



Accountability Report 2019–20

Communities, Culture and Heritage



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Accountability Report 2019–2020

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1. Accountability Statement

The Accountability Report of the Department of Communities, Culture and Heritage for the year that ended March 31, 2020 is prepared pursuant to the Finance Act and government policies and guidelines. These authorities require the reporting of outcomes against the Department of Communities, Culture and Heritage Business Plan for the fiscal year just ended. The reporting of the Department of Communities, Culture and Heritage outcomes necessarily includes estimates, judgments and opinions by Department of Communities, Culture and Heritage management.

We acknowledge that this Accountability Report is the responsibility of Department of Communities, Culture and Heritage 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 Communities, Culture and Heritage 2019-2020 Business Plan.

Original Signed by

Honourable Leo Glavine
Minister

Justin Huston
Deputy Minister

2. Message from the Minister and Deputy Minister

We are pleased to present the 2019-20 Accountability Report for the Nova Scotia Department of Communities, Culture and Heritage. This report highlights last year's progress in meeting our Business Plan objectives and outlines our strategic priorities for the year ahead.

We recognize that culture is key in creating healthy, diverse and vibrant communities. Nova Scotia's *Culture Action Plan* continues to guide our decision-making, priorities, investments and actions. We have made significant progress.

Under the leadership of Ministers Ince, Metlege Diab and Delorey, the Offices of African Nova Scotian Affairs, Acadian Affairs and Francophonie and Gaelic Affairs worked collaboratively with their respective communities on such things as: the land title clarification work, the inclusion of Gaelic language, history and culture and offering French courses to more than 500 people.

The Office of African Nova Scotian Affairs launched *Count Us In: Nova Scotia's Action Plan in Response to the International Decade for People of African Descent*. We are aligning our efforts to support its three pillars: recognition, justice and development.

Supporting inclusive, strong and vibrant communities is a priority of the department and we continue to make investments that put people and communities at the forefront. Part of a thriving, healthy community is access to active living. Working with the Nova Scotia Trails Federation and our partner departments, we launched the *Nova Scotia Trails Strategy* to support sustainable trail development.

In 2019-2020, 76 per cent of the department's funding was invested directly into communities through grant programs. This represents about \$79 million in community investments that help make Nova Scotia a better place to live. Community libraries, museums, recreation facilities, arts, culture, sport, festivals and events unite us and make communities stronger. We are funding businesses to make their premises more accessible and supporting organizations that are working to reduce poverty and to help make Nova Scotia more inclusive for everyone.

We are looking at new ways to share our culture globally, so Nova Scotian artists and creative industries are in demand around the world. The Creative Industries Fund is continuing to promote growth in cultural businesses that are focused on global exporting. This past year, the \$2 million program awarded grants to more than 74 recipients to support their export efforts.

Our artists, musicians, playwrights, authors and publishers are some of the province's richest resources. In the coming year, we will continue to make strategic investments to strengthen these industries, taking into account the impact COVID-19 has on this sector. As the fiscal year ended, COVID-19 impacted some of our priorities such as postponing the North American Indigenous Games. We are working with our sectors to pivot, adapt and rebuild.

Original Signed by

Honourable Leo Glavine
Minister

Justin Huston
Deputy Minister

3. Financial Results Fiscal Year 2019-2020

Departmental Expenses Summary			
(\$ thousands)			
Programs and Service Area	2019-2020 Estimate	2019-2020 Actual	2019-2020 Variance
Departmental Expenses:			
Office of the Minister and Deputy Minister	805	633	(172)
Culture and Heritage Development	20,682	29,610	8,928
Communities, Sport and Recreation	26,630	27,968	1,338
Archives, Museums and Libraries	32,888	33,025	137
Policy and Corporate Services	3,829	4,047	218
Office of Acadian Affairs and Francophonie	1,991	1,913	(78)
African Nova Scotia Affairs	2,098	2,021	(77)
Gaelic Affairs	423	472	49
Art Gallery of Nova Scotia	2,186	2,256	70
Amortization	2,109	1,848	(261)
Total: Departmental Expenses (Note 1)	93,641	103,793	10,152
Additional Information:			
Ordinary Revenue	565	304	(261)
Fees and Other Charges	1,756	1,907	151
Ordinary Recoveries	6,241	6,132	(109)
Total: Revenue, Fees & Recoveries (Note 2)	8,562	8,343	(219)
TCA Purchase Requirements (Note 3)	0	1,013	1,013
Provincial Funded Staff (FTEs) (Note 4)	249.0	238.5	(10.5)

Significant Variance Explanations: 2019-2020 Estimate to 2019-2020 Actual

Note 1: Total Departmental Expenses

Expenses were \$10.1 million or 10.8% higher than estimate primarily due to investments of \$7.8 million in community infrastructure, and \$1.5 million in CBRM community transportation.

Note 2: Revenue, Fees and Recoveries

Revenue, Fees and Recoveries were \$219 thousand or 2.6% lower than estimate primarily due to (\$261 thousand) in decreased TCA cost shared revenue related to project timing of Highland Village, (\$109 thousand) decrease in miscellaneous recoveries, offset by \$151 thousand increase in Nova Scotia Museum admission and gift shop sales revenue.

Note 3: TCA Purchase Requirements

TCA Purchase Requirements were \$1.013 million, or 100% higher than estimate due to the CSS Acadia Restoration Project.

Note 4: Provincial Funded Staff (FTEs) – Net

Provincially funded staff were 10.5 FTEs lower than estimate due to temporary staff vacancies.

4. Measuring Our Performance

Mandate letter

Diversity is important to our province, and the promotion, development, preservation and celebration of culture, language, heritage and identity contribute to the vibrancy of Nova Scotia communities.

