

# Accountability Report 2017–2018

Department of Natural Resources  
Department of Lands and Forestry (July 2018)

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Accountability Report 2017–2018

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## Table of Contents

Accountability Statement	2
Message from the Minister and Deputy Minister	3
Financial Results	4
Department Mandate and Core Functions	
Measuring Our Performance	
Goal 1	
Goal 2	
Goal 3	
Goal 4	
Annual Report under Section 18 of the Public Interest Disclosure of Wrongdoing Act	

## Accountability Statement

The Accountability Report of the Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources for the year ended March 31, 2018 is prepared pursuant to the *Finance Act* and government policies and guidelines. These authorities require the reporting of outcomes against the Department of Natural Resources Business Plan for the fiscal year just ended. The reporting of the Department of Natural Resources outcomes necessarily includes estimates, judgments and opinions by Department of Natural Resources management.

We acknowledge that this Accountability Report is the responsibility of Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources management. The report is, to the extent possible, a complete and accurate representation of outcomes relative to the goals and priorities set out in the Department of Natural Resources 2017-18 Business Plan.

*Original signed by*

Honourable Iain Rankin  
Minister of Lands and Forestry

*Original signed by*

Julie Towers  
Deputy Minister of Lands and Forestry

## Message from the Minister and Deputy Minister

## Department of Natural Resources Accountability Report 2017-2018

We are pleased to share with Nova Scotians the activities and accomplishments of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) for 2017-18.

Our dedicated staff continue to work diligently to serve Nova Scotians and to achieve the goals set out in our 2017-18 Business Plan. We've made notable progress in numerous areas that support Government priorities and commitments.

The report from the Independent Forest Practices Review is expected in the summer of 2018. The review is a commitment of Government and will provide recommendations for improving how Nova Scotia balances long-term environmental, social and economic interests in managing the province's forests.

We also realized Government's commitment to create a Biodiversity Council. The Council was formed with four experts who will help craft new legislation and recommend new actions to promote biodiversity in Nova Scotia. A new Biodiversity Act will enable Nova Scotia to improve the conservation and sustainable use of wild species and ecosystems in flexible and adaptive ways, address legislative gaps and manage emerging risks.

The department fulfilled the commitment to establish a new Mineral Resources Development Fund to support prospectors, exploration, research and public outreach. The new \$700,000 initiative demonstrates Government's continued support for the mineral sector and will spur investment and development in the mineral resource sector.

The passing of amendments to the Mineral Resources Act in the spring 2018 sitting of the Legislature was another key achievement. Along with updated regulations, the amendments ensure clarity for both industry and staff when working within areas administered by the Act.

DNR worked in collaboration with several other departments on the new Land Titles Initiative, which was developed to address land title issues in five Land Title Clarification Areas. The new initiative is helping applicants in the five African Nova Scotian communities who have faced barriers to seek and attain clear title to land. Our department established a dedicated survey team for this initiative by creating three positions, one of which was designated for persons belonging to the African Nova Scotian Community.

In 2017-18, the department continued implementation of a work plan to respond to the June 2016 Report of the Auditor General on conservation and recovery of species at risk. An engagement process was completed with recovery teams, which will result in enhanced collaboration between recovery teams for multi-species recovery work. Other progress includes aerial surveys for mainland moose, field work in the Cape Breton Highlands to assess the status of American Marten, and data from field surveys was compiled for the Canada Lynx.

We marked the 100 per cent connection of the Great Trail in Nova Scotia and across Canada in 2017, a priority for our department. This was a major milestone, which Government supported through in-kind and financial support. Government will continue to work with Nova Scotia Trails Federation and the TransCanada Trail organization to improve Nova Scotia's trail connectivity.

Department of Natural Resources Accountability Report 2017-2018

2018-19 brings some change for our department with a new name, the Department of Lands and Forestry, and the transfer of the Geoscience and Mines branch to the new Department of Energy and Mines. We will continue our strong focus on biodiversity, wildlife, forestry, parks and land management, and achieving the necessary balance between protection and preservation, and sustainable development.

