

Urgent Times, URGENT ACTION



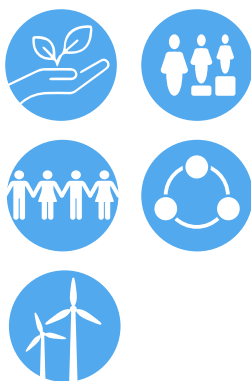
APPENDIX B


Appendix B: Initiatives Driving Sustainable Prosperity

In the context of Nova Scotia, making progress on sustainable prosperity means making progress on Netukulimk, equity, sustainable development, circular economy, shared responsibility and climate action. Below are stories from across sectors and across the province that feature leaders and change makers who are helping to drive sustainability in Nova Scotia.



Legend:


	Netukulimk
	Sustainable Development
	Shared Responsibility
	Equity
	Circular Economy
	Climate Action

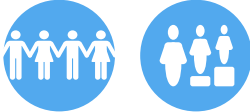


Initiative	Story
<p data-bbox="212 281 472 359">North End Baking Co. & Café</p> <div data-bbox="212 407 461 653">  </div>	<p data-bbox="537 281 1419 485">North End Baking Co. & Café provides Halifax with delicious gluten-free baked goods, food services, and catering. They provide Prescott Group participants with training in food preparation, baking, cashiering, and other food service and kitchen responsibilities. Led by a Red Seal certified chef, their dedication to equity and sustainability is clear as they</p> <ul data-bbox="537 506 1419 701" style="list-style-type: none"> • are a fair-wage employer • are staffed by people with intellectual and developmental disabilities • source their goods locally whenever possible or in season • use biodegradable and recyclable dinnerware and coffee cups
<p data-bbox="212 749 423 827">Sustane Technologies Inc.</p> <div data-bbox="212 854 461 968">  </div>	<p data-bbox="537 749 1419 1121">Located in Chester, Nova Scotia, Sustane Technologies Inc. has developed and is commercializing a process capable of recycling up to 70,000 tonnes of garbage from approximately 150,000 people into safe green products every year. Sustane Technologies Inc. is the winner of the Innovator of the Year award at the 2022 Mobius Awards. Their innovative plastic-to-fuel system can also divert about 4,000 tonnes of plastic away from landfills annually. These are plastics that are not suitable for traditional recycling and were previously landfilled. This solution complements recycling and is contributing to Nova Scotia's circular economy.</p>
<p data-bbox="212 1169 472 1247">Halifax Port Authority 50-Year Plan</p> <div data-bbox="212 1274 461 1652">  </div>	<p data-bbox="537 1169 1403 1415">The Halifax Port Authority has a 50-year plan for the Port of Halifax. The plan will help them make sure they are ready for where the industry is going, not just where it is right now. This includes their landside infrastructure, digital systems, and people. As they move forward with their plan, all planning decisions will consider sustainability, the environment, and inclusion.</p> <p data-bbox="537 1436 1403 1682">Since the plan was released, the Halifax Port Authority signed a memorandum of understanding with the Port of Hamburg to explore decarbonizing the shipping corridor between the two ports. This has the potential to introduce new technology to the Halifax port. It could also result in zero-emission hydrogen yard equipment or hydrogen refueling for ocean vessels when the technology advances.</p> <p data-bbox="537 1745 769 1780"><i>Continued below.</i></p>










Initiative	Story
<p>Halifax Port Authority 50-Year Plan</p> <p><i>Continued.</i></p>	<p>There have also been big changes at the Halifax Seaport, including the creation of Canada’s first living lab for the transportation sector called The PIER. It now has over 40 companies working together on solutions specific to the industry. These companies will work together on the challenging problems that no one company can solve on their own—for example, decarbonizing the supply chain. Members of The PIER are working together on solutions for the clean economy, including marine electrification, alternative fuels, and data-driven approaches to reducing greenhouse gas emissions.</p>
<p>Electric Vehicle (EV) Training</p> 	<p>Nova Scotia Community College (NSCC) and other partner colleges across the country are leading the way in providing workers with new skills needed to support a clean economy by developing training for the service and maintenance of after-market electric vehicles. NSCC is being responsive through significant EV training in this area.</p>
<p>Striving for Net Zero</p> 	<p>NSCC is aiming to reach net-zero emissions by 2050 and has developed a roadmap to get there based on climate adaptation, mitigation, and education. It will minimize their contributions to climate change while preparing their campuses, students, and communities for climate impacts. NSCC has a goal to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions by 60 per cent by 2030, and ultimately be net-zero by 2050. So far, they have reduced greenhouse gas emissions by 41 per cent. To help achieve their goal, NSCC keeps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • improving the energy efficiency of their buildings • upgrading their heating systems that burn fuel • adding solar panels to generate renewable energy <p>NSCC also tracks how much water they use and how much waste they make. Since 2008, they are</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • consuming 57 per cent less water • making 68 per cent less waste




Initiative	Story
<p>Skills for Sustainable Development</p> 	<p>NSCC is making sure students have skills for sustainable development so they can work in the clean economy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2022, 1,754 students graduated from programs that required students to have an understanding of sustainability. This was 42 per cent of all graduates for the year. • NSCC became an official partner of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals Open Pedagogy Fellowship. This gives faculty members the opportunity to develop skills to embed the United Nation's sustainable development goals into their curriculum. • NSCC is including a climate literacy unit into all trades programs to help students be ready to work in the clean economy. • NSCC is continuing to explore ways to support the growth of green skills in Nova Scotia, including opportunities for micro-credentials to encourage continued and lifelong learning.
<p>Revitalization of Downtown Sydney</p>   	<p>NSCC's Sydney Waterfront Campus is being built in Sydney, Nova Scotia. The new campus will be a unique space that includes and supports social, environmental, economic, and cultural objectives in Nova Scotia.</p> <p>Many conversations, consultations, and partnerships with community groups helped to design the space. This was important because the space is for everyone. This campus is part of a network of educational institutions across the province, and a part of community revitalization in Sydney.</p> <p>Highlights from the Sydney Waterfront Campus project include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remediation of the site to current environmental standards. The site used to be seven contaminated plots of industrial land. • Climate change resilience planning. The shoreline was raised 1.25 metres to address sea level rise and storm surge projections for the year 2100. <p><i>Continued below.</i></p>



