing access to climate data and information
- building capacity for planning and implementation
- minimizing climate impacts by restoring natural areas and ecosystems

2. Reducing Our Greenhouse Gas Emissions

- creating a clean electricity system
- reducing our demand for energy
- helping Nova Scotians get off home heating oil and reduce home heating costs
- fast-track the transition to net-zero and climate resilient buildings
- creating cleaner transportation options

3. Seizing Opportunities for a Cleaner Sustainable Economy

- building on and expanding partnerships with experts
- developing skills for the clean economy
- helping our communities take action on climate change
- supporting sustainable growth in innovative clean technologies and services

4. Reporting and Evaluating Progress

More information about the plan and progress to date is available through [Nova Scotia's climate change publications and resources](#).

CLIMATE CHANGE FUND

The Climate Change Fund provides targeted support for achieving the goals and actions set out in the *Environmental Goals and Climate Change Reduction Act*, and the climate plan. The fund is managed by the [Department of Environment and Climate Change](#). It is fully-funded through the provincial budget and revenue from [Nova Scotia's Output-Based Pricing System](#), which places a price on carbon for large industrial emitters.

More details about the fund can be found on page 35 of this report.



PROGRESS ON ENVIRONMENTAL GOALS AND CLIMATE CHANGE REDUCTION ACT AND NOVA SCOTIA'S CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION PLAN

Nova Scotians are turning goals into action—one project, one partnership at a time.

This section highlights some of the action happening in homes, schools, businesses, and communities across the province.

From clean tech adoption to youth engagement, these stories show what happens when vision turns into on-the-ground follow-through.

This section highlights just some of the ways the goals outlined in the *Environmental Goals and Climate Change Reduction Act* and *Our Climate, Our Future: Nova Scotia's Climate Change Plan for Clean Growth* are coming to life. These are effective and strategic initiatives making a measurable impact—helping Nova Scotians live more sustainably, gain new skills, build resilience and prepare for climate change. This action is creating certainty during globally uncertain times.

Each story is a snapshot of progress and benefits—and a reminder that action is well underway.

You can learn more about each initiative and discover more stories by visiting <https://transitionsstories.ca/>. TransitionNS showcases inspiring stories of Nova Scotians who are taking action to unlock our province's full potential and are making life better for our communities, neighbours and future generations of Nova Scotians.



ATTRACTING BUSINESS TO GROW THE CLEAN ECONOMY

Clean Energy, Faster

Changes to Nova Scotia's environmental assessment process are helping to speed up our transition to clean energy and support the responsible use and development of our natural resources, while maintaining our high environmental standards. The changes include:

- creating a clear path for clean energy projects by moving them to the Class I process
- streamlining the process for biomass projects, thereby creating new opportunities for the province's forestry sector
- making the environmental assessment process easier to understand for both companies and the public
- new plain-language guidance for companies on Nova Scotia's process and how to follow it
- companies must provide a plain language summary of their project benefits, impacts and how impacts will be managed, to be posted on the Government's webpage; this will make it easier for Nova Scotians to understand projects and participate in consultations
- adding 10 days to the Class I consultation period for the public and Mi'kmaq
- a new website with easy-to-understand information and tools to help Nova Scotians better understand the process and how to participate in it
- climate change is now listed in the Minister's decision factors – this includes both the positive and negative impacts of a project on climate change
- clarifying the Minister's ability to engage advisors, such as scientists, engineers and other experts as needed, to help thoroughly evaluate the project and inform the Minister's decision.

Our modernized process will advance the Government's goals to strengthen sustainability and economic security for Nova Scotians and position the province as a clean energy powerhouse.

[\[Learn More\]](#)



Top to bottom
Biomass heat.
Dr. Christina Wells, an air quality specialist at the Nova Scotia Department of Environment and Climate Change.



CRITICAL MINERALS FOR THE GLOBAL ECONOMY

Through the [Critical Minerals Strategy](#), Nova Scotia is unlocking the full potential of its [critical and strategic minerals](#) - minerals that are crucial to the transition to clean energy, here at home, and abroad. To support this, Nova Scotia has [improved its industrial approval process](#) for metal mining to make it faster, clearer and more efficient – while continuing to protect the environment. The application process changes reduce red tape and uncertainty for the metal mining industry, create a more streamlined and clearer path for metal mining projects, and reflect an improved approach that safeguards the environment and strengthens sustainable prosperity.