The department's mandate letter includes the following commitments:

COMMITMENTS	ACTIONS TAKEN IN 2019-20
Create a \$1M Small Business ACCESS-Ability Program.	Funded 40 projects in 2019-20.
Increase the Community Access-Ability Program to \$1M.	Invested in 99 facilities across the province in 2019-20.
Remain committed to partnering with our creative industries.	<p>Led a Nova Scotia Culture Trade Mission to the United Kingdom and Germany in April, 2019 including culture representatives who visited art museums, cultural organizations and business leaders to discuss the Europe Engagement Strategy and how Nova Scotia can foster collaboration and cultural exchange between creative industries.</p> <p>Led the second Nova Scotia Culture Trade Mission to China with a delegation that included representatives from the publishing, theatre, crafts and art sector to learn more about the potential creative sector marketing opportunities.</p> <p>Launched the work of six Nova Scotia contemporary artists in China who showcased their works of art, along with renowned folk artist Maud Lewis in the exhibition titled "<i>Terroir, A Nova Scotia Landscape</i>." Featured the exhibit in three Chinese art museums in 2019: the Guangdong Museum of Art in Guangzhou; the Coast Art Museum in Zhuhai; and the Xiamen Museum of Art in Shenzhen.</p>

Nova Scotia's Culture Action Plan: Creativity and Community

The *Culture Action Plan* guides the delivery of the department's mandate. With the support of other departments, Communities, Culture and Heritage (CCH) is working on actions that will promote, develop, preserve, and celebrate the province's culture, heritage, identity, and languages.

Theme 1– Promote Mi’kmaw Culture

PROPOSED STRATEGIC INITIATIVES	ACTIONS TAKEN IN 2019-20
<p>In 2019-20, the Mi’kmaw Cultural Liaison Director will facilitate the connections of Mi’kmaw artists, crafters, creators and organizations with government programs, services and opportunities.</p>	<p>Created a Mi’kmaw Cultural Liaison Officer position in 2019-20 to be staffed in 2020-21. The position will enhance opportunities for Mi’kmaw cultural expression and facilitate the connection of Mi’kmaw artists, crafters, creators, communities and organizations to government programs, services and opportunities.</p>
<p>Enhance opportunities for Mi’kmaw cultural expression through collaboration and support of crafts, powwows and mawiomi’l, arts, feasts, sporting events and other cultural activities.</p>	<p>Supported Mawita’jik 2019 by hosting an Education Day for elementary school children in Halifax Regional Municipality at the Mi’kmaq Native Friendship Centre</p> <p>Supported the Potlotek First Nation’s celebration of the 150th- year- anniversary of the opening of St. Peter’s Canal. The Potlotek First Nation re-enacted Canada’s Centennial Voyageur Canoe Pageant, known as “Expo’67 Canoe Trip”.</p> <p>Invested revenue from sales of the Mi’kmaw license plate launched to recognize the importance of Mi’kmaw heritage into Mi’kmaw youth sport and recreation activities.</p> <p>Acknowledged and supported Mi’kmaw interpretation and ownership of Mi’kmaw culture - enabling Mi’kmaq telling Mi’kmaw stories. Supported Mi’kmaq culture through the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia and the Museum of Natural History exhibits, Mi’kmaq cultural grants, musical showcase, Treaty Education, Mi’kmaq history month, Mi’kmawey Debert, and a Mi’kmaw radio station.</p> <p>Created opportunities for every Nova Scotian to learn about our shared history through enhancement of Treaty Education programs and services for the education system, the provincial civil service and the broader public. Supported the offering of Treaty Education curriculum and resources for Grades K-7 in public and Mi’kmawey Debert schools and in the curriculum for Grades 8-12 are in development.</p>
<p>In 2019-20, CCH will assist the NAIG Host Society on a variety of projects, including volunteer diversity training.</p>	<p>Supported the development of an Anti-Racism Strategy to provide cultural training for all NAIG volunteers and to educate Nova Scotians. CCH worked closely with Treaty Education, the Public Service Commission and the Office of Aboriginal</p>

	<p>Affairs to develop a training program and accompanying material for more than 3,000 volunteers.</p> <p>As a result of COVID-19, the North American Indigenous Games are postponed. CCH continues to work with the Host Society on a rescheduled games event.</p>
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Theme 2 – Promote Creativity and Innovation

PROPOSED STRATEGIC INITIATIVES	ACTIONS TAKEN IN 2019-20
<p>With total investment of \$2 million, the Culture Innovation Fund is helping to foster valuable partnerships and community capacity building. Investment through this fund will continue to leverage growth in 2019-20 for communities and organizations promoting inclusion, creativity, arts and culture.</p>	<p>Revised the Culture Innovation Fund guidelines to include an increased focus on community projects that involve collaboration, innovation and a strong social impact.</p> <p>Allocated \$200,000 of the fund to create the Healthy Communities Stream to help community leaders attract and embrace physicians and their families in the towns and communities of our province.</p> <p>Supported the Shoe Project Antigonish which brought eight immigrant women’s stories to the Bauer Theatre in 2019. Writing sessions and workshops helped the women reflect on their journey to Canada and the effect that experience had on them. The program helped develop creative writing skills and dramatic ability in the women. Local audiences were moved by the resiliency, bravery and humour of the women.</p>
<p>Work within CCH and with culture organizations to evaluate funding programs to ensure they are effective and transparent. The department is committed to evaluating all programs, funds and grants to ensure that they are modernized and meet the needs of the communities we serve.</p>	<p>Launched a Program Improvement Project to help the department ensure that our programs are internally aligned and evaluated for success, ensuring support for our diverse partners is effective, transparent, accessible and flexible.</p>
<p>Recognize the essential role of volunteers in community and culture activities through the creation, launch and implementation of an <i>Integrated Strategy to support Volunteerism and Non-Profit Organizations</i> in Nova Scotia.</p>	<p>Led the development of an <i>Integrated Strategy to support Volunteerism and Non-Profit Organizations in Nova Scotia</i>. The project started in 2019 and is expected to be completed in 2020. It is a collaborative, government wide initiative that includes the engagement of staff, communities and partners.</p>

	<p>Provided operating support to the Community Sector Council of Nova Scotia to support key activities such as a three-year strategic plan (2020-2023) for volunteerism, financial and human resource plans, as well as develop and implement a community sector-wide survey.</p>
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Theme 3 – Strengthen Education, Partnerships and Understanding