Initiative	Story
<p>Revitalization of Downtown Sydney</p> <p><i>Continued.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creating opportunities for individuals often underrepresented in skilled trades. A minimum of 10 per cent of the workforce on site is designated to be women and equity-seeking groups. • Completing buildings to be Rick Hansen Accessibility Certified and aiming for LEED Gold certification. • Buildings that will be heated and cooled entirely by geothermal technology.
<p>Enabling Change: Designing the Path Towards Climate Action</p> 	<p>Dalhousie's Faculty of Architecture and Planning, HalifACT, and the Clean Foundation worked together to deliver a Climate Engagement Series. The series included four events that brought together experts, industry professionals, and interested members of the public to talk about solutions to the climate crisis in Nova Scotia. Watch each event by selecting the links below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Session one, Engaging Climate with Netukulimk - Mi'kmaw Partnerships and Wisdom • Session two, The Human Element of Climate - How We Change • Session three, Climate and the Built Environment - Planning a Net Zero and Climate Resilient Future • Session four, Transformational Change - Unsticking Our Systems to Respond to a Climate Emergency
<p>Inclusive Excellence in Water Symposium</p> 	<p>The Centre for Water Resources Studies at Dalhousie University hosted a symposium with CBCL and the Atlantic Canada Water and Wastewater Association on inclusion and innovation in the water. The two-day event brought together academics, professionals, public servants, and students. Those who attended explored</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • technical advancements in water and wastewater • relationships, intersections, and resilience that informed technical advancements • Indigenous experience and perspectives • success stories <p>Attendees also learned about the work that has to be done to build relationships with Indigenous communities and leaders to further science, and its application in Canada, in an inclusive way.</p>

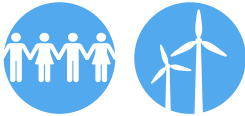


Initiative	Story
<p data-bbox="212 283 495 401">Halifax Leaders Unite to Launch CEO Climate Action Charter</p> 	<p data-bbox="537 283 1372 485">In March 2023, Halifax Regional Municipality and Halifax Partnership launched the CEO Climate Action Charter, which was created with business leaders across Halifax. The charter encourages leaders who sign it to take meaningful climate action using the tools each of their organizations have.</p> <p data-bbox="537 506 1398 793">The CEO Climate Action Charter is a part of Halifax’s five-year Inclusive Economic Strategy. The charter aligns with the municipal, provincial, and federal climate action plans, and supports reducing emissions and growing the clean economy. By bringing together business and municipal leaders, it will play a significant role in achieving the goals set out in Halifax Regional Municipality’s climate plan, which is one of the most ambitious climate action plans in Canada.</p> <p data-bbox="537 814 1052 850">Founding signatories include the following:</p> <ul data-bbox="537 871 992 1627" style="list-style-type: none"> Dalhousie University Davis Pier Deloitte Eastern College Eastward Energy EfficiencyOne Emera Inc. Events East EY Halifax Partnership Halifax International Airport Authority Halifax Port Authority Halifax Regional Municipality LED Roadway Lindsay Construction Nova Scotia Community College Nova Scotia Power St. Mary’s University

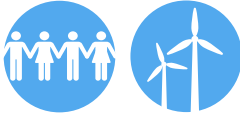
Initiative	Story
<p data-bbox="212 281 423 359">Energy Advisor Training Program</p> <div data-bbox="219 384 467 495">  </div>	<p data-bbox="537 281 1409 485">The Clean Foundation ran their second Energy Advisor Trainee program from October 2022 to March 2023. The program seeks candidates from underserved and underrepresented communities to participate in a cohort of learners. Through a hands-on training program, trainees learn about innovative and sustainable construction and renovation practices.</p> <p data-bbox="537 506 1370 667">Graduates of the program are equipped with all the knowledge, skills, abilities, equipment, and connections needed to become registered energy advisors through Natural Resources Canada. There is high demand for energy advisors in Nova Scotia.</p>
<p data-bbox="212 714 326 747">EV Boost</p> <div data-bbox="219 779 467 890">  </div>	<p data-bbox="537 714 1390 1045">The Clean Foundation launched EV Boost to bring more Level-2 EV chargers to eligible organizations in the province. Through funding provided by Natural Resources Canada’s Zero Emission Vehicle Infrastructure Program, Clean Foundation will help to support the deployment and installation of up to 250 EV chargers. The Nova Scotia Government also contributed \$500,000 to this program. Increasing EV charging infrastructure across the province is key to having more Nova Scotians transition to EVs.</p> <p data-bbox="537 1066 1390 1144">Not-for-profit and for-profit organizations can apply for funding to help them install more Level-2 EV chargers.</p> <p data-bbox="537 1165 1365 1243">The first 33 Level-2 EV chargers were installed by the end of 2022. Eventually, 500 Level-2 chargers will be installed across Nova Scotia.</p>
<p data-bbox="212 1287 477 1365">Professional Learning Workshops</p> <div data-bbox="219 1396 467 1507">  </div>	<p data-bbox="537 1287 1360 1409">During 2022–23, the Clean Foundation delivered their professional learning workshops to more than 160 educators across Nova Scotia. These workshops focus on how to</p> <ul data-bbox="537 1430 1338 1562" style="list-style-type: none"> • bring climate and environment learning into curriculum • authentically integrate Indigenous ways of knowing and being, including Etuaptmumk and Netukulimk, into learning <p data-bbox="537 1583 1414 1745">The Clean Foundation credits the support received from Mi’kmaw Kina’matnewey and Indigenous educator Stephenie Bernard for helping them to both respectfully and meaningfully integrate Indigenous ways of knowing into the content.</p>