HOUSING AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Tiny Home Construction Fundamentals Program

Launched in April 2024, this hands-on training program is helping Nova Scotians gain practical construction skills while helping to address the province's housing shortage. Funded through the [Microcredentials Initiative Innovation Fund](#), the program allows participants to earn industry-recognized credentials and gain paid, on-the-job experience constructing net-zero-ready tiny homes.

[\[Read the full story\]](#)



EQUITY & AFFORDABILITY

African Nova Scotian Communities Retrofit Program

Launched in 2024, this pilot program is expanding access to energy efficiency upgrades—such as heat pumps, insulation, and solar panels—for African Nova Scotian households. Shaped by community input, and supported by local community leaders and organizations, the program offers free or low-cost home upgrades.

[\[Read the full story\]](#)

Community-Focused Climate Access Programs

Community-driven energy upgrades and funding supports are helping to reduce barriers for rural and equity-deserving communities, ensuring more Nova Scotians can benefit from climate action.

[\[Learn more\]](#)

EDUCATION & YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

Youth Climate Council

The second cohort of the Youth Climate Council provided advice to the Minister of Environment and Climate Change on how Government should respond to climate change and engaged young people across the province in climate initiatives. The Council also supported youth across Nova Scotia in taking action on climate change through the Nova Scotia Youth Climate Bursary, the Creative Climate Showcase and the Youth Climate Summit.

[\[Learn More\]](#)

Netukulimk 12

This is a new course offered to Nova Scotia students that explores environmental science through Etuaptmumk, the Mi'kmaw concept of two-eyed seeing. The course was first piloted in the 2023-2024 school year and has since expanded to 13 additional schools. The course blends western science with traditional Mi'kmaw knowledge.

[\[Read the full story\]](#)

Grow, Eat, Learn Program

Led by [Nourish Nova Scotia](#), this school garden program helps students learn about food, climate, and sustainability through hands-on growing projects. Among the many benefits the program offers is the opportunity to create a genuine connection between the students and what they eat—fostering an early awareness of the value of freshly-grown, local food. With funding from the [Sustainable Communities Challenge Fund](#), the program is expanding to reach more schools and communities across the province.

[\[Read the full story\]](#)





Food garden at Admiral Westphal Elementary school, Dartmouth

SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES

Bayview Dairy Farm – Electrifying Progress

Bayview Dairy Farm in Mabou is showing how clean technology can make farming more efficient, affordable, and sustainable. With support from the [Provincial Agricultural Clean Technology program](#) and [Efficiency Nova Scotia](#), the farm replaced diesel-powered systems with electric alternatives—cutting emissions, lowering energy costs, and simplifying operations. Bayview is one of the many Nova Scotia farms that have undertaken clean tech projects – with help from Efficiency Nova Scotia, over 290 projects have been completed since 2021. Together these projects have cut greenhouse gas emissions by nearly 6400 tonnes, and helped producers avoid \$1.9 million in energy costs annually.

[\[Read the full story\]](#)

The Farm Loan Board Climate Financing

[This program](#) has supported dozens of clients in financing climate-smart improvements, such as efficient heating systems and electrified infrastructure, helping farms grow sustainably.

HEALTH, CIRCULAR ECONOMY & WELL-BEING

Aruna Revolution – Compostable Menstrual Products

This women-led Nova Scotia start-up is creating fully compostable menstrual products from agricultural byproducts. Supported by [Invest Nova Scotia](#) and other clean tech investment programs, Aruna Revolution is advancing sustainable, plastic-free alternatives.

[\[Read the full story\]](#)

Island Folk Cider House Invests in Sustainable Expansion

The [Island Folk Cider House](#) is making a \$366,750 capital investment to upgrade its bottling equipment, improve drainage, and eliminate dependency on an out-of-province mobile canner. As a result, they are doubling their canning capacity, increasing production efficiency, and reducing waste by 90 per cent.

[\[Learn more\]](#)





COASTAL PROTECTION

Under *The Future of Nova Scotia's Coastline*: *The plan to protect people, homes and nature from climate change along our coast*, coastal communities, municipalities and property owners have more tools and resources to make informed decisions to protect coastal areas and homes from the impacts of climate change. Over the past year, nine of the plan's actions have been completed, with progress continuing on the remaining six.

