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## Appendix 3-G Intergovernmental Agreements Assessment Check-list

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Under Section 6 of the *Public Service Act*, a Member of Executive Council requires Governor in Council approval to enter into an agreement with the Government of Canada or the government of a province or agency thereof.

The following check-list has been developed to assist departments in assessing whether to propose that a Member of the Executive Council enter into an agreement with the Government of Canada or the government of a province or territory. This check-list is not Executive Council/TPB required documentation. It is a tool for departments to use in assessing the strength of the proposal and of the supporting material.

### Relation to Provincial Policy and Budgetary Objectives

- Would the federal funding advance the province's own policy objectives?
- Is there a strategic relationship to broader economic or social goals of the province as expressed in the provincial business plan, budget, and other documents related to the government's agenda?
- Would the required provincial funding commitment to the federal funding initiative be consistent with the fiscal plan of the province?
- Will the fiscal value significantly benefit the province's fiscal situation?
- Can provincial participation be funded under the department's current operating budget?
- Would implementation of the agreement significantly alter or change current program or service delivery by the participating department?

### Terms of an Agreement (if proposed by the federal government)

- Is this a new agreement?
- Is this a renewal of an existing agreement?
- If a renewal are the terms and conditions:
  - more favourable?
  - unchanged?
  - less favourable?
- What is the term of the agreement? Provide categories to choose from for the time period - For example:
  - One year or less
  - 2-3 years
  - 4-5 years
  - 6-10 years
  - more than 10 years
- Are there provisions with cost implications beyond the term of the agreement? What are they?

- Are there other implications beyond the terms of the agreement? (e.g., administrative, operational, regulatory, impacts on other agencies/jurisdictions) If so, what are they? \_\_\_\_\_  
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### **Nature of a Provincial Proposal to the Federal Government**

- Identify and assess the strength of the supporting materials (e.g., cost-benefit analysis, statistical evidence, risk assessment, results of program evaluation)
- Is the proposal compatible with known federal objectives?

### **Impact on Other Departments or Agencies**

- Does the proposal enhance Nova Scotia's ability to lever improved cooperation in another area (whether the proposal is accepted or rejected by the federal government)?
- Does the proposal negatively influence other federal-provincial or interprovincial negotiations and processes?
- If there are potential positive impacts on the policy and budgetary responsibilities of other departments or agencies, or on negotiations they may be undertaking, have those departments or agencies been consulted? What are their views?  
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- If there are potential negative impacts on the policy and budgetary responsibilities of other departments or agencies, or on negotiations they may be undertaking, have those departments or agencies been consulted? What are their views?  
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### **Recognition of the Province's Financial Circumstances and Needs**

- Under the proposed agreement, would the federal government recognize existing provincial funding as our contribution towards any cost-sharing arrangements?
- Is the agreement or proposal consistent with the provisions of the Social Union Framework Agreement that funding arrangements be equitable and reflect the diverse needs and circumstances of the province?

### **Opportunity for Alliances**

- Is there an opportunity to develop alliances with other departments or agencies?
- Is there an opportunity to develop alliances with other jurisdictions to ensure a stronger voice at the negotiating table?

## Final Considerations: Cost/Benefit Analysis

- Would the funding arrangement be stable and predictable? For how long?
- Is the project, program, or activity sustainable (in all senses, including both the province's ability to sustain a program beyond the federal cut-off date, *and* sustainable resource management)?
- Are there long term benefits?  
What are they? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Are there long term costs?  
What are they? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Do the benefits outweigh the costs?
- Is the federal funding program likely to raise the expectations of... which will cause difficulties for the province and the municipalities, etc., when the funding is discontinued?
  - municipalities \_\_\_\_\_
  - communities \_\_\_\_\_
  - businesses or organizations \_\_\_\_\_
- What are the risks of signing this agreement? \_\_\_\_\_  
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