Initiative	Story
<p>What a Trip! Engage Nova Scotia's Winter Road Trip about the Sustainable Development Goals and Quality of life for all</p>  	<p>Over five weeks, Engage Nova Scotia went on a 10-stop road trip in partnership with NSCC. They co-hosted conversation panels about quality of life, well-being, change-making, belonging, and connection with community members who were nominated locally. The event was part of Engage Nova Scotia's Sustainable Development Goals program. One message from the events was that a good quality of life requires basic needs being met, belonging, and self-determination.</p>
<p>Energy Efficiency and the Seafood Processing Industry</p>   	<p>The seafood processing industry is an important economic driver for Nova Scotia. Adopting new technologies will modernize the sector and help the province meet its ambitious climate change goals to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 2030.</p> <p>The Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture continued its program to support energy-saving opportunities in the seafood processing sector and provincially owned fish hatcheries with the department's dedicated onsite energy manager, contracted through Efficiency Nova Scotia.</p> <p>Glen MacDougall is an onsite energy manager from Efficiency Nova Scotia working with the seafood processing industry. In the last two years, he has made 320 visits to processing plants to support them in energy efficiency. Thanks to this work, seafood processing companies throughout Nova Scotia have reduced greenhouse gas emissions by 3,300 metric tonnes. This is the equivalent to taking 7,000 cars off the road. The industry has saved \$465,000 in energy costs because of their efforts in energy efficiency.</p>
<p>Community Transportation in Lunenburg County</p>    	<p>People living in Lunenburg County will soon be able to use community-based transportation. Lunenburg County Wheels is an inclusive transportation service for all citizens, regardless of age or ability. It is expanding its service area for pre-booked, door-to-door transportation. The expanded, all-inclusive service allows existing and future customers to access their community for medical and social needs, promoting a connected community through affordable door-to-door transportation.</p>

Initiative	Story
<p data-bbox="212 283 472 401">Nova Scotia's Vision for the Offshore Wind Industry</p> 	<p data-bbox="537 283 1409 401">Nova Scotia has a vision for the offshore wind industry and the Offshore Wind Road Map will help Nova Scotia achieve it. Nova Scotia offers some of the best offshore wind resources in the world.</p> <p data-bbox="537 422 1414 594">The first module of the Offshore Wind Roadmap is now out. It maps the work to complete the legislative and regulatory regime for offshore wind. Module two will be released in spring 2024. It will outline the supply chain and infrastructure opportunities for offshore wind.</p> <p data-bbox="537 615 1430 774">The third and final module will be released in fall 2024. It will reflect input from the Mi'kmaq and other Indigenous peoples, as well as other groups, such as the fishing industry and other ocean users, environmental organizations, workers, and the research community.</p>
<p data-bbox="212 825 423 900">Blue Green Algae Campaign</p> 	<p data-bbox="537 825 1425 942">The Department of Environment and Climate Change has started another public awareness campaign to help people know what blue-green algae looks like and how to keep themselves and their pets safe.</p> <p data-bbox="537 963 1422 1081">Nova Scotians are seeing more blue-green algae in our lakes and streams and they will continue to see more, because climate change is changing our environment.</p> <p data-bbox="537 1102 1430 1220">A similar awareness campaign happened last year, and more people reported blue-green algae. This means Nova Scotians are more aware and can make better decisions to keep themselves and their pets safe.</p>
<p data-bbox="212 1272 464 1390">Invest Nova Scotia Announces Greenshoots Cohort</p> 	<p data-bbox="537 1272 1425 1474">Invest Nova Scotia is a provincial economic development agency. Its GreenShoots program provides funding and mentorship to companies developing technologies that support agriculture and green innovation. All GreenShoots companies are developing solutions that will improve the environment.</p> <p data-bbox="537 1495 1430 1570">The five companies that are currently in Invest Nova Scotia's GreenShoots program are</p> <p data-bbox="537 1591 748 1625">Aruna Revolution</p> <ul data-bbox="537 1633 1222 1709" style="list-style-type: none"> • Innovating compostable menstrual pads from locally sourced materials <p data-bbox="537 1730 610 1764">Lite-1</p> <ul data-bbox="537 1772 951 1806" style="list-style-type: none"> • Transforming the dye industry <p data-bbox="537 1869 773 1902"><i>Continued below.</i></p>


