



**Competitiveness and Compliance Initiative  
Annual Report 2006**





## Message from the Minister



*The Honourable Mark Parent*

**M**AY 2006 MARKED THE FIRST FULL YEAR since the Government of Nova Scotia endorsed Environment and Labour's 'Competitiveness and Compliance Initiative.' CCI, as we like to call it, is our department's initiative to improve our regulatory system and achieve better compliance with our laws by businesses and other regulated organizations. CCI is a key part of the province-wide Better Regulation Initiative.

Our department is a major regulatory arm of government that protects our communities, workplaces, workers, and the environment. We recognize that our broad regulatory mandate creates opportunities for cross-cutting initiatives that will improve our effectiveness and capacity to fulfill our wide-ranging aims. We also recognize that our mandate interests many stakeholders in how the department conducts its business. Consequently, there has been, and will continue to be, ongoing consultation with business groups, environmental groups, and advisory committees as the CCI approach to regulatory management develops.

CCI is an integrated, multi-year effort across the department's programs that builds on existing expertise to create an effective, modern regulatory environment. All divisions have been involved in achieving progress toward CCI's dual and complementary objectives of improving competitiveness and compliance.

In attaining regulatory excellence, Environment and Labour is sharpening the competitive edge of Nova Scotia's economy and providing more rigorous protection of the environment, public health, and employee and public safety.

In 12 short months, the department has made great progress through CCI. The following report will give you a sense of our key activities and achievements in CCI's inaugural year. These highlights are prime examples of how Environment and Labour is improving the way we design, communicate, and enforce our laws.

You can expect to see many more success stories in the future.

*The Honourable Mark Parent  
Minister of Environment and Labour  
Province of Nova Scotia*



## Overview

**I**N ITS INAUGURAL YEAR, 2005-06, Environmental and Labour's Competitiveness and Compliance Initiative (CCI) accelerated progress toward "regulatory excellence" in Nova Scotia. Over the year, Environment and Labour identified and sponsored a wide range of initiatives. These spanned the department's many and varied regulatory responsibilities. Every one of these initiatives contributes to CCI's dual objectives: to improve both *competitiveness* and *compliance*.

### Competitiveness

Through CCI, the department helps make Nova Scotia's economy more competitive by:

- making sure that regulations are designed well, communicated clearly, administered effectively, and enforced consistently and dependably;
- eliminating regulatory requirements that are duplicated by other agencies or programs, or have become unnecessary for other reasons;
- expanding the use of electronic technologies;
- streamlining processes to reduce the costs and administrative burden that business and citizens must carry to comply with regulations.

### Compliance

The department is improving its ability to protect and enhance the environment, public health, and employee and public safety, by:

- making sure our programs use regulatory and non-regulatory tools effectively to achieve the necessary compliance;
- making it easier for our regulated clients to understand and comply with regulations;
- supporting our inspectors with better training and electronic tools;
- improving our ability to measure and monitor our performance.

These two words – competitiveness and compliance – summarize the two complementary goals of the CCI. Competitiveness does not need to be sacrificed for compliance. These two goals reinforce each other and must be considered together as the department works with public and private partners to develop and implement programs to achieve our statutory mandates.

# Highlights

## **Established the CCI Office**

In the past year, the CCI Office has launched operations by putting its work plan in place and building awareness for the initiative across Environment and Labour, other provincial departments and among stakeholders. Establishing the CCI Office has added capacity to the other divisions of Environment and Labour.

## **Developed better tools for regulatory design and analysis**

CCI has created department-wide guides to help staff systematically analyze regulatory issues and develop consistent, effective legislative and regulatory proposals. We have also put division-wide policies in place for assuring greater compliance with Environment and Labour's laws.

## **Sponsored a series of science-related forums**

Science forums on biosolids, air quality, and brownfield redevelopment brought together experts from industry, academia, non-governmental organizations, government and the local community. The forums improved participants' knowledge and understanding of complex issues and will lead to more informed, cooperative approaches to these issues in the future.

## **Developed a common training program for all inspectors across Environment and Labour**

CCI played a lead role in developing a common training program for inspectors within Environment and Labour. This program ensures that all inspectors receive consistent training in the fundamentals of inspection, investigation, and prosecution, as a complement to their program-specific training. The new training supports the department's inspectorates by encouraging members to share experiences and raising awareness of inspection issues across program areas.