Our department looks forward to another successful year working on behalf of Nova Scotians.

*Original signed by*

Honourable Iain Rankin  
Minister of Lands and Forestry

*Original signed by*

Julie Towers  
Deputy Minister of Lands and Forestry

## Financial Results

	2017-2018 Estimate	2017-2018 Actual Expense	2017-2018 Variance
Program & Service Area	(\$ thousands)	(\$ thousands)	(\$ thousands)
<b>Gross Departmental Expenses:</b>			
Senior Management	864	936	72
Renewable Resources	24,520	24,736	216
Geoscience and Mines	4,341	4,256	(85)
Regional Services	38,809	39,052	243
Policy, Planning and Support Services	4,464	5,004	540
Land Services	4,180	3,686	(494)
<b>Total: Gross Departmental Expenses</b>	<b>77,178</b>	<b>77,670</b>	<b>492</b>
<b>Additional Information:</b>			
Ordinary Revenue	13,241	13,905	664
Fees and Other Charges	1,930	2,229	299
Ordinary Recoveries	881	1,434	553
<b>Total: Revenue, Fees &amp; Recoveries</b>	<b>16,052</b>	<b>17,568</b>	<b>1,516</b>
TCA Purchase Requirements	<b>8,571</b>	<b>13,121</b>	<b>4,550</b>
<b>Provincial Funded Staff (FTEs)</b>	<b>630.0</b>	<b>619.4</b>	<b>(10.6)</b>

### Variance Explanation:

1. Gross Departmental Expenses were \$492 thousand above estimate due to recoverable costs for out-of-province fire suppression, and for various recoverable services provided at camping parks.
2. Ordinary Revenue was \$664 thousand above estimate, primarily from higher lease revenue and royalties from coal and gold extraction.
3. Fees and Other Charges was \$299 thousand above estimate, mostly from increased camping parks utilization.
4. Ordinary Recoveries were \$553 thousand above estimate, mostly due to recoverable costs for out-of-province fire suppression, and for various recoverable services provided at camping parks.
5. TCA Purchase Requirements were \$4.5 million higher than estimated, primarily due to taking delivery of the final unit in the helicopter acquisition project (originally budgeted for 2018-19).
6. Provincial Funded Staff was 10.6 FTE below estimate, mostly from temporarily vacant positions.

## Department Mandate and Core Functions

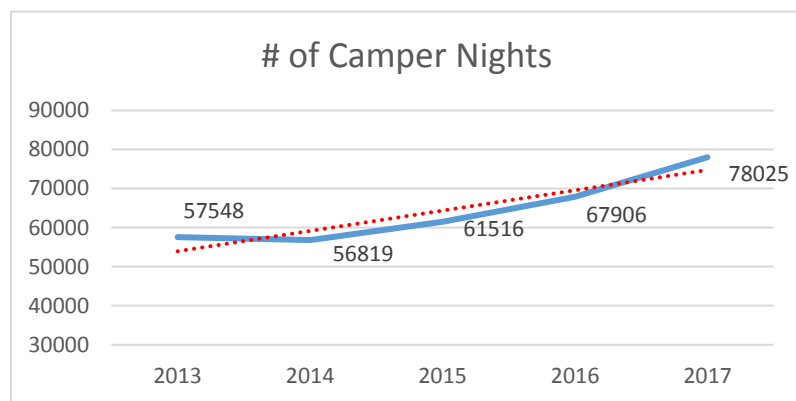
The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has broad responsibilities relative to the development, management, conservation and protection of forest, mineral, parks and wildlife resources and the administration of the province's Crown lands.

### Fast Facts

Did you know, that in 2017-18:

- Nova Scotia marked the 100th Anniversary of the Halifax Explosion with the first private donation from Cape Breton for the annual Christmas Tree Gift to Boston. The Campbell family donated a 16-metre (53 feet) white spruce from Blues Mills in Inverness Co.