PROPOSED STRATEGIC INITIATIVES	ACTIONS TAKEN IN 2019-20
<p>Work with post-secondary institutions to enhance the entrepreneurial and export development skills of creative workers. Example: Provide business education and mentorships for creative entrepreneurs and increase opportunities to access export markets. In 2019-20, initiatives will be undertaken to determine what resources are available for creative entrepreneurs and to focus on the most effective way to access and deliver support to creative workers.</p>	<p>Completed a scan to identify what opportunities are available through post-secondary institutions and help inform development of a plan. Further action will occur in 2020-21.</p>
<p>Improve culturally inclusive practices in early childhood development programs through the teaching framework, pre-service training, and professional development for early childhood educators and development interventionists.</p>	<p>Developed, piloted, and implemented a mandatory comprehensive training and development program with seven partners in sport, recreation, early childhood development and Mi'kmaw cultural education. One of the four training modules is focused on inclusion and safety culture. French and Mi'kmaw facilitators helped shape those modules.</p>
<p><i>Gaelic Nova Scotia: A Resource Guide</i>, developed as a tool for teachers on Gaels' language culture and history, will become part of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development's P-8 resourcing for teachers in 2019-20.</p>	<p>Provided the resource guide to teachers of Grades Primary to 8, via the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development platform. Used social media content from the resource guide to create awareness of the guide and educate the public through the department's social media sites. Provided the resource guide on the Office of Gaelic Affairs website.</p>
<p>CCH will begin implementing <i>Let's Get Moving Nova Scotia: an action plan for increasing physical activity</i>. This plan encourages Nova Scotians to include more movement in their daily lives. It is an all-ages approach which includes emphasis on the less active population and content on reaching diverse communities. One area of focus of <i>Let's</i></p>	<p>Developed the Nova Scotia Before and After Program (NS-BAP) in partnership with Education and Early Child Development (EECD). The program targets children 4-12 years old. Shared program delivery standards and piloted a physical activity framework to support healthy child development, daily movement of young children and provide the skills for children to be active for life.</p>

<p><i>Get Moving</i> is to support healthy childhood development and to provide children with the skills and resources to be active for life. The before-and-after school pre-primary time presents an opportunity to encourage more physical activity. In 2019-20, CCH and the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (EECD) are partnering to pilot on-site before and after school pre-primary programming. Movement and outdoor play will be encouraged at all sites.</p>	<p>Implemented the pilot project delivery standards at nine school sites. From January – June 2019, 119 children participated in the pilot. Evaluated the strength of the shared program delivery model and standards.</p> <p>Implemented Phase I from September 2019-March 2020. Program agreements were established with 24 NS-BAP providers (19 recreation and five licensed childcare operators, 35 programs operating on school sites in all Regional Centers of Education (RCE). Approximately 500 children participated in the program.</p> <p>Provided additional training to 116 program leaders as part of the NS-BAP program; in addition, trained 14 new facilitators including topics such as outdoor play, physical activity/literacy, inclusion and Mi'kmaq cultural safety.</p>
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Theme 4 – Advance Cultural Diversity

PROPOSED STRATEGIC INITIATIVES	ACTIONS TAKEN IN 2019-20
<p>Working to address systemic racism across government and organizations in partnership with our diverse communities.</p> <p>This work will involve community engagement led by a new Director of Community Outreach and Inclusion</p> <p>Two new community navigators will provide a vital link connecting government and the African Nova Scotian community, focused on the Land Titles Clarification project. Share diverse beliefs, cultures and experiences that strengthen a modern society and build understanding, empathy and creativity through our facilities.</p>	<p>Committed provincial and federal funding for a new Art Gallery of Nova Scotia on the waterfront that will be more welcoming, diverse, inclusive and a place for all Nova Scotians.</p> <p>Hired a Director of Community Outreach and Inclusion in summer 2019.</p> <p>Offered Cultural Competency for Leaders training to the CCH leadership team and program managers. The training covered unconscious bias, privilege, and tips to ensure that equity, diversity, and inclusion are considered as part of CCH's work. The focus was on organizational leaders to support their accountability and ensure they place a culturally responsive lens onto their own teams and the community programs CCH delivers.</p> <p>Delivered a blanket exercise that teaches the history of Indigenous peoples in Canada and provided cultural competency training sessions for government employees. The training has been developed to support Treaty Education.</p>

	<p>Continued to provide support to the Land Titles Clarification project via community navigators. They serve as a vital link between government and the African Nova Scotian community regarding the process of gaining clear title to their land.</p> <p>Launched the exhibit <i>A Walk Through Africville</i> at the Museum of Industry, in collaboration with the Africville Museum.</p> <p>Supported the Building Boats, Changing Lives program, which works with youth in mostly diverse, marginalized communities to build a boat in three days. The program teaches youth how to try new things, take risks, respect and embrace differences, solve problems and set goals, all while appreciating our culture and heritage.</p>
<p>Nova Scotia was the first province to proclaim the International Decade for People of African Decent (2015-2024). The <i>Nova Scotia Decade for People of African Descent Action Plan</i> will be launched in 2019. The plan will be implemented by developing partnerships, leading and collaborating with government departments and the African Nova Scotian community on the various deliverables of the action plan.</p>	<p>Launched <i>Count Us In - Nova Scotia's Action Plan in Response to the International Decade for People of African Descent (2015 – 2024)</i> in September 2019. Premier McNeil and Minister Ince hosted the launch with the Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights for the United Nations, a Human Rights Officer with the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, and a member of the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent.</p> <p>Provided leadership for government's commitment to African Nova Scotian communities via the Committee of Deputy Ministers for African Nova Scotian Issues. The committee is chaired by the Deputy Minister of Communities, Culture and Heritage, who reports to the Minister of African Nova Scotian Affairs. Membership includes the Deputy Ministers responsible for Health and Wellness, Education and Early Childhood Development, Community Services, Justice, Seniors, and Labour and Advanced Education.</p>
<p>Government continues its active participation and collaboration with the <i>Nova Scotia Home for Colored Children Restorative Inquiry</i> to build shared understanding of the central issues as we prepare for collective action in the final phase of the mandate.</p>	<p>Released the final report of the Nova Scotia Home for Colored Children Restorative Inquiry: <i>A Different Way Forward</i>.</p> <p>Provided the Nova Scotia Archives with historical materials on the Nova Scotia Home for Colored Children (e.g. board minutes, print materials and various documents).</p>