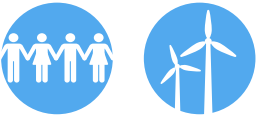

Initiative	Story
<p>Invest Nova Scotia Announces Greenshoots Cohort</p> <p><i>Continued.</i></p>	<p>Novobind</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disarming dangerous pathogens with targeted antimicrobials <p>Pividl Bioscience</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Using nanotechnology for health, consumer packaged goods, agri-food, and pharmaceutical industries <p>RFINE Biomass Solutions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Turning used coffee grinds into new products
<p>Climate Friendly Housing</p> 	<p>The province is contributing \$3 million toward Woodman’s Grove Residences, a POLYCORP housing project in Annapolis Valley. Woodman’s Grove Residences will be developing rental accommodations that are comfortable homes for tenants that will demonstrate some of the leading green technology designed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in buildings. Rainwater recycling and water conservation, triple-glazed windows, building envelope air tightness and R50 equivalent exterior wall insulation, heat pumps, and high-efficiency appliances are just a few of the features of this planned development. The property will also feature solar panels to reduce energy use with a goal to achieve net-zero energy.</p> <p>With 72 units, of which 60 will be at various levels of affordability, Woodman’s Grove Residences is a win for people and for the planet.</p>
<p>Protected Area Designations and Private Land Conservation Investment</p> 	<p>Fourteen new wilderness areas and nature reserve sites, including the new Sackville River Wilderness Area, are now protected. These new protected areas (covering about 9,300 hectares) will</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> help conserve biodiversity mitigate the effects of climate change protect habitats for species at risk maintain water quality be a place for Nova Scotians to be in nature <p>The province also announced a \$20 million investment in the Crown Share Land Legacy Trust, which helps private land conservation organizations with the cost of acquiring and protecting private lands. This will help Nova Scotia meet its 2030 land protection goal.</p>



Initiative	Story
<p data-bbox="212 281 462 401">Nova Scotia Health's Anesthesia Machine Fleet</p> <div data-bbox="219 422 462 537">  </div>	<p data-bbox="537 281 1419 741">Anesthesia machines in Nova Scotia Health's Central Zone have been replaced. The old fleet were 12 to 15 years old and had reliability issues and increasing maintenance costs. The new fleet is the future of anesthesia delivery and has advanced modes of ventilation that improve the way patients are oxygenated and ventilated during surgery. The new technology uses low-flow, closed-circuit anesthesia, which decreases the amount of anesthetic gases. Since anesthetic gases also have a significant greenhouse warming potential, reducing the volume of gases vented reduces the environmental footprint of procedures. The new technology means patients have a better experience, the costs of the procedures become less, and the impact on the environment is also reduced.</p>
<p data-bbox="212 787 440 951">Regional and National Premiers' Tables Working for Sustainability</p> <div data-bbox="219 972 462 1213">  </div>	<p data-bbox="537 787 1398 951">In 2022–23, premiers both in the Atlantic region and nationally have been having ongoing discussions on sustainable development and efforts to meet greenhouse gas emission reduction targets. These talks have included topics such as</p> <ul data-bbox="537 972 1235 1213" style="list-style-type: none"> • growing the clean economy • generating and transporting clean power • carbon pricing and affordability • sustainable economic investments in emerging areas, like hydrogen development and export
<p data-bbox="212 1260 483 1379">Nova Scotia Museums are Adapting to Climate Change</p> <div data-bbox="219 1400 334 1516">  </div>	<p data-bbox="537 1260 1419 1633">All of the Nova Scotia Museum's 28 sites have been assessed for their vulnerability to climate change and their preparedness for extreme weather. Many of them have already begun to include climate adaptation in their planning. Also, many are including opportunities for education, interpretation, and partnerships on climate change in their activities. Some of the museums have also made upgrades to their buildings and grounds to make them more resistant to climate impacts. The museums are also taking action to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions by improving energy efficiency and reducing waste.</p>




Initiative	Story
<p data-bbox="212 283 479 485">Nova Scotia Museum: Statement on Climate Change and Environmental Sustainability</p> <div data-bbox="219 531 457 644">  </div>	<p data-bbox="537 283 1372 443">The Nova Scotia Museum jumped into Earth Day 2023 with both feet. They created a social media campaign to build awareness of Earth Day 2023 and created their first Statement on Climate Change and Environmental Sustainability.</p> <p data-bbox="537 464 1317 499"><i>Statement on Climate Change and Environmental Sustainability:</i></p> <p data-bbox="537 520 1430 764"><i>The Nova Scotia Museum recognizes that it has an important role to play in addressing the climate crisis and modelling environmental stewardship. Climate change is one of the most pressing global issues of our time. Impacts are being felt across our province and around the world. Our well-being and our social and economic systems are linked to, and dependent on, the health of our environment.</i></p> <p data-bbox="537 785 1398 905"><i>As the provincial museum, we have a responsibility to help preserve, protect and promote our natural and cultural heritage; this includes the planet on which we live. We must act now.</i></p> <p data-bbox="537 926 781 961">Our actions include:</p> <ul data-bbox="537 982 1430 1696" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="537 982 1430 1142">• <i>Raising awareness of the impacts of climate change and the importance of environmental sustainability (globally and locally) through museum collections, exhibitions, programming, and events, for example, the Age of the Mastodon exhibit at the Museum of Industry.</i> <li data-bbox="537 1163 1382 1241">• <i>Offering interactive educational resources such as Schoolyard Bioblitz to foster an understanding and appreciation of nature and science</i> <li data-bbox="537 1262 1430 1520">• <i>Monitoring coastal erosion and its impacts on important cultural resources at risk, through collaborative projects such as archaeological field work at the Fort Saint Louis</i> <ul data-bbox="586 1394 1430 1520" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="586 1394 1430 1520">– <i>This is in partnership with the Cape Sable Historical Society, and guided and supported by an adaptation strategy for the provincial archaeology sector.</i> <li data-bbox="537 1541 1430 1696">• <i>Contributing to the Watercolour World image database project by providing watercolour images of Nova Scotia landscapes that aid in documenting changing landscapes due to climate change and coastal erosion</i> <p data-bbox="537 1751 773 1787"><i>Continued below.</i></p>