- Nova Scotia's provincial parks had a record number of visitors again this year. The number of campsite bookings in provincial campgrounds has steadily increased in recent years. The 2017 season saw a record number of 78,025 camper nights, an increase of 13 per cent over 2016.



- In 2017-18, 24 powered campsites were added at Caribou-Munroes Island in Pictou Co., as well as the addition of electrical and water service to 35 campsites at Five Islands in Colchester Co. and 27 campsites at Amherst Shore in Cumberland Co.  
 🔗 To book a campsite visit: <https://novascotia.goingtocamp.com/>
- Nova Scotia had 174 wildfires in 2017, burning 728 hectares of land. All 2017 wildfires were human caused. DNR purchased four helicopters to support its wildfire suppression, among other essential government services.
- DNR invested \$10.1M in silviculture in 2017-18 contributing to sustainable forest management practices.
- The department received 451 applications for the use of Crown lands, closed 870 files, and acquired almost an additional 2000 acres of Crown lands.
- Between June 2017 and June 2018, DNR issued 562 new mineral exploration licenses and renewed 477 licenses.



### Areas of Focus for 2017-18

The Department committed to these areas of focus highlighted in the 2017-18 Business Plan:

- a long-term plan to sustainably transform Nova Scotia's forestry industry and maximize the use of high-value resources,
- a regulatory framework for mineral exploration in the province,
- comprehensive Crown land-use planning informed by public and First Nations' consultation, and,
- working with the Department of Environment to move towards 13 per cent protected land across the province, while ensuring there are no negative recreational or economic effects.

Over the last year, DNR achieved the following results to advance these areas of focus in support of government priorities and commitments:

- In August 2017, as committed in the Minister of Natural Resources' 2017 Mandate Letter, DNR launched an Independent Forest Practices Review, led by Professor William Lahey. The scope of the review is to examine existing forest harvest practices including strengths and weaknesses and the overall role of Crown wood supply throughout Nova Scotia, and to provide recommendations for improving how Nova Scotia balances long-term environmental, social and economic interests in managing the province's forests. Professor Lahey was supported by an independent team of experts and the report is expected in the summer of 2018.  
🔗 For more information see: [https://novascotia.ca/natr/forestry/Forest\\_Review/](https://novascotia.ca/natr/forestry/Forest_Review/)
- Amendments to the *Mineral Resources Act* were passed in the Spring 2018 sitting of the Legislature.
- DNR continued ongoing initiatives that support comprehensive Crown land-use planning with an emphasis on process improvement and making DNR's data more accessible to the public through ongoing enhancements to map-based tools based on public feedback.
- Collaboration continued with Nova Scotia Environment on the multi-year initiative to achieve the goal of protecting 13 per cent of the land across the province.
- In early 2018, the Department conducted biodiversity stakeholder consultations to advance commitments in the Minister's 2017 Mandate Letter to develop a new Biodiversity Act and create a Biodiversity Council.

Additional information on these achievements is provided in the section that follows on Measuring Our Performance.

## Measuring Our Performance

In 2017-18 the Department carried out initiatives, programs and services to advance our mandate and achieve core functions. Many of these activities involved collaborating across government, working with other jurisdictions and creating partnerships with external organizations.

The Department worked toward the outcome identified in the 2017-18 Business Plan: *As the economic driver for forestry, mining, and Crown lands utilization, DNR creates conditions for natural resource businesses to grow sustainably and Nova Scotians to benefit from the province's natural resources, through four key Goals and their associated Planned Priorities.*

This report lists all *Planned Priorities* under each Goal, followed by the Department's achievements for the 2017-18 fiscal year.

## Goal 1. Support the sustainable development of the province's natural resources in order to attract investment, create high-value jobs, and grow the economy.