## **Improved regulatory programs to make compliance with regulations easier for business**

A number of the department's programs launched compliance promotion strategies that make it easier for businesses and industries to adhere to regulatory requirements. For example, the department worked with the amusement devices industry to raise mechanic certification standards by introducing a training program for mechanics. The department also worked with the occupational diving sector to develop new safety regulations for occupational diving. These regulations have been outlined in plain-language documents and are being strategically phased in to maximize understanding and acceptance of the new rules. We are also using labour standards self-audits to improve compliance by making it easier for business to understand and obey our laws.

## **Reviewed outdated regulations**

Environment and Labour conducted thorough reviews of regulations that have been in force for long periods of time, such as the Liquor Licensing Regulations, to help modernize our laws.

## **Introduced regulatory amendments to streamline and/or improve regulations**

The Securities Act and the Building Code were harmonized with other Canadian jurisdictions to eliminate duplication, reduce the number of different rules business needs to comply with and to decrease the cost to comply with the rules.





## Competitiveness and Compliance Initiative

The CCI is working through five streams that span all divisions of Environment and Labour: the Regulatory Framework Stream, the Science Strategy Stream, the Learning Strategy Stream, the Compliance Promotion Stream, and the Regulatory Improvement Stream.

To support the department's work on regulatory management, CCI was allocated \$500,000 for the initial year.



# Regulatory Framework

CCI'S REGULATORY FRAMEWORK stream is helping Environment and Labour to better design, administer and enforce our regulatory tools. The CCI team is working on policies and procedures for deciding if or when new laws are needed, for designing them, and for engaging stakeholders in the process. The department is also creating performance measures, a common compliance model and an activity tracking system to be used across divisions.

## Consistent Policies and Procedures

Environment and Labour is working to coordinate many regulatory areas under consistent sets of policies and procedures.

- **New Environmental Compliance Model**

This new model provides environmental compliance staff with up-to-date information, modern compliance-promotion tools, and reliable guidance through consistent policies and procedures. Better and consistent compliance improves environmental protection and creates a level and dependable playing field for business across the province.

- **New quality assurance process for all legislative and regulatory proposals**

An internal process to ensure that legislative and regulatory proposals are systematically reviewed in a rigorous and consistent fashion improves the quality of the department's regulatory tools.

- **Occupational Health and Safety (OH&S) Four-Year Plan and Workplace Safety Insurance System (WSIS)**

OH&S and its Workplace Safety Insurance System partners – the Workers' Compensation Board (WCB), the Workers' Assistance Program and the Workers' Compensation Appeals Tribunal – have created a strategic approach to improve worker's safety in Nova Scotia. The four partners will also work together to combine effective initiatives on accident prevention and education, to improve compliance with existing laws and regulations, and to continue developing and refining OH&S programs and services offered to workplaces. Our departmental OH&S four year plan is one tool being used to achieve the objectives of the WSIS strategic plan.

- **Dedicated Crown Prosecutor for Regulatory Offences**

Environment and Labour and the Public Prosecution Service worked together to establish a dedicated crown prosecutor for regulatory offences. This new role will improve the department's capacity and ability to conduct consistent prosecutions across the four inspectorates.

- **Operational Bulletin for Handling Water Quality Exceedances**

Part of our water strategy, this internal procedure gives staff step-by-step directions for ensuring that owners of registered public drinking water supplies take corrective action when the water may contain harmful level of bacteria and /or chemicals. This procedure ensures that compliance measures are consistent across the province.

## Supporting Innovation and Improvement

By supporting pilot projects and best practices within Environment and Labour, CCI is helping create more examples of top-notch regulatory policy making. These, in turn, inform and inspire staff members throughout the department to embark on new, better regulation initiatives.

- **Pilot Business Impact Test on Electronic Waste Regulations**

The Solid Waste group is working with the business sector to analyze the impact of Nova Scotia's potential electronic waste regulations on business. The proposed regulations would reduce the impact of electronic waste from computers, televisions, and other electronic devices on the environment. The Pilot Business Impact Test on Electronic Waste Regulations offers the opportunity not only to gather better information on the effects of the electronic waste regulations, but also to test the usefulness of various business impact tests in developing regulations.