<p>Support the capacity of organizations to mentor communities and leverage strengths across the province.</p>	<p>Supported diverse communities by funding organizations such as Youth Art Connection, Pay It Forward, and the MacPhee Centre for Creative Learning.</p> <p>Invested in The Remix Project (in partnership with Youth Art Connection) through the Creative Industries Fund. The Remix project brought together youth participants to celebrate creativity, build community, and inspire each other.</p>
<p>The Office of African Nova Scotian Affairs (ANSA) has worked closely with the Departments of Lands and Forestry, Justice, Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Affairs regarding the Land Titles initiative. The community navigators are working directly with the residents to help them through the claims process, while Lands and Forestry has hired a new survey team to provide land survey support to residents at no cost.</p> <p>Work is anticipated to continue in each of the five African Nova Scotian communities. The Community Navigators have established a positive rapport with residents who qualify for the program. A Community Liaison Committee will be created in 2019-20.</p>	<p>Engaged with the five communities involved in the Land Titles Initiative project: North Preston, East Preston, Cherry Brook/Lake Loon, Lincolnville and Sunnyville.</p> <p>Worked in collaboration with Nova Scotia Legal Aid (NSLA) and the Department of Lands and Forestry to provide support for African Nova Scotian residents who have been impacted by historical disparities and systemic discrimination to help them get clear legal title to their land.</p> <p>Received more than 300 applications as of January 31, 2020 and helped residents gain title to more than 90 land parcels.</p> <p>Created a community liaison in January 2020 to support the Land Titles Initiative. The committee monitors progress, voices community perspectives, raises potential issues and makes recommendations.</p>
<p>Continue to strengthen the province's Gaelic Affairs, African Nova Scotian Affairs and Acadian Affairs and Francophonie offices.</p>	<p>Partnered with Université Sainte Anne and the Public Service Commission to offer over 550 French language course spaces to government employees and MLAs in Halifax, Sydney, Truro and Tusket. Courses ranged from beginner to advanced levels, in addition to specialized conversational courses. Courses are also available online.</p> <p>Supported a gathering by Mi'kmaq, Acadians and Gaels in Inverness County (MAGIC) in We'koqma'k where information was shared on Gaelic language, storytelling, lifestyle, history and beliefs. More than 30 community members attended. As part of the gathering, shared food, music and dance.</p> <p>Strengthened ANSA's resources by hiring two new regional program officers to support ANSA's regional service delivery. ANSA now has satellite</p>

	<p>offices in the Southwest region in Yarmouth, and the Northern region in Truro. This is in addition to the Cape Breton office in Sydney, and the Central region in Halifax.</p> <p>Supported the development of <i>Count Us In - Nova Scotia's Action Plan in Response to the International Decade for People of African Descent</i>.</p>
<p>Administer the Business ACCESS-Ability and Community ACCESS-Ability programs to make businesses, workplaces and community facilities more accessible for all. In 2019-20, promotion of the grant program will be focused on restaurants and 30% of the budget will be dedicated to restaurant bathroom accessibility.</p>	<p>Provided \$153,000 in grants to restaurant groups for accessibility upgrades including Highland Sub Shop, Island Folk Cider House, Stewiacke Subway Ltd, Steele City Sports Bar, and the Restaurant Association of NS.</p>

Theme 5 – Excellence in Cultural Stewardship

PROPOSED STRATEGIC INITIATIVES	ACTIONS TAKEN IN 2019-20
<p>Continue positioning the Nova Scotia Museum system to tell the province's story while increasing relevance and attractiveness for visitors through strategic, targeted investments.</p>	<p>Delivered exhibits and experiences telling Nova Scotia's story and enhancing relevance for visitors such as the exhibit <i>Dinosaurs Unearthed</i>, which attracted 90,891 visitors.</p> <p>Launched the <i>Sea in Her Blood</i> exhibit at the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic. This exhibit featured Nova Scotia career women and highlighted women working in the Royal Canadian Navy, the fishing industry, boatbuilding, and environmental conservation and attracted 142,513 visitors.</p> <p>Hosted the <i>Return to Africville</i> exhibit at the Museum of Industry, which was developed in partnership with the Africville Museum.</p> <p>Invested more than \$722,000 in the Highland Village renewal project and the Perkins House restoration project (both are ongoing).</p> <p>Invested in the refurbishment of the <i>CSS Acadia</i>. Significant restoration work took place in 2019-20 to stabilize the hull and enhance the ship's interior. This work will enhance public access and enable the development of onboard programs.</p>

<p>Public library leaders and the department are currently working together to develop a feasible, long-term plan that will best meet the needs of citizens while ensuring the sustainability and continued relevance of Nova Scotia's public libraries.</p>	<p>Worked with libraries across the province to develop a new library funding formula that resulted in an increase of \$2M to our nine regional boards and which shifts from a per-capita approach to focus on a blended formula that supports the core services of the nine regional library boards.</p>
<p>Work with community partners to implement the <i>Shared Recreation Strategy</i> to foster active healthy living and increase inclusion and access to recreation for all Nova Scotians.</p>	<p>Worked with Recreation Nova Scotia to host a "Sharing Tour" in 2019. Visited nine communities, including three Mi'kmaw communities, to share key information gained from significant sector initiatives highlighting the importance of, and need for, access and inclusion within the recreation sector.</p> <p>Supported the Nova Scotia Outdoor Network's two-day Outdoor Summit in April 2019. The Outdoor Network supports the actions of Goal 3 of the <i>Shared Strategy for Advancing Recreation in NS: Connecting People to Nature</i>.</p>
<p>The <i>Trails Strategy</i> will be released in 2019-20. One of the first priorities will be the establishment of a Trails Strategy Coordinating Committee to oversee the implementation of the strategy.</p>	<p>Launched the <i>Trails Strategy</i> in August 2019. CCH supported a Project Manager position with NS Trails to support and guide the work of a Trails Strategy Coordinating Group.</p> <p>Initiated an update to the "Provincial Trails Manual" beginning with signage guidelines.</p> <p>Launched a two-year operational funding demonstration project to support community trail organization's maintenance work on Nova Scotia's Acquired Rail Corridor.</p>
<p>Seek community partnerships that help the Nova Scotia Archives share Nova Scotia's diverse documentary heritage. Example: Work continues in 2019-20, with African Nova Scotia Affairs (ANSA) to assist in building an online resource guide for the public, related to the land title clarification work.</p>	<p>Launched online access to the Royal Commission on the Donald Marshall Jr. Prosecution in October 2019, in partnership with the Department of Justice, Treaty Education NS, the Office of the Lieutenant Governor and NS Archives. The archives contain the entire record of the Royal Commission.</p> <p>Launched <i>Looking Back, Moving Forward - Documenting the Heritage of African Nova Scotians</i>, in February 2020. The project is a result of NS Archives' work with the Office of African Nova Scotia Affairs (ANSA) on the Land Titles Initiative and is a resource that will be added to over time as a contribution toward the work of <i>Count Us In: Nova Scotia's Action Plan in Response to the International Decade for People of African Descent, 2015-2024</i>.</p>