### Planned Priorities and Results

*Planned Priority: Work with Atlantic provinces to improve innovation conditions for a robust bio-products sector across the region, including building partnerships and cooperative arrangements in 2017-18.*

- DNR investigated wood heat contract systems in Prince Edward Island and conducted site visits to assess the model for potential use in Nova Scotia. Potential benefits of this model include lower carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions, long-term stable heating costs for Nova Scotia businesses, a local market for sustainably produced low grade wood, and local employment and investment opportunities.

*Planned Priority: Provide financial and technical support to the Innovation Hub to explore innovative uses of products and new market opportunities, in partnership with Innovacorp, ACOA, and Emera.*

- DNR continued to support the Innovation Hub to foster strong collaboration amongst all stakeholders. Work this past year concentrated on assisting in assessing forest biomass supplies and identifying potential locations for biofuel production facilities.

*Planned Priority: Ongoing implementation of the Minerals Promotion Strategy to proactively support Nova Scotia's mining industry, involving promotion of investment opportunities at mining conferences including China Mining and release Cobequid Highlands geoscience-data package to generate new exploration interest in northern Nova Scotia.*

- In 2017-18 DNR created the Mineral Resources Development Fund (MRDF). The MRDF is designed to assist prospectors, exploration companies, and researchers in the search for new discoveries, to advance projects closer to production, and to attract investment into the province. An MRDF Advisory Council (comprised of nominees from the mining and prospecting industries, and academia) will provide non-binding strategic advice, guidance, and recommendations to the Minister. Eligible project grants range from \$20K to \$500K, and the program began accepting applications in early 2018-19. This multi-year initiative is a priority in the Minister's 2017 Mandate Letter and DNR's 2018-19 Business Plan.  
🔗 For additional information see: <https://novascotia.ca/natr/meb/mrdp.asp>
- The Department attended three international conferences in Toronto, Vancouver, and China to promote Nova Scotia mining opportunities to potential investors.
- DNR released geoscience data from the Cobequid Highlands in March 2018 to the public to encourage explorations.

*Planned Priority: Finalize an agreement for a Mi'kmaq Forestry Initiative.*

- Negotiations with the Assembly of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq Chiefs are ongoing to finalize an agreement for the Mi'kmaq Forestry Initiative. Once negotiations are completed, a pilot project will be launched to collaboratively build capacity and explore opportunities for the Mi'kmaq to manage certain forests on Crown lands in central and western areas of the province. This is a multi-year ongoing initiative.

*Planned Priority: Identify alternative uses for Crown lands by working with industry associations, engaging stakeholders, and using GIS mapping tools to unlock the maximum value of Crown lands.*

- The department researched opportunities for alternative uses of Crown lands (e.g. agriculture, aggregate), and initiated discussions with the Department of Agriculture to include agriculture considerations in Crown land decisions. DNR maintains ongoing contact with industry associations and works with industry representatives on developing new Crown land initiatives. The department also continues to support individual inquiries for leasing Crown lands for alternative uses. As potential new uses of Crown lands emerge and are identified, DNR objectively assesses the opportunity and how it aligns with Government and department priorities.
- A cross-jurisdictional and industry review of technology used for Crown land management was completed. Based on this review, twenty-five new GIS data collector devices were procured. These devices enable DNR to more effectively and efficiently collect digitized geographic data on Crown lands to enable more informed Crown land management decisions.

*Planned Priority: Support Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal to replace the effluent treatment plant in Boat Harbour.*

- DNR continued its support to this initiative through committee engagement. This initiative is a multi-year remediation project that is in the planning phase until 2020.  
🔗 For additional information see: <https://novascotia.ca/boatharbour/>

*Planned Priority: Establish an advisory committee with representation from the Department, Perennia and local community and business stakeholders to support identification of additional opportunities for Strathlorne Nursery site.*

- Engaged key stakeholders in a dialogue and prepared for potential partnerships for additional innovative and collaborative uses of the facility.
- Continued to work with the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal to support infrastructure for seedling production and sales at the Strathlorne Forest Nursery.  
🔗 For additional information see: <https://novascotia.ca/natr/forestry/Strathlorne/>

## Goal 2. Manage the province's natural resources to achieve a sustainable balance of economic, environmental, and social benefits.