- **ISO-9000 Compliance**

As of March 31, 2006, the Occupational Health and Safety Division of Environment and Labour is fully ISO-9000 compliant. This makes it the first division in the provincial government to adopt these international management principles which ensure top-notch service and program delivery.

## Projects in the works:

A number of projects are currently under development:

- **Department-wide Regulatory Management Policy**

The department is developing an internal policy to improve the quality and consistency of regulatory tools, department-wide. The policy points to key principles that must be considered in designing regulatory programs, including picking the right policy tool for the job, consulting with stakeholders and promoting compliance.

- **Regulatory Process Model**

The department is also developing an internal model that guides divisions through the process of developing a regulatory tool.

- **Departmental Compliance Framework**

Building on the Environmental Compliance Model, the department is developing a framework which provides a consistent approach to achieving compliance across our department. This will provide better and more consistent guidance and support to staff.

- **Activity Tracking System**

This corporate system will provide a common approach to inspection and monitoring activities across the Occupational Health and Safety, Alcohol and Gaming, Public Safety, Environmental Monitoring and Compliance, and Labour Standards divisions. The system will track and record each division's activities, provide divisions with key information, and generate automatic reports on the department's inspection and monitoring activities. By late 2006 the Occupational Health and Safety division will be the first division to be fully functioning on the new system. The other divisions will come on line in future phases of the project.



# Science Strategy

**B**ETTER REGULATION must be based on sound science. Environment and Labour is developing a multi-year science strategy to make sure the department's decisions reflect the most up-to-date scientific and technological information available. At the same time, we want to exchange knowledge with our stakeholders and the public in order to build our mutual capacity and awareness. This strategy has included a series of science forums on issues important to Nova Scotians. We have already held three science forums. These sessions involve business, academics, non-governmental organizations, government and local community members.

## Combining expertise and sharing knowledge

### • Biosolids Science Forum

Around the world, people are wrestling with the question of what to do with treated sewage sludge, also known as 'biosolids.' In June 2005, experts from across North America gathered in Truro, Nova Scotia, to present fresh scientific evidence on biosolids' effects on human health and farming – and on new disposal methods.

### • Outdoor Air Quality Science Forum

In March 2006, experts from government, environmental groups and academia came together to discuss with staff the newest science on air pollution.

### • Brownfields Science Forum

A more technical term for contaminated land sites, 'brownfields' can be cleaned up and turned into safe, productive land. In this April 2006 forum, experts in reclaiming brownfields shared their knowledge on the best ways for staff and others to fix contaminated sites.

## Projects in the works:

### • Building Our Strategy

Environment and Labour is working with internal and external stakeholders in developing a comprehensive strategy to make sure its decisions are based on the most up-to-date scientific evidence. The strategy will ensure that priority areas have both necessary resources and access to external scientific expertise. The strategy will continue to emphasize the importance of Science Forums.

*Very good function for DEL to be doing! Keep doing something on a regular basis to elevate the level of knowledge and awareness!*

Air Quality Science Forum Participant

*It is very encouraging to see a provincial regulator take the initiative to reach out and sponsor a brownfield event. I firmly believe that this will go a long way to bring stakeholders closer in their thinking and find solutions to brownfields.*

Brownfields Science Forum Participant

# Regulatory Learning Strategy

**T**O BE BETTER REGULATORS, we must provide top-quality training to our staff. CCI is developing a multi-year learning strategy to provide staff with the knowledge, skills and support they need to develop and deliver quality regulatory programs. This strategy will help the department develop and administer consistent, flexible and dependable regulatory programs – now and in the future.

The department is already holding Knowledge Days for staff across the province, so we can share and reinforce what we're learning about best regulatory practices. We are also developing a common basic training program for all inspectors, investigators and prosecutors in the department. This training will improve consistency in how our laws are enforced.

## Consistent Training

- **Foundation Course for Inspections, Investigations and Prosecutions**

This department-wide course teaches inspectors the fundamentals of inspection, investigation, and prosecution. The course brings together four different inspection groups from across the department – which previously conducted separate training programs – into one consistent curriculum. This training will improve the consistency of law enforcement in the department, while allowing divisions to supplement the fundamental training with division-specific training. The first of four modules has been completed and delivered as a pilot. The remaining three modules in the series are currently being developed.

