

Budget

2016–2017

Working together for a stronger Nova Scotia

Highlights



Budget 2016–2017

Working together for a stronger Nova Scotia

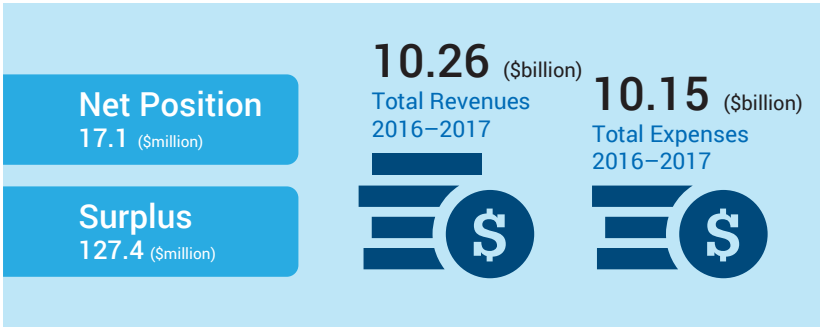
Budget 2016-2017 focuses on the things that truly matter to Nova Scotians—growth, opportunities for youth, skills and jobs training, and education and health care.

Our investments also demonstrate a strong will to support our most vulnerable, helping those who need it the most, and ensuring that our investments have impact over the long term.

Responsible financial management is the foundation upon which everything is built. We must continue to be strategic and prudent about how we spend the money we have.

Budget 2016-2017 contains many investments in important areas that truly matter. They are the result of working together for a stronger Nova Scotia.

Expenses & Revenues



Opportunities For Growth

Nova Scotia business confidence is the highest among all provinces*



\$6 million more to bring high-speed Internet to more homes and businesses



\$100,000 for grants to communities and groups helping refugees to settle



\$2.8 million for aquaculture industry development



\$2.5 million to support the creative economy



\$10 million for the film industry

Investing in Youth, Education, and Job Training

The Education Action Plan was developed with survey feedback from 19,000 Nova Scotians



\$65 million into public education over four years



\$3.2 million for the Graduate to Opportunity Program



Hire 150 students for summer jobs, provide 75 students with public sector placements



\$6.4 million to reduce class sizes; \$2.5 million for math strategy



Partner with employers to create up to 600 co-op positions

*Source: Canadian Federation of Independent Business

Supporting Nova Scotians Who Need It Most

Eligible Income Assistance clients will receive up to a \$20/month increase



\$3.6 million more to help pre-school children with autism



\$9.9 million more to support people with disabilities



\$5.4 million more for children, youth, and family support services



\$6.6 million for child care, including wage grants for early childhood educators



\$11.5 million to support women at risk

Healthy People, Healthy Economy

Patients will benefit from a unified, modern, connected healthcare system



Launch a multi-year redevelopment of the QEII Health Sciences Centre



\$14.4 million more for home care services for seniors



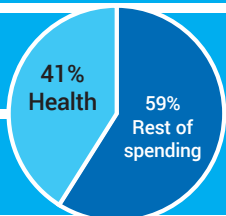
\$1.9 million more for orthopedic wait times



\$825,000 for Connect2 Sustainable Transportation Community Grants



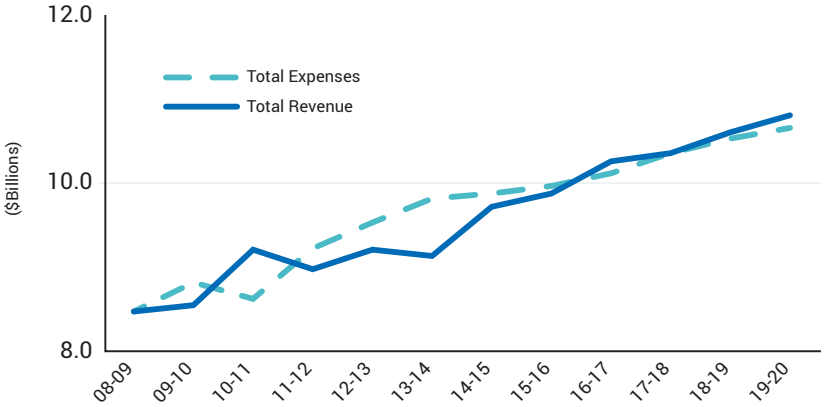
\$4.3 million to implement the Personal Health Record program



Responsible Fiscal Management

As the path to fiscal sustainability continues, the province is projecting balanced budgets in each of the next four years.