### Planned Priorities and Results

*Planned Priority: Develop partnerships and gather stakeholder input to expand landscape level planning beyond the Eastern region of the province (pilot project with Port Hawkesbury Paper in 2016-17).*

- The Port Hawkesbury Paper pilot project in Eastern Nova Scotia remains in progress, and an ecosystem approach has been adopted. This multi-year project includes developing key tools and knowledge in support of landscape scale planning, such as the ability to measure and model key landscape indices and targets. The approach and timing to expand beyond the Eastern region of the province will be subject to the outcomes of the Independent Forest Practices Review.

*Planned Priority: Negotiate and finalize longer term Forest Utilization Licence Agreements and other agreements across the province's Crown lands.*

- Negotiations of longer term Forest Utilization Licence Agreements were put on hold pending the outcomes of the Independent Forest Practices Review.
- For 2017-18, DNR continued negotiations in the Mi'kmaq Forestry Initiative and are near completion. DNR also extended the Medway Community Forest agreement for another year.

*Planned Priority: Work with Department of Environment to move towards 13 per cent protected land across the province, while ensuring there are no negative recreational or economic effects.*

- Collaboration with Nova Scotia Environment continues toward achieving the goal of protecting 13 per cent of the land across the province. A joint working group identified a priority list of candidate protection sites; research and survey work required for a subset of the select sites for consideration of protection has been completed and is being brought forward in batches for approval. This is a multi-year initiative targeting approval of additional parks and protected areas in 2018-2019, via implementation of the Parks and Protected Areas Plan.

*Planned Priority: Support the development of an electronic licensing system that enhances wildlife harvest management and client service, with Service Nova Scotia/Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture.*

- Continued engagement with provincial partner departments on the electronic licensing system project to transition to online hunting license sales. Advanced the discovery phase of the project through consultations with licence vendors, internal stakeholders, and the Nova Scotia Federation of Anglers and Hunters on the system's needs and opportunities. This is a multi-year project, with planned next steps including the release of Request for Proposals for system software in 2018-19.

*Planned Priority: Continue to assist residents of East Preston, North Preston, and Cherry Brook through the land titles clarification process, in collaboration with four government departments including*

*African Nova Scotian Affairs, Halifax Regional Municipality, the Nova Scotia Barristers' Society, and Nova Scotia Legal Aid.*

- DNR worked in collaboration with the Department of Communities Culture and Heritage (African Nova Scotia Affairs branch), the Department of Justice, and Service Nova Scotia (SNS) in ongoing support of the Land Titles Initiative. Residents of five Land Title Clarification Areas including East Preston, Lake Loon/Cherry Brook, North Preston, Lincolnville, and Sunnyville (the latter two were added in 2017-18) are being offered assistance to take steps to get a Certificate of Title (DNR), migrate their land to the land registration system (SNS) or work through the probate process (Justice), as required. This multi-year initiative is also a priority in DNR's 2018-19 Business Plan.
- In 2017-17, DNR established a dedicated survey team for this initiative by creating three new two-year term positions, one of which was designated to persons belonging to the African Nova Scotian Community.
- DNR received 7 applications during the fiscal year 2017-2018. Of those, 4 files were closed (3 certificates were issued, 1 did not meet criteria for a certificate), 0 files were withdrawn, and 3 files were in the survey process.

*Planned Priority: Continue to monitor and implement mineral management recommendations in response to the May 2014 Report of the Auditor General on mineral management.*

- Of the 20 recommendations, 8 had been completed prior to this reporting year, 6 were completed during 2017-18, and 6 remain in progress. The Department is now 70% in compliance with the recommendations.

*Planned Priority: Continue responding to the November 2015 Report of the Auditor General on forest management and protection, including implementing an adaptive forest operations monitoring program on Crown land.*

- Three recommendations were completed in this reporting year, and one remains in progress. DNR continues to be committed to responding to this AG recommendation relating to establishing performance measures for the Natural Resources Strategy. DNR continues to monitor and track progress for outstanding actions in the Strategy.
- The outcomes of the Independent Forest Practices Review will further inform management of the province's forests.

