

NOVA SCOTIA BUDGET BULLETIN

FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2007-08



Connected Communities

Nova Scotia will become a world leader in information technology.

Our goal is to make Nova Scotia the most connected jurisdiction in North America. We will ensure 100 per cent of Nova Scotians are able to access broadband connectivity by the end of 2009. Up to \$10 million will be spent this year in partnership with private sector service providers to deliver infrastructure to the first set of unserved areas in the province.

We are examining the best ways to achieve broadband access that is both commercially viable and sustainable. The lessons learned from this initiative will build a plan that will see broadband rolled out to other unserved areas of the province. We believe a technology fueled economy will help to grow the economy and build a better future for Nova Scotians.

The province will invest in small and medium sized businesses—particularly in rural Nova Scotia—through the provision of financial assistance to support investments in new applications, technologies and equipment and by expanding the I-3 program administered through the InNOVAcorp. These investments are worth \$1.2 million.

The Nova Scotia logo, featuring a stylized 'NS' above the text 'NOVA SCOTIA'.