## Building Knowledge

The Learning Strategy aims to facilitate the sharing of best practices within Environment and Labour. At the same time, it provides staff with opportunities to learn from examples of regulatory excellence within other departments and agencies.

- **Knowledge Days**

In 2005 and early 2006, the department held three of these all-day sessions – one in Sydney and two in Halifax. In these workshops, staff, managers and guests presented best approaches and new ways to tackle common problems.

## Projects in the works:

- **Implementing the Strategy**

As the Learning Strategy unfolds, our department will be delivering a variety of regulatory training in areas such as inspection and investigation, regulatory impact assessment, regulatory tool selection and client service.

- **Training Inventory System**

Environment and Labour is customizing an electronic tracking system to provide better information about employee training. The objective is to allow employees to register for courses and access their records online, while a central system keeps track of the department's overall training needs.

*Knowledge Days  
are a great idea.*

*It is long  
overdue to open  
opportunities  
to share.*

An Environment and Labour staff  
participant in Knowledge Day

# Compliance Promotion

**M**ANY OF THE COMPLAINTS WE RECEIVE are from businesses and other stakeholders who say they do not always understand the regulations or what they need to do to comply with them. This is where the compliance promotion stream comes in. It develops ways to make laws and regulations easier to understand and follow.

In order to tackle this issue, we are reaching out to the business community and our stakeholders with easy-to-understand information about regulations and how to follow them.

## Making Compliance Easier

### • **Victoria Co. Septic Pumping Project**

In Cape Breton's Victoria County, septic waste disposal was a problem. With the help of Environment and Labour and the Municipality of Victoria County, a successful pilot project used state-of-the-art Norwegian technology to pump septic tanks, separate fluids from solids and produce dried, compostable solids. Ninety-one per cent of landowners taking part in the pilot project said it was excellent. This program may be expanded to other areas of the province.

### • **Onsite Septic Permit Registry Project**

New home owners must apply to install an onsite sewage treatment (septic) system in places where there is no municipal sewage treatment. Home builders complained that getting permits was too slow, causing costly construction delays. A new streamlined permit approval system was developed by the Environmental Monitoring and Compliance Division. It was piloted in the Bridgewater and Bedford offices and the results showed substantial reduction in the permit waiting period. The streamlined approach also strengthened environmental protection because inspectors could spend less time on paperwork and more time checking installations in the field. This system is being proposed for province-wide adoption, pending necessary changes to the Environment Act.

### • **Pollution Prevention (P2) Projects**

Our department's P2 branch has been helping businesses prevent pollution while saving money since 1998.

Three of its most recent projects are:

- Holding pollution prevention workshops for metal finishers, brewers and winemakers.
- Helping businesses save money by using less energy, water and material through involvement in the Eco-Efficiency Business Assistance Program.
- Developing an online pollution prevention manual for Nova Scotia businesses.

### • **The 'My Account' Program**

The WCB and OH&S in partnership created a data bank for worker safety and health information including prosecutions, inspections and compliance orders. This program allows employers to store employee health and safety records in one place, encouraging better compliance with workplace health and safety laws. As the program develops and continues to compile employee health and safety records in upcoming years, it will offer greater functionality to employers.

*"I think this is a very sound, environmentally smart way of helping to solve a huge problem."*

Boularderie landowner who took part in the septic pumping pilot project.

*When are you going to start doing this everywhere?*

A homebuilder's reaction to the new on-site septic registry pilot project.

*I'm amazed at  
how effective this  
process is.*

Halifax employer, on the Labour  
Standards self-audits

- **Labour Standards Self-Audits**

Low- and minimum-waged workers rely on the work of Labour Standards officers, who enforce minimum employment standards in the province. A staff of 15 officers responded to thousands of work-related complaints every year. The large workload resulted in service delays. To address this problem, Labour Standards developed a self-audit program. To date, the response has been enthusiastic and the new system is working. Workers are protected on the job, while employers learn practical ways to comply with labour laws.



- **Fire Safety Systems Maintenance Program**

The Department of Education, the Department of Environment and Labour, and representatives from public schools have developed a self-auditing program for ensuring public schools across the province are in compliance with the Fire Safety Code. School boards are educated on how to assess whether public schools are meeting the requirements of the fire safety code. Staff then carry out daily, weekly and monthly inspections and Fire Safety inspectors periodically perform random audits to ensure the inspections are being carried out correctly. The program raises awareness about fire safety code requirements and the public benefits from having safer public schools.