<p>Continue to work with stakeholders to promote and increase awareness of Nova Scotia's rich built heritage and its value to our province and identity.</p>	<p>Worked with 33 registered heritage property owners across Nova Scotia on conservation projects to better promote and protect Nova Scotia's built heritage.</p> <p>Funded 30 conservation work projects to support the use of traditional materials. Prepared three Conservation Advice Reports to better advise property owners on necessary structural and conservation measures.</p>
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Theme 6 – Drive Awareness and Economic Growth of the Culture sector

PROPOSED STRATEGIC INITIATIVES	ACTIONS TAKEN IN 2019-20
<p>In 2019, CCH will build on the success of the Creative Industries Fund which invests \$2 million per year.</p> <p>The Creative Industries Fund invests in Nova Scotia registered cultural businesses that are focused on global exporting; and supports not-for-profits and social enterprises focused on the development of the culture sector outside of Nova Scotia. The fund supports projects and proposals by cultural businesses who seek further commercialization and export growth. Nova Scotia based businesses, not-for-profit organizations and social enterprises operating in the creative industries hold great potential toward growing exports.</p>	<p>Continued to promote growth for cultural businesses that are focused on global exporting including publishing, craft and theatre sectors who travelled to China in 2019. This past year the \$2 million program awarded grants to more than 74 recipients to support their export efforts. The fund has helped to strengthen global exporting, workplace innovation, productivity, skills and small business development.</p> <p>Supported 2b Theatre Creative Industries Fund in 2019. Founded in 1999, the company produces and presents new theatrical works with a contemporary aesthetic and tours nationally and internationally. 2b Theatre's earned revenues have increased by 10 times what they were in 2015 as a result of Creative Industries Fund investments over the past three years.</p>
<p>Support government's Nova Scotia-China Engagement Strategy by strengthening our culture trade relations with China as we plan our second culture mission to China in 2019 together with the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia to Guangdong Province.</p>	<p>Organized the second culture mission to Asia (Japan and China) in 2019 to launch of the <i>Maud Lewis/Terroir Travelling Exhibit</i> and connected five culture sector representatives with potential marketing opportunities.</p> <p>Hosted the exhibit at the Guangdong Museum of Art, the Coast Art Museum in Zhuhai and Hexiangning Art Museum, Shenzhen in December 2019.</p> <p>Signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Guangdong Province to help create opportunities for Nova Scotia's vibrant and unique cultural products.</p>

<p>Support government's plans to develop a Nova Scotia-Europe Engagement Strategy which focuses on enhancing our longstanding linkages with European nations and building stronger relationships for generations to come. The strategy will offer opportunities for CCH to explore Nova Scotia's connections with Europe by strengthening our culture exports.</p>	<p>Government launched a Nova Scotia-Europe Engagement Strategy in April 2019</p> <p>Promoted the Nova Scotia-Europe Engagement Strategy during missions to Europe (Germany and England). Supported, through cultural exchanges, the efforts of the Nova Scotia culture sector in their pursuit of international markets.</p> <p>Invited 11 German publishers to Nova Scotia in fall 2019 to meet with publishers and authors to collaborate on export opportunities in preparation of the Frankfurt Book Fair.</p>
<p>A new <i>Nova Scotia Event Strategy</i> outlines a comprehensive approach to event attraction and development that will position Nova Scotia as a leader in event hosting.</p> <p>CCH has collaborated with communities to successfully secure a number of major events, utilizing the <i>Nova Scotia Event Strategy</i> as a guide. Upcoming events include the 2019 MasterCard Memorial Cup, the 2020 IIHF Women's World Hockey Championship, and the 2022 ICF Canoe Sprint World Championship.</p> <p>In 2019-20, CCH will begin a multi-year phased in approach to implementation of the <i>Nova Scotia Event Strategy</i>. Key activities include working with communities and key stakeholders, developing key stakeholder groups to encourage co-ordination, and continuing to secure a diverse long-term calendar of major events for Nova Scotia, while leveraging current investments.</p>	<p>Worked with events organizers and rights holders to successfully deliver several major events, including the 2019 Memorial Cup, the 2019 Scotties Tournament of Hearts and the 2019 World Junior Curling Championship. Together they delivered an economic impact for Nova Scotia, generating \$13.7 million.</p> <p>Held seven consultations with stakeholders across the province, including organizations involved in the hosting of events in communities such as municipalities, facilities, sport and culture organizations, tourism industry, event organizers and universities.</p>

5. SHIFT: Nova Scotia's Action Plan for an Aging Population Shift

This is a government-wide initiative led by the Department of Seniors. In collaboration with other government departments the Department of Communities, Culture and Heritage delivers on initiatives that support Nova Scotia's aging population. In 2019-20, the Community Transportation Assistance Program provided \$1.8 million in funding to community organizations to help offset the costs of running community transportation services that help seniors, youth and mobility challenged. An additional \$607,600 was provided to community organizations through the Accessible Transportation Assistance Program to purchase 13 wheelchair accessible vehicles. CCH invested in two counties that previously did not have community

transportation (Victoria County and Guysborough County) along with the development of a fixed route service between the towns of New Glasgow and Stellarton.