The following tools are available now to support informed decision-making and municipal leadership:

- the coastal hazard mapping tool, showing potential coastal flooding for today, and for the years 2050, and 2100
- a coastal hazard assessment report that gives property owners customized information on potential coastal flooding and erosion risks on their property
- a guide with important information for living safely and sustainably by the coast
- a guide on how to use trees, plants and other natural techniques to protect properties from erosion, rising sea levels and flooding
- a checklist and education video for real estate agents to use to help their clients make informed decisions about buying coastal property, developed in partnership with the Nova Scotia Association of REALTORS
- navigators who can help coastal property owners understand potential risks and hazards on their property and what they can do to mitigate them (coastalnavigator@novascotia.ca or 1-888-570-4240)
- example bylaws for municipalities that provide flexible options they can tailor to regulate development and building along the coast to protect homes, buildings and other infrastructure from coastal flooding, erosion and rising sea levels

In April 2025, the Province gave the Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities over \$1.3 million in funding to help municipalities adopt the example land use by-law text and customize them to their unique needs. This funding is also supporting a climate change policy and sustainability analyst position at the Federation to support municipalities in their work to make their communities resilient to climate change.

[\[Learn More\]](#)

CLEAN TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION

Biological Nitrogen Availability Pilot

This pilot project is testing advanced fertilizer tools on Nova Scotia farms to reduce emissions and improve soil health. [\[Learn more\]](#)

The Fisheries and Aquaculture Energy Efficiency Innovation Fund

This program supports a strong seafood sector in Nova Scotia by providing funding for projects that reduce emissions and improve energy efficiency through innovation. The fund launched in June 2024 and in February and June of 2025, the [Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture](#) provided a total of more than \$3.5 million to 36 projects across the province. Projects ranged from the electrification of aquaculture work boats to solar power installations on seafood storage facilities. There will be a third call for project funding applications later this year. [\[Read the full story\]](#)

Hydrogen Blending Pilot Approved for Halifax

The Nova Scotia Department of [Labour, Skills and Immigration's Technical Safety Division](#) approved [Eastward Energy's](#) plan to blend up to five per cent hydrogen into the Halifax natural gas network. This is a first for the province and will benefit approximately 4,500 homes. The project, supported by the Province and Dalhousie University, is advancing clean energy innovation while ensuring rigorous public safety standards. [\[Learn more\]](#)

Community Solar Program

Through the province's Community Solar Program, new solar gardens are taking shape in Cape Breton, Halifax Regional Municipality, and Annapolis County, providing clean power to Nova Scotians who can't install their own panels. The province launched the program to help remove barriers—like upfront costs or limited roof space—and make solar energy more accessible. And the response has been strong, with communities and organizations stepping forward to lead the way. [\[Read the full story\]](#)



CLIMATE ADAPTATION & RESILIENCE

The Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Training Program (CART)

This program, offered by [CLIMAtlantic](#) which receives funding from the Province, supported 20 Nova Scotians who wanted to address climate change impacts as part of their job. The 12-week program includes six online learning modules, training sessions, and one-on-one mentorship opportunities.

[\[Learn more\]](#)

New Climate Adaptation Community of Practice Launched

Through climate adaptation events, field trips, and peer learning opportunities, over 200 climate adaptation practitioners came together this year, thanks to a new climate adaptation community of practice. Supported by the Nova Scotia Government and led by CLIMAtlantic, the community of practice is building stronger connections and advancing knowledge-sharing to support adaptation to climate change in communities.

[\[Learn more\]](#)

Thriving Forests - Replanting Trees, Rebuilding Hope

Trees do more than beautify a landscape—they cool the air, absorb carbon, reduce flood risk, help clean the air we breathe and provide essential habitat. They also help people and communities heal. Through Nova Scotia's [Thriving Forests](#) program, nearly 200 households in Hammonds Plains and Upper Tantallon came together in the wake of the 2023 wildfires to plant new life where it was lost. It's part of a wider national effort that will see up to [21 million trees](#) planted across Canada to restore ecosystems, fight climate change, and bring nature back into our neighbourhoods.

[\[Learn more\]](#)

CLIMATE LITERACY & SECTOR SUPPORT

Climate Training Reaches 200 Nova Scotia Teachers

Nearly 200 educators participated in six workshops across Nova Scotia between March 2024 and May 2025, gaining tools and resources to bring local climate change content into their classrooms. The Department of Environment and Climate Change and CLIMAtlantic were invited to help facilitate the training sessions with Grade 7-8 teachers.