Initiative	Story
<p>Nova Scotia Museum: Statement on Climate Change and Environmental Sustainability</p> <p><i>Continued.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Researching climate change impacts and protecting biodiversity through the work of our curatorial staff, for example, research on endangered lichen species <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Amateur lichenologists can find information here. • Embracing and supporting actions in Nova Scotia's Climate Change Plan
<p>Department of Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage Climate Adaptation Strategy</p> <div data-bbox="224 915 461 1024"> </div>	<p>The Department of Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage has finalized its Climate Adaptation Strategy. The strategy identifies how the department is most at risk from climate impacts and lays out actions to try and address these impacts. The team responsible for developing the strategy was recognized with a Minister's Award for their hard work and commitment to climate adaptation. An implementation plan for 2023–24 has been created which focuses on four priority areas for the department:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Communication, Engagement, and Partnerships 2. Climate Adaptive Programming 3. Disaster Preparedness/Emergency Planning 4. Vulnerable Assets <p>An adaptation strategy with the provincial archaeology sector is also now complete. It is being implemented through a partnership with the Cape Sable Historical Society in Barrington, Nova Scotia, with support from the departments of Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage and Environment and Climate Change.</p>




Initiative	Story
<p data-bbox="212 283 495 359">Investing in Climate Resilient Infrastructure</p> <div data-bbox="224 390 467 640">  </div>	<p data-bbox="537 283 1425 447">Facilities across the province are being upgraded to make them more climate friendly. Through various funding programs, including the Rink Revitalization Fund, Active Communities Fund, and the Recreation Facility Development Fund, the following projects are happening:</p> <ul data-bbox="537 464 1425 1236" style="list-style-type: none"> • Purchasing electric Zambonis <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Rath Eastlink Community Centre (Truro), Trenton Rink, the Pictou County Wellness Centre, and the Liverpool rinks • Purchasing an electric tender boat <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Mahone Bay Civic Marina • Upgrading ice plants that were reliant on outdated refrigerant. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Ivor MacDonald Memorial Arena (Thorburn) and Westville Miners Sports Centre (Westville) • Installing solar outdoor charging station-picnic table, retrofitting a greenhouse (replaced windows, solar panels and battery, added insulation) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Hope Blooms • Installing solar panels on the teahouse <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Friends of McNabs Island <p data-bbox="586 1115 1057 1152">Designing buildings for climate change</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Oxford Community Centre and the Nova Scotia Native Women's Association Resiliency Centre
<p data-bbox="212 1287 479 1446">Helping Communities and Homeowners Address Climate Change</p> <div data-bbox="224 1478 467 1728">  </div>	<p data-bbox="537 1287 1174 1320">Communities are first responders to climate change.</p> <ul data-bbox="537 1337 1409 1652" style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate change coordinators will soon help communities with projects the communities have decided are needed for facing climate change. • A resilient home retrofit program is starting soon to address the risk of flooding caused by climate change. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – This pilot program will be offered in partnership with the Halifax Regional Municipality and the Town of New Glasgow. <p data-bbox="537 1669 1386 1749">These initiatives are funded by the province's climate change plan and both programs are being delivered by the Clean Foundation.</p>


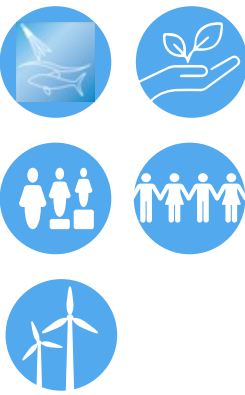
Initiative	Story
<p data-bbox="212 281 477 443">New Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership Expands Funding for Farmers</p> <div data-bbox="212 470 467 716">  </div>	<p data-bbox="537 281 1398 527">Nova Scotia farmers are stewards of the environment. They will soon get more support through a new federal-provincial funding agreement. The Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership will invest \$46.25 million over five years in Nova Scotia’s agriculture sector. The agreement will help strengthen and support the sector by focusing on priorities including</p> <ul data-bbox="537 548 1398 722" style="list-style-type: none"> • helping agriculture businesses adapt to climate change and protect the environment • making farms more resilient and building public trust in food safety, animal welfare, and environmental stewardship <p data-bbox="537 743 1398 989">As part of this, the new Resilient Agricultural Landscape Program is helping farmers use their land in more ecologically sound ways. It encourages management practices that support healthy soil and water resources, wildlife habitat, and biodiversity. It also helps farmers adapt to climate change by increasing carbon storage and making their farms more resilient in case of floods or droughts.</p>
<p data-bbox="212 1035 493 1197">Solar-Powered Heritage Ship to Cruise Pictou Harbour by 2024</p> <div data-bbox="212 1224 467 1344">  </div>	<p data-bbox="537 1035 1393 1155">Visitors to one of Pictou’s premier cultural attractions will enjoy a more modern, comfortable, and accessible experience thanks to a new investment from the province.</p> <p data-bbox="537 1176 1365 1379">The Ship Hector Society is upgrading the Hector Heritage Quay Interpretive Centre, updating the exhibits, and improving the overall visitor experience. In an innovative twist, the motor of the ship will be solar powered, drawing from electricity from panels installed on the interpretive centre.</p>
<p data-bbox="212 1428 440 1589">Water, Wastewater Infrastructure Upgrades in Four Communities</p> <div data-bbox="212 1617 467 1736">  </div>	<p data-bbox="537 1428 1419 1715">The province is investing a total of \$3.9 million in infrastructure upgrades in Mahone Bay, Yarmouth, Digby, and Clare that will help prepare the municipalities for future growth. The Mahone Bay project will increase water flow for fire response, support new development, and increase the capacity to treat and manage wastewater and stormwater for the more than 70 commercial, residential, and institutional properties in the area. The province is contributing more than \$1.8 million.</p> <p data-bbox="537 1772 774 1803"><i>Continued below.</i></p>