Expenses & Revenues



Ongoing reviews to ensure effective, efficient public service delivery



Reduce red tape for business



Reorganize the Department of Health and Wellness



Level of total debt stable over four-year fiscal plan



Focus on core responsibilities in service delivery

	Estimate 2015-2016	Forecast 2015-2016	Estimate 2016-2017
Total Revenues	9,920,008	9,893,129	10,264,252
Total Expenses	10,024,247	9,955,723	10,145,614
Consolidation Adjustments	6,664	(8,612)	8,773
Provincial Surplus (Deficit)	(97,575)	(71,206)	127,411
Contribution to Fiscal Capacity for Provincial Health Complex	---	---	(110,300)
Net Position	(97,575)	(71,206)	17,111

Provincial Revenue Sources

Personal Income Tax	2,524,962	2,563,526	2,671,599
Corporate Income Tax	493,193	451,053	466,644
Harmonized Sales Tax	1,761,253	1,765,779	1,814,007
Motive Fuel Tax	262,276	257,816	271,718
Tobacco Tax	217,792	215,990	227,252
Other Tax Revenue	158,855	157,972	158,745
Registry of Motor Vehicles	126,949	129,265	127,534
Royalties - Petroleum	19,405	15,270	10,508
Other Provincial Sources	142,609	148,887	146,136
TCA Cost Shared Revenue	1,750	1,953	59,900
Other Fees and Charges	63,176	61,620	61,978
Prior Years' Adjustments	---	(86,813)	---
Interest Revenues	79,031	86,221	77,901
Sinking Fund Earnings	99,549	101,172	91,660
Ordinary Recoveries	317,269	332,956	332,074
Net Income from Government Business Enterprises	352,109	379,621	382,228
Total - Provincial Sources	6,620,178	6,582,288	6,899,884

Federal Revenue Sources

Equalization Payments	1,768,921	1,777,759	1,738,321
Canada Health Transfer	896,863	895,694	942,770
Canada Social Transfer	341,579	341,134	348,901
Offshore Accord Offset Payments	36,779	36,779	33,255
Crown Share	7,437	3,966	1,427
Other Federal Sources	2,319	3,399	6,115
TCA Cost Shared Revenue	31,963	31,078	73,124
Prior Years' Adjustments	---	3,799	---
Ordinary Recoveries	213,969	217,233	220,455
Total - Federal Sources	3,299,830	3,310,841	3,364,368

Expenses

Agriculture	61,536	60,936	60,217
Business	114,143	121,688	137,450
Communities, Culture and Heritage	61,837	64,302	81,689
Community Services	915,410	922,525	929,957
Education and Early Childhood Development	1,244,607	1,245,454	1,279,532
Energy	30,160	30,138	29,597
Environment	25,343	25,143	36,800
Finance and Treasury Board	14,415	13,072	22,782
Fisheries and Aquaculture	9,883	9,883	12,464
Health and Wellness	4,137,741	4,113,856	4,132,209
Internal Services	180,300	177,658	185,447
Justice	327,593	327,593	330,388
Labour and Advanced Education	362,931	362,910	364,271
Assistance to Universities	376,084	376,034	380,605
Municipal Affairs	167,474	159,591	184,383
Natural Resources	82,983	83,346	76,487
Public Service	200,947	199,249	205,869
Seniors	1,496	1,454	1,598
Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal	419,277	433,909	460,766
Restructuring Costs	175,853	121,715	187,538
Refundable Tax Credits	150,968	120,658	137,602
Pension Valuation Adjustment	90,654	129,898	66,251
Debt Servicing Costs	872,612	854,711	841,712
Total - Expenses	10,024,247	9,955,723	10,145,614

	2014-15	2015-16(e)	2015-16(f)	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Net Debt	15.0	15.1	15.1	15.2	15.2	15.2	15.1
Nominal GDP	39.1	41.6	39.9	40.9	42.0	43.2	44.2
Net Debt to GDP (ratio)*	38.5%	36.3%	37.9%	37.1%	36.2%	35.1%	34.1%

* Revised 1981-2013 GDP calculations for all provinces, were released by Statistics Canada in November 2015. Forecasting with this data reduced the 2015 GDP estimate, raising by 1.6 per cent Nova Scotia's Net Debt-to-GDP ratio for 2015-2016, which is now projected to be 37.9%.