*Planned Priority: Continued implementation of the work plan to respond to the June 2016 Report of the Auditor General on management of conservation and recovery of species at risk.*

- An engagement process was completed with species at risk recovery teams which consist of experts who advise the Department on actions to recover the species at risk. This will result in enhanced collaboration between recovery teams for multi-species recovery work.
- Also, in 2017-18 11 projects that research and conserve species at risk were awarded a total of \$96,642.
- 11 species were assessed and listed under the *Endangered Species Act*, including 5 endangered and 4 threatened species which are now subject to the protections of the Act.

- Work in support of 3 recovery plans was completed:
  - Completed aerial surveys for mainland Moose to inform subsequent reviews of the recovery plan and next recovery actions.
  - Initiated field work in the Cape Breton Highlands to assess the status of endangered American Marten to inform status re-assessments and subsequent recovery plan updates.
  - Compiled data from field surveys for endangered Canada Lynx that will contribute to revised status reports and recovery plan updates.

### Goal 3. Increase and share knowledge about natural resources to help governments and interested groups make informed decisions and take responsible action.

#### Planned Priorities and Results

*Planned Priority: Continue to work with Nova Scotia Trails Federation and TransCanada Trail (TCT) and Communities Culture and Heritage to support completion of the Trail by 2017.*

- In August 2017, Nova Scotians celebrated 100% connection of the Trans-Canada trail at over 30 events.
- The related Trail Connectivity initiative is a multi-year priority of the Department in DNR's 2018-19 Business Plan to improve Nova Scotia's trail connectivity by working with the Communities, Culture and Heritage, Nova Scotia Trails Federation, Trans Canada Trail, trail groups, and communities.

*Planned Priority: Work with the Department of Internal Services on a 3-5 year plan to expand LiDAR acquisition collection across the province, supporting planning and response to management of flood and pollution control, as well as planning and management of natural resources.*

- Continued collaboration with the Department of Internal Services to increase the acquisition of Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR) data across the province. The initial goal is to collect data for approximately 1/3 of the province in the seven counties in eastern Nova Scotia. In 2017-2018, 53% of the eastern counties were completed.

*Planned Priority: Identify and implement Integrated Resource Management process improvement opportunities.*

- Initiated a process improvement project for Integrated Resources Management to improve customer service delivery for activities relating to Crown land applications. Targeting project launch in 2018-2019; the approach and timing will be subject to the outcomes of the Independent Forest Practices Review.

*Planned Priority: Review and renewal of the Department's over 135 outreach and education programs to better align with Department priorities, improve management, and increase delivery efficiency.*

- Established and piloted an internal system for assessing DNR's outreach and education projects and identifying priorities. This is an ongoing, multi-year initiative.

*Planned Priority: Identify ways to standardize data collection processes for more efficient, effective and consistent knowledge sharing and decision-making across the Department.*

- Continued provision of land resource management information to the province's Open Data Portal.
- Enhanced data collection through the purchase of new GIS tools and improved internal processes to identify data needs and enable standardized data collection.
- Continuous improvements to the systems that support Crown lands administration and access for the public.
- Ongoing enhancements to Harvest Plan Map Viewer and the Provincial Landscape Viewer – tools launched in 2016 based on public feedback to improve public engagement on planned fibre harvests in Nova Scotia woodlands and public access to integrated land and natural resources data. See:  
<https://nsgi.novascotia.ca/hpmv/>  
<https://novascotia.ca/natr/landscape/>

*Planned Priority: Work with Intergovernmental Affairs to gather information and support industry on emerging trade issues, including those related to softwood lumber and SC Paper CVD issues.*

- Supported Inter-Governmental Affairs (IGA) in successfully securing an exemption from Countervailing Duties/Antidumping (CVD/AD) sanctions on NS produced softwood lumber. Stakeholders were kept abreast of developments affecting Nova Scotia's trade in paper and softwood lumber by facilitating regular teleconferences between industry, IGA, and the Department of Justice.
- Provided stakeholders with data and descriptions of Nova Scotia's forest sector structure and its management practices, to further understanding the complexities of our forest industry. Information sessions and presentations were made to industry and woodlot owner groups, trade counsel, and officials from federal government and other provinces.