Initiative	Story
<p>Water, Wastewater Infrastructure Upgrades in Four Communities</p> <p><i>Continued.</i></p>	<p>In Yarmouth, the project will increase the capacity to treat and manage wastewater and stormwater while increasing access to potable water, with the province providing almost \$800,000.</p> <p>The project in Digby will bring a section of Mount Street up to current wastewater standards and make it possible to service residential buildings that will be built on the vacant land. The province is providing \$780,000.</p> <p>The province is investing \$520,000 to expand wastewater infrastructure for a proposed housing development on Sunset Road in Meteghan River in the Municipality of the District of Clare in Digby County.</p>
<p>Water Infrastructure Upgrades in Inverness</p> 	<p>The province is investing in water infrastructure upgrades in Inverness that will help prepare the town for future growth.</p> <p>The project will replace the community's outdated wastewater treatment facility to provide more efficient treatment and release cleaner water into local waterways. It will also upgrade the water distribution network and wastewater sanitary systems on Central Avenue and Veteran's Memorial Court.</p>
<p>Seeking Solutions for Clean Electricity</p> 	<p>Experts in the energy sector are helping chart Nova Scotia's course for renewable electricity and reaching net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050.</p> <p>The Clean Electricity Solutions Task Force is exploring ways to modernize Nova Scotia's electricity infrastructure and regulatory environment. The task force will</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • examine electricity infrastructure needs for reliability, capacity, and storage to meet climate change goals • examine connections to other essential services such as telecommunications • review the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board Act in terms of electricity generation, transmission, and rates • engage subject matter experts, the Mi'kmaq, and other interested Nova Scotians <p>The task force will submit a final report with recommendations in early 2024.</p>

Initiative	Story
<p data-bbox="212 283 406 401">Forestry Trust Announces Two New Projects</p> 	<p data-bbox="537 283 1409 359"><u>Two more projects</u>, totalling more than \$2.5 million, have been approved by the trustees of the Forestry Innovation Transition Trust.</p> <ul data-bbox="537 380 1421 764" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="537 380 1421 583">• The <u>Verschuren Centre for Sustainability in Energy and the Environment</u> is receiving \$926,500 to further support the development of the Bio-technology and Bio-manufacturing Acceleration Centre in Sydney. It aims to advance commercialization of key forestry and biomass sector innovative technology companies. <li data-bbox="537 604 1421 764">• <u>Research Nova Scotia</u> will receive about \$1.6 million for a project to assist the forestry sector as it transitions to the ecological forestry model. The five-year research and knowledge mobilization program will be led by Dalhousie University. <p data-bbox="537 785 1430 861">To date, the Forestry Innovation Transition Trust has committed more than \$28 million of the \$50-million fund.</p>
<p data-bbox="212 913 451 989">Reducing Carbon Emissions Together</p> 	<p data-bbox="537 913 1421 1157"><u>Net Zero Atlantic</u>, with <u>support from the province</u>, is researching how to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and meet its 2050 net-zero emissions target. This is being done through the Emerging Concepts and Technologies Research program – a new grant program that will support made-in-Nova Scotia solutions. The program will run for three years, with the first call for applications expected to be this summer.</p>
<p data-bbox="212 1304 483 1379">Fresh, Local Food Pilot Launches in Schools</p> 	<p data-bbox="537 1304 1425 1507">A pilot project is <u>improving access to healthy, nutritious food at schools</u> to support students' learning and development. Fresh food carts are being piloted in five Nova Scotia schools. This will also support farmers and give students greater access to locally grown produce, help them understand where food comes from, and fuel their learning.</p>


Initiative	Story
<p data-bbox="212 281 456 443">Affordable Housing Community in Cape Breton to Reach Net-Zero Emissions</p> 	<p data-bbox="537 281 1373 359">Renters in an affordable housing community in Sydney will soon have lower energy bills thanks to a new community solar garden.</p> <p data-bbox="537 380 1398 625">Combined with other upgrades, the solar panels will make Pine Tree Park Estates the province's first net-zero, affordable housing community. The province is contributing \$475,000 to help New Dawn Enterprises, which owns Pine Tree Park Estates, install the solar garden. It is expected to meet the community's electricity needs and eliminate 680 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions per year.</p> <p data-bbox="537 646 1406 764">New Dawn has already made other energy efficiency upgrades to the community's homes and buildings, including conversion from oil heat to heat pumps, with electric heat as backup.</p>
<p data-bbox="212 812 444 932">Michelin Expands in Nova Scotia with Provincial Support</p> 	<p data-bbox="537 812 1373 1100">Michelin, one of Nova Scotia's largest employers, is moving forward with a major expansion of its manufacturing facility in Bridgewater. With support from the province, Michelin will modernize and expand its operation in Bridgewater so it can produce in-demand tires for the rapidly evolving electric vehicle market. These tires are more energy efficient with fewer greenhouse gas emissions. This investment is expected to create more than 70 new jobs.</p> <p data-bbox="537 1121 1365 1241">Michelin will receive a tax credit of about \$61.3 million over five years based on eligible capital investments of \$302.7 million to be used in Nova Scotia to support this.</p>
<p data-bbox="212 1287 477 1365">Upgrades to Westville Miners Sports Centre</p> 	<p data-bbox="537 1287 1406 1575">The Westville Miners Sports Centre will soon be more modern and comfortable for hockey players, families, and community members from across Pictou County with infrastructure funding from the province. The \$2.1-million investment will also support the sustainability of the facility. The upgrade will replace the existing ice plant, cement flooring, refrigeration system, and humidification system with more modern and efficient alternatives, extending the centre's lifespan.</p>

