



# Budget

2019–20

*Building on a Strong Foundation*

*Highlights*

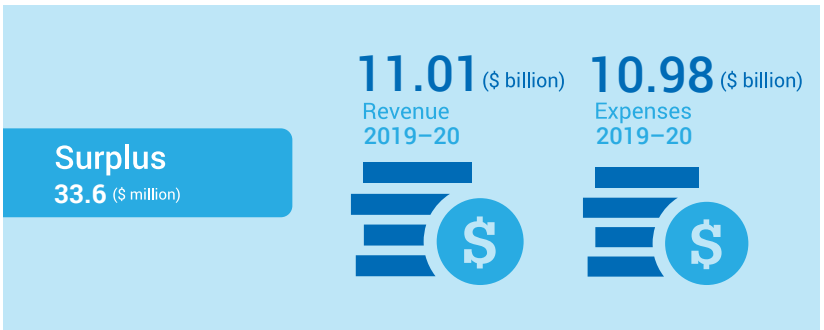


# Budget 2019–20

A strong financial foundation allows government, in Budget 2019–20, to invest in important priorities, programs, and services to benefit all Nova Scotians.

Government will continue to improve access to healthcare, invest in education (including early years), and in people, businesses, and communities across the province, creating the conditions for economic growth and well-being.

## Revenue & Expenses





## Improving Access to Healthcare

Since 2013, our overall investment in healthcare has steadily grown in response to increased need.

- \$10 million more for collaborative-care teams
- \$2.9 million increase to open 15 new residency spaces for specialty medical positions at Dalhousie University Medical School
- \$1.1 million this year to open 10 new family practice residency seats at Dalhousie University Medical School
- \$200,000 to support doctor recruitment in our communities, as part of the Culture Innovation Fund
- \$2.2 million increase to improve access to orthopedic services for hip and knee replacements
- \$2.8 million this year, for a total of \$5 million, to implement findings of the Expert Panel on Long Term Care, including wound care, service coordination, and staffing
- The Canada–Nova Scotia Home and Community Care and Mental Health and Addictions Services Funding Agreement will provide
  - \$16.8 million to support home care
  - \$11.7 million to support mental health, included in total mental health and addictions spending of \$295.5 million – this funding will expand and sustain mental health supports, including extending the adolescent outreach program currently operating in Cape Breton to 41 schools in western and northern Nova Scotia and allowing NSHA and IWK to add 10 more full-time mental health positions this year
- \$1 million increase to complete the provincewide SchoolsPlus expansion, connecting students to mental health and community support services
- \$156.9 million this year to support progress on two of the largest healthcare redevelopment projects in Nova Scotia history, the QEII New Generation project and CBRM Healthcare Redevelopment project



## Supporting Our People and Our Communities

Nova Scotia's population has reached an historic high – 965,382 as of January 2019.

- \$14.2 million increase for programs that support adults and children with disabilities
- \$5.6 million to introduce the Standard Household Rate which will increase income assistance payments
- \$5 million to invest in poverty-reduction initiatives
- \$1.7 million to fully implement the exemption of child maintenance payments from income assistance calculations so parents have more money to take care of their children's needs
- \$700,000 to exempt child maintenance payments from income calculations for clients of Housing Nova Scotia and the Disability Support Program
- \$3 million to help prevent domestic violence
- \$470,000 for sexual violence prevention work on universities and NSCC campuses
- \$7.2 million more to make improvements to public housing units
- \$3 million more as part of a three-year plan to add 1,500 new rent supplements and reduce the wait list by 30 per cent



## Investing in Education and Preparing Youth for the Workforce

By September 2020, we anticipate every four-year-old in Nova Scotia will have access to free pre-primary.

- \$10.2 million to expand pre-primary classes
- \$67 million, which includes a federal contribution of \$11 million, for the regulated childcare sector to make child care services more accessible and increasing subsidies for families
- \$15 million increase to continue implementing recommendations from the Commission on Inclusive Education
- \$1.4 million increase to complete the reinstatement of the Reading Recovery program
- \$3.6 million increase for Nova Scotia's universities
- Eligible Nova Scotia students studying at Nova Scotia universities will no longer have to repay their Nova Scotia student loan if they complete their undergraduate degree within five years, regardless of the amount owing. Upfront grants for Nova Scotia students studying out of province in programs available here will be phased out.



## Creating the Conditions for Economic Growth

Nova Scotia businesses will save about \$34 million each year as a result of government's work to cut red tape.