*Planned Priority: Explore collaborations with Nova Scotia Environment and communities on establishing a prototype water-well monitoring network in selected regions of Nova Scotia.*

- In 2017, worked with Nova Scotia Environment to develop and pilot test low-cost, real-time water level meters for dug wells. In 2018, the pilot network will be expanded with community involvement and the results will be made available online.

*Planned Priority: Monitor spruce budworm levels in Nova Scotia and continue establishing committees/working groups to proactively manage risks, as per the Spruce Budworm Management Framework – focus on building communications capacity and readiness.*

- Continued monitoring of spruce budworm levels in Nova Scotia. Initial collaboration with other Atlantic Provinces to develop risk management strategies.

#### Goal 4. Provide clear and effective laws and policies to ensure that natural resources are economically, environmentally, and socially sustainable.

##### Planned Priorities and Results

*Planned Priority: Complete development of new regulations under the Mineral Resources Act and implement required regulatory changes to the Registry of Mineral and Petroleum Rights (i.e. NovaRoc).*

- The Department identified areas where the intention of the new Mineral Resources Act (passed by the Legislature in 2016) was not clear enough. The amendments to the Act (passed in the Spring 2018 sitting of the Legislature) and new regulations (under development) will make it easier and less expensive for industry to manage exploration licences, encourage mineral exploration and development, and ensure a balance between economic development and having the tools to protect the land. Proclamation of the Act and passage of related regulations are multi-year initiatives in DNR's 2018-19 Business Plan.
- The department's on-line Mineral Registry system (NovaROC) is being updated, and testing is now underway. This system allows clients to acquire and maintain their mineral titles online. Visit NovaROC here: <https://novaroc.novascotia.ca/novaroc/>

*Planned Priority: Continue resource departments' collaboration on public participation activities.*

- Nova Scotia's resource departments (Natural Resources, Environment, Agriculture, Energy, and Fisheries and Aquaculture) co-hosted an International Association of Public Participation training session in 2017 to certify staff and support the adoption of best practices in public participation. The Department continues to work to develop public participation awareness and capacity.

In addition, in support of Goal 4, the Department planned and prepared for the May 2018 launch of the Biodiversity Council. The Council is tasked with identifying strategic priorities for work, including regulations, under a new Biodiversity Act. The Council and the Act are priorities in the Minister's 2017 Mandate Letter and DNR's 2018-19 Business Plan.

## Annual Report under Section 18 of the Public Interest Disclosure of Wrongdoing Act

The Public Interest Disclosure of Wrongdoing Act was proclaimed into law on December 20, 2011.

The Act provides for government employees to be able to come forward if they reasonably believe that a wrongdoing has been committed or is about to be committed and they are acting in good faith.

The Act also protects employees who do disclose from reprisals, by enabling them to lay a complaint of reprisal with the Labor Board.



Department of Natural Resources Accountability Report 2017-2018

A Wrongdoing for the purposes of the Act is:

- a) a contravention of provincial or federal laws or regulations
- b) a misuse or gross mismanagement of public funds or assets
- c) an act or omission that creates an imminent risk of a substantial and specific danger to the life, health or safety of persons or the environment, or
- d) directing or counselling someone to commit a wrongdoing

The following is a summary of disclosures received by the Department of Natural Resources.

Information Required under Section 18 of the Act Fiscal Year 2017-2018	
The number of disclosures received	0
The number of findings of wrongdoing	0
Details of each wrongdoing	N/A
Recommendations and actions taken on each wrongdoing	N/A