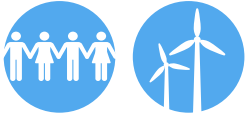


Initiative	Story
<p data-bbox="212 281 464 401">Energy Upgrades for Cape Breton Public Housing</p> 	<p data-bbox="537 281 1386 485">More than 200 public housing units in Cape Breton Regional Municipality will receive energy efficiency improvements. This will help tenants be more comfortable in their homes. The project includes installing insulation, air-sealing systems, and efficient water heaters, and converting oil-fueled heating systems to electric heat pumps.</p>
<p data-bbox="212 707 464 827">Port Hawkesbury Paper Agreements Extended, Renewed</p> 	<p data-bbox="537 707 1365 869">The province's agreements with Port Hawkesbury Paper have been updated to support sustainable ecological forestry practices and management of public lands. The province has two agreements, first signed in 2012, with Port Hawkesbury Paper.</p> <p data-bbox="537 890 1403 1136">The company's forest utilization license agreement is a long-term agreement that guarantees an annual volume of timber from certain parcels of Crown land and sets out terms and conditions. Originally for 20 years, it is now extended to 2043. Changes to the agreement include a lower volume of timber to ensure the province can accommodate multiple priorities on Crown land.</p> <p data-bbox="537 1157 1386 1402">The company also has a fee-for-service agreement. The province pays the company to provide services that support sustainable forest management on Crown and private land. The original agreement was for 10 years. A new agreement, running until 2033, ensures services are aligned with current ecological forestry objectives, such as helping implement these types of practices on private woodlots.</p>
<p data-bbox="212 1449 488 1568">New Support Program for Abattoirs, Meat Processors</p> 	<p data-bbox="537 1449 1386 1694">In 2023, some licensed abattoirs and meat processors were able to upgrade their facilities through the new Abattoir Enrichment and Efficiency program. The program was open to all provincially and federally licensed abattoir and meat processors in Nova Scotia. Facility upgrades help abattoirs process more red meat and poultry. This supports our goal of producing and buying more local food.</p> <p data-bbox="537 1715 1273 1751">The application deadline for this year was February 28, 2023.</p>



Initiative	Story
<p data-bbox="212 283 443 443">Better Access to Community-Based Transportation Services</p> 	<p data-bbox="537 283 1365 401">People across Nova Scotia will have improved access to local transportation options through a new project led by the Nova Scotia Community Transportation Network.</p> <p data-bbox="537 422 1422 751">Blaise Transit is customizing and implementing a dispatch system for community transit operators in up to 23 communities. Community transportation services are operated by not-for-profit groups, municipalities, or First Nation communities that use a “dial-a-ride” model for bookings. This will be the first provincewide transit dispatch operators partnership in Canada and will serve as a leader for other networks and transit agencies looking to implement similar solutions. Dependable transit makes communities stronger.</p>
<p data-bbox="212 800 467 959">Province, Mi'kmaq to Share Governance of Kluskap Wilderness Area</p> 	<p data-bbox="537 800 1422 1262">In January 2023, the province and Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia took the first step toward shared governance of Kluskap Wilderness Area. It is nearly 2,800 hectares of land and includes the sacred Mi'kmaw site Kluskap's Cave. The new working relationship and shared commitments are to conserve, maintain, and celebrate the ecological, cultural, and spiritual significance of Kluskap Wilderness Area. The work the province and Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia are doing together is guided by key principles and values identified by Mi'kmaw communities for the creation and long-term care of Indigenous protected and conserved areas in Unama'ki (Cape Breton). This is the first agreement of this type between Nova Scotia and the Mi'kmaq.</p>

Initiative	Story
<p data-bbox="212 281 495 359">High Production Forest Zone in Place</p> <div data-bbox="224 390 462 504">  </div>	<p data-bbox="537 281 1344 359">Nova Scotia now has all three parts of the triad model of ecological forestry in place.</p> <p data-bbox="537 378 1401 499">This will support the economy while ensuring that 90 per cent of Crown land is managed with biodiversity as the top priority. Ecological forestry is made up of three types of areas:</p> <ul data-bbox="537 518 1419 1297" style="list-style-type: none"> • Conservation areas <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Currently about 35 per cent of Crown land. It includes old-growth forests conserved under the old-growth forest policy, existing parks and protected areas, pending sites in the Parks and Protected Areas Plan, and other lands being conserved without legal designations. This zone will never get smaller. It may get larger as lands are identified to reach the goal to protect 20 per cent of Nova Scotia’s land and water mass by 2030. • Mixed forest (or matrix) zone <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – These are areas that focus on some ecological goals with some harvesting. The mixed-use zone is currently about 55 per cent of Crown land. It could get smaller if some of this land is conserved. As of June 1, 2022, both new and previously approved harvest plans for Acadian forests in this zone must follow low-intensity practices that put biodiversity first. • High-production forestry <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – A maximum of 10 per cent of Crown land can be high production forestry.
<p data-bbox="212 1344 423 1465">New Water Infrastructure in Port Hawkesbury</p> <div data-bbox="224 1497 462 1610">  </div>	<p data-bbox="537 1344 1380 1421">An investment by the province will help improve and ensure access to clean water for people in Port Hawkesbury.</p> <p data-bbox="537 1440 1401 1690">The \$1.1 million in funding to upgrade the water supply and distribution system will provide a new above-ground building and associated equipment, replacing the Pitt Street water tower and the existing pressure-reducing valve vault on MacDonald Street. The municipality is upgrading the water treatment plant and water system metering, which will also improve efficiency and allow for future growth.</p>

