

NOVA SCOTIA BUDGET BULLETIN

FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2006-07



Safer Communities

Renewed support to law enforcement will further enhance and protect Nova Scotia's quality of life. Funding to address youth crime, child pornography, and illegal drugs will help keep homes and streets safer.

Addressing Youth Crime

The province will invest \$450,000 to create a Youth Attendance Centre designed to provide an improved response to youth crime. The centre will provide intense support and supervision for young offenders in the community.

Protecting Children

Additional police officers will be hired to address Internet- and technology-based offences. This \$330,000 investment will be critical in addressing child pornography and will allow for better tracking of serial offenders.

Taking Action against Drugs

Along with legislation that will allow Nova Scotia to control the distribution of products used in the manufacturing and production of illicit drugs, \$685,000 will be provided to law enforcement to improve coordination among the RCMP and municipal police. The improved links will enhance policing efforts against organized crime, as part of our \$6-million commitment to Criminal Intelligence Service Nova Scotia.

Safe Homes, Safe Streets

A \$540,000 investment will create a Public Safety Investigative Unit under the *Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods Act*. This unit will target criminal activities such as the illegal sale of drugs and alcohol, prostitution, and illegal gaming.

Offenders will be under more intense supervision with \$400,000 invested in an electronic supervision program that uses global positioning system (GPS) technology. It's a Canadian first—and allows Nova Scotia to more closely monitor offenders on house arrest or those serving conditional sentences. Another \$200,000 will help police monitor bail compliance and ensure more aggressive monitoring of offenders in the community.

Legal Aid

An additional \$700,000 will be invested in legal aid funding to allow for speedier trials and resolution of issues in the courts.

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

Finance

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