[\[Read the full story\]](#)

The Fisheries and Aquaculture Climate Change Portal

A new [climate change portal](#) is helping Nova Scotia's seafood and sportfishing sectors to adapt to climate change through strategic projects and programs as well as to mitigate its carbon footprint through dedicated energy efficiency projects and programs. The portal serves as a hub for easy access to resources, helpful links, reports, and news related to climate change and the Nova Scotia seafood sector. The portal is a dedicated space to learn and share, supporting the seafood sector as it adapts to and mitigates the effects of climate change.

CLIMATE CHANGE FUND OVERVIEW AND 2024–2025 INVESTMENTS

The Nova Scotia Climate Change Fund is one of the ways the Government of Nova Scotia invests in action to fight climate change. The fund supports programs that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, help communities adapt to climate change, and build long-term resilience – across Nova Scotia -- to climate impacts.

Established in 2022 under the amended Environment Act, the Climate Change Fund, which is managed by the [Department of Environment and Climate Change](#), supports advancing actions in the Province’s full-funded climate plan.

HOW THE FUND WAS INVESTED IN 2024-2025

In the 2024–2025 fiscal year, the Climate Change Fund invested **\$35.6 million** to support climate action through:

Program grants \$33,481,919	Operational expenses \$1,455,563	Salaries and benefits \$664,312
Over 60 funded initiatives supported a range of climate-related programs and initiatives. A complete list of funding recipients and projects is available in Appendix B of this report.	This covered costs such as communications and professional services to support program delivery. Funded initiatives included CLIMAtlantic , the Climate Change Risk Assessment , and the Climate Adaptation Leadership Program .	Funding supported staff in the Climate Change Division and at CLIMAtlantic

NEXT STEPS

Nova Scotia is moving forward—with purpose, momentum, and a clear vision. A vision of sustainable prosperity where:

- the clean economy is strong and growing
- there are good jobs, from one end of the province to the other, in both rural and urban areas
- communities are vibrant and climate change ready
- we say ‘yes’ to innovation and seize emerging opportunities
- we continue to demonstrate to the world, the Bluenoser way

In the year ahead, the Government of Nova Scotia will continue to take measurable action—working alongside communities, organizations, and partners across various sectors.

Guided by the *Environmental Goals and Climate Change Reduction Act* and *Our Climate, Our Future: Nova Scotia's Climate Change Plan for Clean Growth*, and backed by the Nova Scotia Climate Change Fund, we will continue investing in solutions that cut emissions, strengthen communities, and prepare Nova Scotians for the realities of a changing world, and climate.

Here are some of the actions we are taking this year to keep us moving forward:

- advancing the responsible development of offshore wind projects to grow clean energy and create jobs
- investing in Nova Scotia's [clean energy sector](#) to strengthen long-term energy security and position the province as a global leader in clean energy innovation
- continuing our work to help ensure drinking water is safe and clean, and the water quality of lakes, rivers and groundwater remains protected
- continuing to support community-led climate solutions through the [Sustainable Communities Challenge Fund](#)



Alan Tattrie, Water Resources Lab Supervisor at Nova Scotia Environment and Climate Change with a groundwater level station. He collects water quality and quantity data from across the province so that we know how climate change is affecting our water.





- continuing to implement the [Coastal Protection Action Plan](#) to safeguard homes, communities, ecosystems, and infrastructure
- supporting clean air by reviewing Nova Scotia's air emission targets and ambient air quality standards
- expanding community solar gardens to make solar power more accessible across the province, including new projects in [rural HRM](#), [Sydney](#), and [Annapolis County](#)
- continuing to support low-income households through energy efficiency programs that reduce energy bills and improve home comfort, for example:
 - [Affordable Multifamily Housing Program](#)
 - [Home Warming](#)
- providing funding and support to grow climate leadership within African Nova Scotian communities through the [Climate Justice Ambassadors Program](#)
- expanding the [Community Climate Capacity](#) program by onboarding six to 10 new coastal communities into the cohort
- updating the [Provincial Climate Risk Assessment](#) to help Nova Scotians understand and plan for climate risks
- continuing to prepare youth for careers in the clean economy by investing in the [Clean Leadership Summer Internship](#) program
- continuing to advance the circular economy by implementing extended producer responsibility for blue bag materials this year. This makes producers accountable for end-of-life management of the goods they produce, helps recycling efforts and supports our waste reduction goals



Together, we can protect our environment, reach net-zero by 2050, and build a future where every Nova Scotian—now and for generations to come—can thrive in a cleaner, healthier, and more resilient province

BIG GOALS. STEADY PROGRESS. ALL HANDS ON DECK.



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Powering the Transition: Clean Economy, Climate Action, Sustainable Prosperity
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