6. Nova Scotia's Poverty Reduction Blueprint

The Government of Nova Scotia has made a \$20M multi-year investment in Poverty Reduction. Fiscal year 2019/20 saw the conclusion of the third year of this provincial commitment to address poverty. Co-Leads, Department of Community Services and Office of Strategy Management, are working alongside all government departments to fund, evaluate and support diverse projects across the province.

In 2019-2020, the Department of Communities, Culture and Heritage and the Department of Community Services, launched year three of the Building Vibrant Communities Grant. Increased emphasis was placed on supporting projects that promoted social well-being and inclusive economic growth for families with children who live with lower employment incomes. Twenty-nine projects were funded (an investment of \$1.4 million).

Invested \$45,000 in the Eskasoni Sustainable Food Network which focused on increasing food security by building a sustainable food network within the community of Eskasoni First Nation.

Invested \$40,000 in the Youth Employment & Leadership Program (YELP), One North End Community Economic Development Society (Halifax). This project provides programming to help African Nova Scotian youth gain the knowledge and skills required to launch a small summer business, access a small repayable loan, and engage in mentorship/coaching.

Invested \$5,000 in Pictou County Roots for Youth to support operation of a Transition House for young women who have experienced homelessness; and the Preston Area Housing Fund project to enhance the knowledge and understanding surrounding food security and safe housing within the Preston Township. Invested \$4,450 in the Valley Chapter of Autism NS to support the development and operation of a bi-monthly weekend respite program that will offer children and teens with autism the opportunity to engage socially with peers while also providing parents with much needed and affordable respite.

7. Acadian Affairs and Francophonie

Overview and Mandate

The Office of Acadian Affairs and Francophonie works with government departments, agencies, offices and Crown Corporations, to assist in the delivery of services in French. In addition to enabling the delivery of French-language services, the Office of Acadian Affairs and Francophonie promotes Acadian and francophone culture and heritage, celebrates accomplishments and supports community initiatives and projects, as well as maintains ongoing dialogue with the Acadian and francophone community, other provincial and territorial governments and the Government of Canada.

PROPOSED STRATEGIC INITIATIVES	ACTIONS TAKEN IN 2019-20
<p>Support the development, planning, and delivery of French-language services to the public. Provide funding and advice to help increase the prevalence and awareness of French-language services through active offer, communications, printed and electronic materials, and by increasing the capacity of the public service to offer services in French.</p>	<p>Provided an environment for exchanging best practices, building awareness of the Acadian and francophone community's needs, and developing standards and policies for the delivery of French-language services.</p> <p>Invited members of the community to share and discuss a variety of significant themes such as the French minority language education system in Nova Scotia, Coup d'oeil sur l'Acadie presented by the Acadian Federation on Acadian History, Language and Culture, as well as archeological digs in Grand Pré.</p> <p>Partnered with Université Sainte Anne and the Public Service Commission to offer over 550 French language course spaces to government employees and MLAs in Halifax, Sydney, Truro and Tusket. Courses ranged from beginner to advanced levels, in addition to specialized conversational courses. Courses are also available online.</p> <p>Finalized revisions to the Acadie at a Glance course following its redevelopment by the Acadian and francophone community. Tested the new course in a trial format on four occasions in anticipation of a formal launch in 2020–21.</p> <p>Maintained a bilingual web presence online through the website (acadien.novascotia.ca) for over 1,000 followers on social-media platforms including Facebook and Twitter.</p>
<p>Community consultation, engagement and outreach. Encourage the participation of the Acadian and</p>	<p>Worked with the Fédération acadienne de la Nouvelle-Écosse to develop a parallel approach to the organisation's two-year initiative to raise</p>

<p>Francophone community in the development of government policies with a view to improving the delivery of services in French.</p>	<p>awareness of government services available in French.</p> <p>Continued to build and nurture ongoing relationships with the Acadian and francophone community by meeting with the Fédération acadienne de la Nouvelle-Écosse and each of its 27 constituent organizations.</p> <p>Conducted in-person consultations with Acadian and francophone community organizations to discuss issues, challenges and opportunities and collaborate on identifying solutions. Consulted with more than 40 different organizations (e.g. Acadian seniors, justice, youth, culture, health and education).</p>
<p>Support cultural projects in the Acadian and francophone community.</p>	<p>Collected \$40,100 from the purchase and renewal of Acadian flag licence plates as part of the Vive l'Acadie Community Fund. This Fund directly supported cultural projects in 11 Acadian and francophone communities across the province.</p> <p>Provided \$150,000 in funding to assist the Conseil de développement économique de la Nouvelle-Écosse's development of business and marketing plans for Acadian and francophone entrepreneurs.</p> <p>Provided \$204,000 in funding to assist 21 Acadian community group organizations develop business and marketing plans for cultural events. These included sector groups for seniors, artists, youth, Acadian women, the Francophone Health Network, cultural associations and municipalities.</p>
<p>Partner with Nova Scotia Office of Immigration (NSOI) as the <i>Francophone Immigration Action Plan</i> is launched in 2019. The Action Plan focuses on stakeholder engagement, marketing, attraction, retention and integration, research and measuring progress to encourage and support francophone immigration to the province, as well as retaining francophone immigrants.</p>	<p>Collaborated with Nova Scotia Office of Immigration to launch and implement the <i>Nova Scotia Francophone Immigration Action Plan</i>, which aims to increase the number of French-speaking immigrants choosing to settle in Nova Scotia.</p> <p>Participated in promoting immigration at francophone international events with NSOI and Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada.</p> <p>Assisted in developing marketing collateral and program information as part of the digital campaign with L'Express de France.</p>

<p>Québec–Nova Scotia Agreement for Cooperation and Exchange. Promote and support French-language exchanges and cooperative activities between community organizations in Nova Scotia and Québec.</p>	<p>Administered the Agreement for Cooperation and Exchange between the governments of Québec and Nova Scotia, which jointly provided \$122,200 in support for 12 community development activities undertaken by Acadian and francophone community organizations, particularly those focusing on education and youth.</p>
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8. African Nova Scotian Affairs

Overview and Mandate

African Nova Scotian Affairs (ANSA) works with government departments and the African Nova Scotian community to enhance understanding and assist in the delivery of services that meet the unique needs of African Nova Scotians. It is the connecting point to the community, promoting African Nova Scotian priorities while contributing to government decision-making. ANSA facilitates positive change on behalf of African Nova Scotians. It also works in partnership with departments, agencies and other organizations to develop solutions that support the ongoing well-being of African Nova Scotians.