Initiative	Story
<p>Wastewater Infrastructure Upgrades in Wolfville</p> 	<p>The province is investing in infrastructure upgrades in Wolfville that will help prepare the town for future growth.</p> <p>The project will improve the wastewater treatment plant and increase treatment capacity, leading to higher-quality wastewater and sewage disposal systems. The upgrades include a newly constructed third lagoon cell and protective raised barrier, an improved aeration system, and a new operational monitoring and control system.</p>
<p>Season Extension Enhancement Program</p> 	<p>Local fruit and vegetable farmers can now invest in innovative technologies to extend their growing season, adapt to a changing climate, and open up new market opportunities. With support from the province, the Season Extension Enhancement Program encourages and supports Nova Scotia's fruit and vegetable producers by providing financial assistance with the following on-farm infrastructure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • adopting season extension technologies • enhancing storage capacity • adopting and developing irrigation capacity for field operations
<p>Businesses Leading in Sustainability: Invest Nova Scotia's Innovation Rebate Program</p> 	<p>These businesses, participating in Invest Nova Scotia's Innovation Rebate Program, are driving sustainability in Nova Scotia:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acadian Seaplants will use less packaging and will help eliminate 180,000 kilograms of waste material and vastly reduce the amount of transportation-associated carbon dioxide. • Balamore Farm Ltd. is increasing local food security and extending their growing season. Also, their energy efficiency is anticipated to improve by 20 to 40 per cent with modern coolers and insulation. • Coldstream Clear Distillery is reducing emissions through off-site storage and shipping. • Halifax Folding Cartons' new printing system will reduce transportation costs and associated emissions by 30 per cent. The new technology is also expected to reduce paper waste by 30 per cent. <p><i>Continued below.</i></p>

Initiative	Story
<p>Businesses Leading in Sustainability: Invest Nova Scotia's Innovation Rebate Program</p> <p><i>Continued.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lewis Moulding is eliminating 24,000 litres of fossil-fuel sourced propane annually as the fuel source for drying and finishing products. • Nova Agri's state-of-the-art camera system is projected to remove up to 98 per cent of product defects. The technology will also help Nova Agri reduce waste and strengthen its supply chain. • Oland Brewery will reuse carbon dioxide previously lost during the brewing and packaging process. • Oxford Frozen Foods will reduce carbon dioxide by 2,000 tonnes annually and increase energy efficiency from 50 per cent to between 80 and 95 per cent with new gas burners. • Scotian Gold expects its new system to save the company more than 4 million litres of water annually. • Deep Cove Aqua Farms Ltd. is reducing product-related losses by an anticipated 50 per cent through new value-added production equipment.
<p>Graphite Innovation and Technologies (GIT) Raises \$10 Million Series A to Decarbonize Global Marine Shipping Industry</p> 	<p>Nova Scotia's sustainable coatings company Graphite Innovation & Technologies (GIT) is helping the shipping industry transition toward net-zero emissions.</p> <p>GIT develops graphene-based, eco-friendly marine coatings that increase hull and propeller efficiency, delivering significant fuel savings and greenhouse gas emission reductions relative to existing coatings on the market. Plus, GIT's coatings do not leach toxins or microplastics into the ocean, and they absorb underwater noise, reducing stress on sensitive marine life.</p>

Initiative	Story
<p>Success from the Early-Stage Commercialization Fund</p> 	<p>The Early-Stage Commercialization Fund has been used to support a number of innovators and businesses that are working to address climate change and support a clean economy and healthy environment. Examples of some of these change makers are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sean Hinds spun out his “camera for imaging greenhouse gases” into a company called Quantum Devices Incorporated • Shannon Sterling’s river-based carbon dioxide removal work was registered as CarbonRun Carbon Dioxide Removal Limited in 2022 • Lukas Swan’s long-life battery project has contributed to the technology that Zen Electric Bikes is building their products on.
<p>Cheetahs for Change: The Environmental Project</p> 	<p>Cheetahs for Change is a student-led organization at Charles P. Allen High School with the goal of bringing awareness to social justice issues and advancing equity within their community. The group has worked to raise awareness and funds for several issues, including Truth and Reconciliation and the 94 Calls to Action, poverty, anti-racism, and climate change. Their environmental project is an ongoing project addressing issues such as climate change, pollution, and environmentally damaging practices, such as clearcutting in the Bedford community. The four pillars of the project include saving Sandy Lake, addressing environmental racism, promoting a vegan and plant-based diet, and spreading their message through visits to elementary schools. The Cheetahs for Change group was recently awarded the Lieutenant Governor’s Respectful Citizenship Award.</p>
<p>Representation and Equity</p> 	<p>Students of Nelson Whynder Elementary School are now published authors and illustrators. What began over two years ago as a project in their grade 5/6 class has resulted in the book The ABC’s of North Preston, a celebration of the history and culture of their unique Black community. Students were encouraged to share their knowledge and personal connections to their community of North Preston, one of the oldest Black communities in Canada. Each letter of the alphabet celebrates a local celebrity, topic of importance, or pillar of the community. A special assembly was held on January 27, 2023, to launch the book. The student authors and many of the local celebrities featured in the book were in attendance.</p>

Initiative	Story
<p data-bbox="212 281 493 359">Woodlawn High School Panther Pantry</p> 	<p data-bbox="537 281 1422 653">Students at Woodlawn High are raising awareness and funds about inequity and food insecurity through the Panther Pantry program. The Panther Pantry program works to empower youth by resolving food security issues in their homes, school, and community. It strives to improve well-being and achievement by providing healthy food and non-food essentials for all Woodlawn High School students and reducing the stigma attached to food insecurity. The Panther Pantry has expanded to include clothing donations, encouraging youth to swap and share clothing, extending the lifespan of items and reducing waste.</p>
<p data-bbox="212 701 493 779">Funding Fast-Tracks Climate Change Action</p> 	<p data-bbox="537 701 1422 989">Nova Scotia’s youth will soon have a new way to give their ideas, advice, and recommendations directly to government on how to respond to climate change. The province announced \$800,000 in funding on May 15, 2023, for the Clean Foundation to create a youth climate council and support its work for the next five years. The council will give youth a formal way to help influence public policy so they can have confidence in their future.</p>