



Business Plan

2023-24

Intergovernmental Affairs

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Budget 2023-24: Business Plan
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Intergovernmental Affairs

2023-24 Priority Actions in Support of Government's Business Plan

Bulletin

In 2023-24, IGA will focus on advancing Nova Scotia's priorities for health care, the economy, and future growth and sustainability, through work with the Council of the Federation, the federal government, the Council of Atlantic Premiers, the Committee on Internal Trade, and foreign governments including international missions. The Department will also work to deliver on IGA's ministerial and legislated mandates. Priority actions are outlined below.

1. Premier Chairs the Council of the Federation

- Continue dialogue through COF with respect to predictable, sustainable health care funding over the long term, and expedited federal immigration pathways for health care professionals
- Advance Nova Scotia's positions and funding priorities through COF, including initiatives to support the Province's renewable and clean energy targets
- Lead co-ordination and alignment among provincial departments in preparation for national forums, including First Ministers' Meetings, COF, and ministerial meetings
- Pursue federal funding programs to enhance environmental and economic sustainability and infrastructure, including programs that expand access to affordable housing

2. Atlantic Regional Collaboration

- Leverage the Council of Atlantic Premiers to advance Nova Scotia priorities, regional co-operation, and alignment, particularly on health care solutions
- Pursue regional mobility agreements for physicians and other health workers
- Seek federal commitments on immigration programs that support Nova Scotia's objectives for population growth, and labour market needs
- Through the Atlantic Growth Strategy Leadership Committee, pursue economic and regional objectives, particularly for clean energy funding and development

3. Strategic Trade Objectives

- Support the Premier, as Minister of Trade, in advancing the Province's objectives for global and interprovincial trade and export growth
- Further the Province's interests in Canada's trade negotiations, particularly in the United Kingdom, India, and in South-East Asia, with a focus on adding pathways for recruitment of health professionals and reducing trade barriers that impact supply chains
- Advance Nova Scotia's positions and priorities to reduce interprovincial barriers to trade through the Committee on Internal Trade (CIT) and the Atlantic Trade and Procurement Partnership
- Through the CIT, lead national work to open sales channels for alcoholic beverages, and advance key initiatives under the Canadian Free Trade Agreement, including improving labour mobility for health professionals, and negotiations on financial services
- Engage with federal and provincial partners to resolve issues impacting market access

- Work with partners to help Nova Scotia companies understand opportunities created by free trade agreements, and to better understand industry barriers in international markets

4. Developing and Leveraging Global Relationships

- Support the Premier in leading international engagement to advance the Province's objectives for trade and export growth, market development and diversification, and key sector opportunities
- Support the Premier's participation in sub-national platforms (e.g. New England Governors-Eastern Canadian Premiers; Southeastern United States-Canadian Provinces Alliance; National Governors Association) to strategically advance and advocate the Province's interests in the United States, Nova Scotia's largest international export market
- During international engagement and trade missions, promote Nova Scotia as an attractive destination for skilled workers, international students, and tourists
- Support the development and implementation of structures (including MOUs and agreements) to increase engagement between Nova Scotia and foreign jurisdictions, including agreements that enhance Nova Scotia's ability to recruit internationally trained health care workers
- Work with the Department of Public Works, the Department of Economic Development, airlines and Nova Scotia airports to maintain and enhance air access in the province

5. The Military and Defence Sector in Nova Scotia

- Work with the federal government and other provincial departments to ensure that Nova Scotia's defence sector continues to be a driving force of innovation and economic growth
- Work with the federal government and provincial departments to assist veterans and military families posted to Nova Scotia

Accessibility Initiative: In support of work being advanced by the Province's Interdepartmental Committee on Accessibility, IGA will be conducting a cross-jurisdictional comparative review of accessibility legislation at the federal and provincial-territorial levels.

Financial Summary

Departmental Expenses Summary (\$ thousands)			
<u>Programs and Services</u>	<u>2022 -2023</u> <u>Estimate</u>	<u>2022-2023</u> <u>Forecast</u>	<u>2023-2024</u> <u>Estimate</u>
Administration	3,371	3,276	3,725
Government House	1,189	1,021	1,017
Protocol and Honours Secretariat	54	274	277
Total - Departmental Expenses	4,614	4,571	5,019
Ordinary Recoveries	--	--	--
<u>Funded Staff (# of FTEs)</u>			
Department Funded Staff	33.5	29.7	34.0

