

## Tobacco Tax

### Permit Applications

[Manufacturer's tobacco vendor permit](#)

[Wholesaler tobacco vendor permit](#)

[Retail tobacco vendor permit](#)

[Designated retail tobacco vendor permit](#) (Retail stores on reserves selling to First Nation customers)

[Permit to purchase and sell unstamped tobacco](#)

[Permit to stamp imported tobacco](#)

### Rebate and Refund Applications

[Application for a refund of tobacco tax on stolen tobacco products](#)

[Application for rebate of tobacco tax on bad debts](#) (Sales of tobacco products made on credit)

### Other Applications

[Clearance certificate](#) (Sell entire tobacco inventory in bulk sale)

[Letter of authority](#) (Authorize a representative)

### Tobacco Tax Rates

Cigarettes	29.52 cents per cigarette
Fine Cut Tobacco	40.00 cents per gram
Pre-proportioned Tobacco Sticks	29.52 cents per stick
Tobacco in any other form	40.00 cents per gram
Cigars	75% of manufacturer's or importer's suggested retail selling price

### Tobacco Wholesalers

#### Collection of Tax

Tax is applied on sales to consumers but collected at the wholesale level and remitted monthly.

The sale of tobacco to consumers in Nova Scotia is subject to tobacco tax. The administration of the tax is outlined in the *Revenue Act* and *Regulations*. The tax is collected by the retailer from the consumer at the time of purchase. For ease of administration the tax is remitted by the wholesalers who pre-collect from the retailers, an amount equal to the tax that will be charged to the consumer when the retailer resells the tobacco.

#### Monthly Reports

Collectors report and remit tax by the 20th day of each month based on previous month's sales.

**Note:** When a due date falls on a Saturday, a Sunday, or a public holiday, we consider your payment to be paid on time if we receive it on the next business day.

### Refunds

Interest on refunds is calculated from the date the tax was remitted until the refund is paid or applied to a vendor's account, but only on tax paid in error, or a paid assessment that was later reversed.

### Assessments

Interest and penalty assessments and any unpaid tax is calculated from the date when the default first occurred until the assessment is paid. The interest rate changes quarterly and is compounded monthly.

## Tobacco Stamps

Packages of cigarettes, packages of tobacco sticks and packages of fine cut must bear the Nova Scotia pantone purple colored stamp.

Tobacco products sold to persons\individuals who have status under the *Indian Act* from designated tobacco retail vendors located on reserves require the federal peach colored stamps labeled "CANADA DUTY PAID". These tobacco products are to be sold only on reserves by designated tobacco retail vendors and only to persons\individuals who have status under the *Indian Act*.

Diplomats, ships chandlers and duty-free shops may purchase "CANADA DUTY PAID". Interprovincial tobacco wholesaler vendors can carry stock stamped for other provinces.

The Minister of Service Nova Scotia and Internal Services for Nova Scotia, The Minister of Finance and Municipal Relations for Prince Edward Island and the Commissioner of Revenue for the Canada Revenue Agency signed an agreement whereby Prince Edward Island will use Nova Scotia's pantone purple colored stamp.

## Tobacco Sales to First Nations

Tobacco products sold to persons\individuals who have status under the *Indian Act* by designated tobacco retail vendors located on reserves require the federal peach colored stamps labeled "CANADA DUTY PAID". Tobacco products bearing the federal stamp can only be sold to persons\individuals who have status under the *Indian Act*.

Agreements are in place with each individual band council establishing the quantities and identifying the designated tobacco retail vendors and designated tobacco wholesale vendors. The quantities are based on population and are increased for special events upon approved requests. **Responsibility for communicating a change in population to Service Nova Scotia rests with each First Nation and should be submitted at most once per calendar year so that tobacco quantities can be adjusted accordingly.** Some band councils are their own "designated tobacco wholesale vendor" for the purpose of distributing tax exempt tobacco products to designated tobacco retail vendors located on the reserve.

The Commission informs the designated tobacco wholesale vendors (of authorized designated tobacco retail vendors) of the monthly allocations.

## Tobacco tax compliance measures

(See [Compliance measures](#))

## Tax Information Guides

2014 [Guidelines for tobacco retailers on the application process and terms and conditions under which a tobacco retail vendor's permit is issued](#)

## Tax Information Bulletins

5105 [Tobacco retailer with multiple stores moving tobacco products to new site](#)  
5104 [Notice to tobacco wholesalers and retailers of tobacco tax increase](#)  
5102 [Fees for permits and services provided by the Tax Commission](#)  
5100 [Information on tobacco tax enforcement provisions for tobacco retailers and wholesalers](#)  
5099 [Recordkeeping requirements for wholesale tobacco vendors](#)  
5094 [Changes to the marking requirements for packages of cigarettes or packages of fine-cut tobacco products sold in in the tax-paid market in Nova Scotia](#)  
5092 [Tobacco markings notice for manufacturers, wholesalers, importers and tear tape manufacturers](#)  
5091 [Alternative methods for fuel and tobacco wholesalers filing tax returns and making payments during postal strike](#)

- 5090 [Permit fees and expiry dates for tobacco wholesalers and retailers](#)
- 5066 [Sale of tobacco to persons\individuals who have status under the \*Indian Act\* by designated retail tobacco vendors on reserves](#)
- 5055 [Tobacco tax calculation for cigars](#)
- 5033 [Limit on quantities of tobacco products retail vendors can sell to consumers and how much tobacco a consumer can possess](#)
- 5029 [Requirements for tobacco retailers and the consequences of not meeting those requirements](#)
- 5028 [Tobacco wholesaler bookkeeping requirements and consequences of noncompliance](#)
- 5022 [Tax rebate for uncollectable fuel and tobacco accounts written off as bad debts](#)