PROPOSED STRATEGIC INITIATIVES	ACTIONS TAKEN IN 2019-20
<p>Launch and implement the <i>Nova Scotia Decade for People of African Descent Action Plan</i>. Develop partnerships, lead and collaborate with government departments and the African Nova Scotian community on the various deliverables of the action plan.</p>	<p>Launched <i>Count Us In - Nova Scotia's Action Plan in Response to the International Decade for People of African Descent (2015 – 2024)</i> in September 2019. Premier McNeil and Minister Ince hosted the launch with the Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights for the United Nations, a Human Rights Officer with the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, and a member of the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent. The Committee of Deputy Ministers for African Nova Scotian Issues will regularly monitor the progress of the plan. Coordinated community involvement is vital to the success of this action plan.</p> <p>Provided leadership for government's commitment to African Nova Scotian communities via the Committee of Deputy Ministers for African Nova Scotian Issues. The committee is chaired by the Deputy Minister of Communities, Culture and Heritage, who reports to the Minister of African Nova Scotian Affairs. Membership includes the Deputy Ministers responsible for Health and Wellness, Education and Early Childhood Development, Community Services, Justice, Seniors, and Labour and Advanced Education.</p>
<p>Advance work of the Land Titles Initiative for African Nova Scotians. ANSA continues to work with the five designated communities: North Preston, East Preston, Lake Loon/Cherry Brook, Lincolville and Sunnyville to address the land clarification issues affecting African Nova Scotian residents. ANSA is working in partnership with Lands and Forestry, Justice, Service</p>	<p>Engaged with the five communities involved in the Land Titles Initiative project: North Preston, East Preston, Cherry Brook/Lake Loon, Lincolville and Sunnyville.</p> <p>The Land Titles team received more than 300 applications as of January 31, 2020 and helped residents gain title to more than 90 land parcels.</p>

<p>Nova Scotia and Municipal Affairs and Nova Scotia Legal Aid to address the land clarification issues that affect African Nova Scotian residents.</p>	<p>Created a Community Liaison Committee in January 2020 to support the program. The committee monitors progress, voices community perspectives, raises potential issues and makes recommendations.</p>
<p>Enhance access to training and development opportunities. Continue to work with government and community partners to advance various initiatives such as Pathways to Shipbuilding with Irving Shipyard, Early Childhood Education as a career option, and Nova Scotia Apprenticeship Agency for trades and apprenticeships.</p>	<p>In May 2020, 19 participants graduated from the Pathways' to Shipbuilding Program at NSCC.</p> <p>Co-hosted two information sessions with the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (EECD) to encourage enrollment in ECE courses and share information about the tuition bursary available to ECE students.</p> <p>Co-hosted two sessions with the Nova Scotia Apprenticeship Agency (NSAA). The first session provided an opportunity for members of the African Nova Scotian community to visit the Nova Scotia Construction Sector Council Trades Exhibition Hall to learn about the various trade activities offered. The second session included an African Nova Scotian Apprenticeship Kick-off event in Truro attended by industry, school and community partners to promote, educate and highlight the skilled trades and the apprenticeship system.</p>
<p>Assist community groups and organizations in developing and sustaining capacity, as well as re-engage the African Nova Scotian community action partnerships and community engagement programs.</p>	<p>Updated and revised ANSA's grant programs to assist community groups and organizations to build and sustain capacity.</p> <p>Collaborated with the African Nova Scotian Service Providers Network in Cape Breton. Held discussions in the Northern and Southern regions on the creation of African Nova Scotian Service Provider Networks.</p>
<p>Establish satellite offices in the Southwest and Northeast regions of Nova Scotia.</p>	<p>Hired two new regional program officers to support ANSA's regional service delivery. ANSA now has satellite offices in the Southwest region in Yarmouth, and the Northern region in Truro. This is in addition to the Cape Breton office in Sydney, and the Central region in Halifax.</p>

9. Gaelic Affairs

Overview and Mandate

Gaelic Affairs works with government departments and communities to support reclamation of Gaelic language, culture and identity and to build positive social and economic outcomes. This work contributes to individual and collective self-confidence, fosters innovation and creativity and keeps individuals engaged, connected and working in our communities.