- \$850,000 more for export development programming
- \$500,000 increase for incubators and accelerators that support startup companies
- \$2 million more for Invest Nova Scotia to fund projects that support competitiveness and productivity in sectors
- \$620,000 more to support increasing immigration numbers
- \$15 million to expand and create tax credits that encourage investment in new and growing Nova Scotia businesses
- \$415,000 to support marketing Nova Scotia seafood products
- \$1.7 million increase to help move to ecological forestry
- \$2 million to make progress on revitalizing tourism icons
- \$15 million more, for a total of \$300 million, for construction on Nova Scotia's roads, highways, and bridges, including twinning projects

	2018-19 Estimate	2018-19 Forecast	2019-20 Estimate
Total Revenues	10,810,152	10,858,524	11,010,469
Total Expenses	10,862,621	10,905,953	11,144,052
Consolidation Adjustments	81,899	75,867	167,206
<b>Provincial Surplus (Deficit)</b>	<b>29,430</b>	<b>28,438</b>	<b>33,623</b>
<b>Provincial Revenue Sources</b>			
Personal Income Tax	2,816,066	2,687,547	2,811,289
Corporate Income Tax	531,267	643,787	604,741
Harmonized Sales Tax	1,858,125	1,849,022	1,895,909
Cannabis Tax	10,400	3,371	7,814
Motive Fuel Tax	272,440	270,503	276,942
Tobacco Tax	214,118	206,066	205,432
Other Tax Revenue	165,961	168,497	169,329
Registry of Motor Vehicles	131,966	135,216	136,076
Royalties - Petroleum	5,954	5,920	---
Other Provincial Sources	229,303	291,966	151,981
TCA Cost Shared Revenue	2,249	3,418	2,439
Other Fees and Charges	61,793	61,296	63,170
Gain (Loss) on Disposal of Crown Assets	---	---	---
Prior Years' Adjustments	---	(25,761)	---
Interest Revenues	85,384	97,254	85,574
Sinking Fund Earnings	107,670	107,864	95,920
Ordinary Recoveries	361,703	392,675	361,630
Net Income from Government Business Enterprises	381,255	384,918	389,224
<b>Total - Provincial Sources</b>	<b>7,235,654</b>	<b>7,283,559</b>	<b>7,257,470</b>
<b>Federal Revenue Sources</b>			
Equalization Payments	1,820,257	1,843,636	1,942,628
Canada Health Transfer	996,467	998,752	1,039,410
Canada Social Transfer	365,720	366,558	375,514
Offshore Accord	18,092	18,092	8,227
Crown Share	1,423	---	---
Other Federal Sources	28,340	19,535	41,260
TCA Cost Shared Revenue	50,356	41,106	49,081
Prior Years' Adjustments	---	1,333	---
Ordinary Recoveries	293,843	285,953	296,879
<b>Total - Federal Sources</b>	<b>3,574,498</b>	<b>3,574,965</b>	<b>3,752,999</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Agriculture	49,615	65,810	46,427
Business	156,111	155,381	152,014
Communities, Culture and Heritage	88,046	91,800	93,641
Community Services	989,698	995,261	1,018,081
Education and Early Childhood Development	1,397,782	1,396,815	1,429,342
Energy and Mines	31,462	42,118	49,036
Environment	37,516	38,016	38,524
Finance and Treasury Board	23,446	21,739	23,683
Fisheries and Aquaculture	20,889	20,889	21,536
Health and Wellness	4,367,099	4,446,933	4,638,526
Internal Services	189,497	202,219	193,834
Justice	354,581	355,401	361,438
Labour and Advanced Education	389,373	373,006	396,209
Assistance to Universities	425,272	430,862	427,782
Lands and Forestry	79,601	82,001	76,750
Municipal Affairs	212,581	212,930	213,222
Public Service	210,298	210,530	220,275
Seniors	2,709	2,640	2,721
Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal	477,545	505,821	497,280
Restructuring Costs	190,241	146,929	201,463
Refundable Tax Credits	146,883	129,816	134,324
Pension Valuation Adjustment	128,803	116,492	51,837
Debt Servicing Costs	893,573	862,544	856,107
<b>Total - Expenses</b>	<b>10,862,621</b>	<b>10,905,953</b>	<b>11,144,052</b>

	2017-18	2018-19(f)	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
Net Debt (\$ billions)	15.0	15.1	15.3	15.6	15.7	15.7
Nominal GDP (\$ billions)	42.7	44.0	45.2	46.5	48.2	49.8
Net Debt to GDP (ratio)	35.0%	34.3%	33.8%	33.5%	32.5%	31.6%