

NOVA SCOTIA BUDGET BULLETIN

FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2006-07



Diverse Communities

Thriving communities are built on respect, understanding, and diversity. Nova Scotia is a leader in promoting diversity and will continue efforts to build communities that accept, include, and respect all people.

Welcoming Communities

To attract and retain immigrants, an additional \$439,000 will be available for language training, settlement and integration services, and development grants for immigrants moving into rural communities. As well, to further expand opportunities for immigrants, an additional staff person will be hired for the Nova Scotia Nominee Program—a program that has already helped to welcome 1,900 immigrants to the province in the past year. This brings direct funding for settlement services to almost \$1.8 million. As well, \$200,000 will be invested in training for English as a second language.

Honouring Our Past

The Office of Aboriginal Affairs will continue to work with the Mi'kmaq and other partners to further the work of Mi'kmawey Debert, with a \$300,000 contribution this year. The objective is to protect this valuable and unique archaeological site while developing opportunities to share the rich history and culture of the Mi'kmaq.

Regional Outreach

According to Statistics Canada (2001), there are about 20,000 African Nova Scotians in the province in more than 48 African Nova Scotian communities. To better support its constituents, the Office of African Nova Scotia Affairs, will open the first of four regional offices in this year. The first satellite office will open in Cape Breton, with locations in the South West, Valley, and Central regions to follow.

The Nova Scotia logo, featuring a stylized bird or wing shape above the text "NOVA SCOTIA".

NOVA SCOTIA

Finance

The Honourable Michael G. Baker Q.C.
Minister of Finance