PROPOSED STRATEGIC INITIATIVES	ACTIONS TAKEN IN 2019-20
<p>Work with government and other partners to build on the following initiatives: Gaelic Nova Scotia Month (May), Intro Gaels in Nova Scotia sessions for Public Service employees, Gaels in Government (GIG) network development, mini-documentaries such as Bun is Bàrr: Intergenerational Learning in Gaelic Nova Scotia and Dòchas (Hope).</p>	<p>Held Gaelic Nova Scotia Month in May 2019. The theme was The Power of Our Songs. Events included proclamations at both provincial and municipal levels, community gatherings and development of Gaelic language and cultural resource materials for public school programs.</p> <p>Delivered the Intro to Gaels in Nova Scotia course to Public Service Commission (PSC) employees to promote greater awareness of Gaelic language, culture and identity. There were three sessions held in Halifax, two sessions held in Port Hawkesbury, and one session held in Sydney. Participant surveys provided positive feedback on the course presentations, materials and discussions. 500 employees responded to a government survey on language and culture in June 2019.</p> <p>Promoted Bun is Bàrr: Intergenerational Learning in Gaelic Nova Scotia and Dòchas (Hope) via social media. Dòchas is a mini documentary which focuses on young Nova Scotia Gaels. It was launched in May 2019 and has more than 20,000 views.</p> <p>Shared Bun is Bàrr program content as part of an intergenerational Gaelic language and cultural learning approach in the Island of South Uist, Scotland.</p>
<p>Enhance cross-cultural awareness to identify common language, culture, identity and historical narratives among Mi'kmaq, Acadians and Gaels and other Nova Scotia identity communities through the MAGIC (Mi'kmaq, Gaels and Acadians in Inverness County) initiative.</p>	<p>Supported a gathering by Mi'kmaq, Acadians and Gaels in Inverness County (MAGIC) in We'koqma'k where information was shared on Gaelic language, storytelling, lifestyle, history and beliefs. More than 30 community members attended and shared food, music and dance.</p>
<p>Coordinate and deliver community-focused programs: Bun is Bàrr (Root and Branch), Daltachas (Fosterage), Na Gaisgich Òga (The Young Heroes) and</p>	<p>Coordinated and delivered Bun is Bàrr (Root and Branch), Daltachas (Fosterage), Na Gaisgich Òga (The Young Heroes) and Gàidhlig aig Baile (Gaelic in the Community) programming.</p>

<p>Gàidhlig aig Baile (Gaelic in the Community) Tutor training.</p>	<p>Engaged six teams of Gaelic community mentors and support persons in Bun is Bàrr: Cum Sios (Keep Down). Twenty-one people participated in Daltachas (Fosterage) in three communities (Mabou, Antigonish, HRM). Twenty youth participated in Na Gaisgich Òga (The Young Heroes) for 10 months and graduated in March 2020.</p> <p>Held Gàidhlig aig Baile (Gaelic in the Community) sessions throughout the year. In April 2019, training sessions were held for Gàidhlig aig Baile tutors.</p>
<p>Support the inclusion of Gaelic language, history and culture in teaching grades primary to 12 in the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, through the document <i>Gaelic Nova Scotia: A Resource Guide</i>.</p>	<p>Provided the resource guide to teachers of grades primary to eight, via the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development platform. Used social media content from the resource guide to create awareness of the guide and educate the public through the department's social media sites. Provided the resource guide on the Office of Gaelic Affairs website.</p>
<p>Strengthen partnerships by working collaboratively with community groups, cross cultural communities, international partners and government departments to foster awareness of programs and initiatives.</p>	<p>Held two community meetings in Port Hawkesbury for expanded Gaelic language development.</p> <p>Shared Bun is Bàrr program content as part of an intergenerational Gaelic language and cultural learning approach in the Island of South Uist, Scotland.</p>

10. Changes in Measures

Research by the department indicates that culture continues to contribute significantly to Nova Scotian society and our economy. The department has two significant tools which provide information on the importance of culture to Nova Scotians and their communities, from an economic and social perspective, and allow us to track its impact. These tools help to benchmark and monitor progress of the Culture Action Plan.

1) Culture Satellite Account (CSA)¹

The CSA is an accounting framework and statistical tool that provides up to date data on the economic contribution of culture and sport to the economy of each province and territory in Canada, through estimates of GDP (Gross Domestic Product), output and jobs. It also reveals trends in arts, cultural industries, heritage and sport, and provides further economic information about trade and tourism.

Provincial/Territorial Culture Indicators (PTCI) from the CSA, released April 2019, show that in 2017, Culture contributed \$929 million to our provincial GDP and 13,101 Nova Scotians worked in the culture sector, while sport contributed \$154 million and provided 2,781 jobs. We will continue to use the PTCI data from the CSA to measure the economic importance of the culture and sport sectors.

The second release of the trade expansion (June 2019) demonstrated that the export of culture products grew 38.5% from 2010 to 2017². Exports of sport products grew 38% over the same period. In 2017, Nova Scotia exported \$122 million in culture products and \$28 million in sport products. Statistics Canada data from the Trade of Culture and Sport Products (TCSP) shows that Nova Scotia based businesses, not-for-profit organizations and social enterprises operating in the creative industries have great potential for export growth.

2) The Nova Scotia Culture Index Study

The Nova Scotia Culture Index Study provides data on how Nova Scotians participate in, are aware of, and value major aspects of culture in the province. It is a research tool created to gauge the social importance of culture in the province and to demonstrate how Nova Scotians interact with culture. The Nova Scotia Culture Index Study measures, tracks, compares and analyzes residents' responses to culture over time. This year, new questions were added regarding seniors, children, diversity and physical movement. The most recent survey was administered in February 2020. Data was collected based on randomized telephone interviews conducted with 1,000 residents of Nova Scotia³.

¹ Statistics such as these are subject to revision each year as more complete economic information becomes available to Statistics Canada. 2015 to 2017 Culture indicators presented here represent a new methodology that has undergone significant changes and revisions. These statistics are not comparable to previously released statistics.

² Statistics Canada has advised that new iterations of the TCSP represent a new methodology that has undergone significant changes and revisions. As a result, these statistics are not comparable to previously released versions.

³ A sample of 1,000 drawn from the general population of Nova Scotia provides overall results that can be extrapolated to the overall population of Nova Scotia with a 95 percent confidence level.

The 2020 survey highlights include:

- 83 per cent of respondents agree that, “engaging with other cultures reduces racism and discrimination”.
- 74 per cent of Nova Scotians believe that, “culture helps connect people from different communities and backgrounds.”
- 72 per cent of respondents agree that, “there should be more learning opportunities regarding Mi’kmaq and African Nova Scotian culture and history”.
- When asked if, “culture helps create community identity,” 79 per cent of respondents agreed that it does.
- 79 per cent of respondents agree that, “engaging seniors in culture is an important part of a healthy lifestyle”.

11. Public Interest Disclosure of Wrongdoing Act (2019-20)

Information Required under Section 18 of the Act	Fiscal Year 2019-20
The number of disclosures received	0
The number of findings of wrongdoing	0
Details of each wrongdoing	N/A
Recommendations and actions taken from each wrongdoing	N/A