- **Electronic Devices for Data Collection**

Alcohol and Gaming Division compliance officers now use handheld devices to record and review licensing information while they are on the job. This instant data collection prevents delays and improves accountability of staff. By concentrating their efforts on licensees needing more attention, this technology eases the regulatory burden on licensees that do not need as much inspection.

- **New Enforcement Coordinator for Protected Areas**

We created this new position to develop and lead protected-areas compliance initiatives, keeping our wild areas pristine and beautiful for future generations.

### **Effectively Communicating Regulations**

- **New Community Outreach Programs and New Community Outreach Officer**

If we want people to comply with laws, we have to teach them about the laws more effectively. To do this, we have expanded our environmental outreach into the community by offering more public education sessions. We have also hired a new community outreach officer to co-ordinate public environmental education across the province.

- **Pilot Environmental Awareness Course for Contractors**

In 2005, the department ran two trial courses showing contractors how to prevent excess waste, saving materials and money during building. Contractors responded enthusiastically to the course, which will be repeated.

- **'Minding Your Business' Sessions**

Occupational Health & Safety, in partnership with the WCB, the Canada Revenue Agency and Labour Standards, provide "one-stop shopping" sessions so that businesses around Nova Scotia can learn about relevant laws and regulations that affect their operations every day. Through 'Minding Your Business' sessions, the department raises awareness about new rules for business and gives business owners a chance to ask questions about the rules – saving them the time and expense of unnecessary paperwork.

*Keep on  
informing. A lot of  
us didn't know we  
needed all these  
things covered.*

An employer attending  
a safety and return to  
work session in 2005



- **Occupational Diving Safety Strategy**

Environment and Labour has partnered with the Nova Scotia Community College and the Department of Education to launch an occupational diving training program in the province. This program supported the introduction and implementation of new regulations that provide better protection to commercial divers working in waters around Nova Scotia.

- **Safety and Return-to-Work Workshops**

In partnership with WCB, Occupational Health and Safety (OH&S) staff delivered seminars on injury prevention and the safe return to work in late 2005.

- **New Training for Pesticide Applicators**

The Pollution Prevention Branch teamed up with pesticide resource staff from Environmental Monitoring and Compliance (EMC) Division to develop a series of updates to the Pesticide Applicators Certification Program. These updates ensure that training materials for applicators of commercial pesticides are consistent with the current version of the National Standard for Pesticide Education Training and Certification in Canada.

Environment and Labour introduced these updates in May 2006. They include new pesticide applicator training manuals and changes to the pesticide applicator certification exam. The new manuals have been written in "plain language" to make them easier to understand and use. To improve access to the study material, the majority of the pesticide applicator training manuals are now available for download, free of charge, from the Environment and Labour website.

*The new manuals  
are much easier  
to use.*

Applicator preparing to take the  
certification exam

## **Improving Certification**

Better certification programs produce more highly trained professionals and increase the ease of doing business.

- **Amusement Devices Mechanic Training and New Regulations**

Residents and visitors need to know that they can safely enjoy amusement rides. To prevent accidents, the department and the Nova Scotia Community College worked together to create one of North America's first programs to train qualified mechanics in properly maintaining all amusement devices. More than 40 mechanics were trained in the first year of the program and many more are scheduled to attend in this upcoming year. The government also adopted new regulations to better ensure the safety of people using amusement devices. This training supports the industry in coming into compliance with the new regulations. The new regulations establish consistency between jurisdictions, by harmonizing Nova Scotia's approach with New Brunswick's. Higher safety standards have also resulted in reduced insurance premiums for amusement device owners.





- **Watercourse Alteration Certification Program**

Those who receive this certification not only become experts in how to alter watercourses in an environmentally responsible way, but they can also apply for a blanket watercourse alteration approval. This means certified installers only have to make one application and pay one fee for an entire season's work, as opposed to applying for a permit every time an installer wants to alter a watercourse. The result is that watercourses are better protected and unnecessary administrative requirements for business are reduced. This also means our field staff spend less time doing paperwork and more time in the field conducting audits of the altered watercourses.

### **Projects in the works:**

- **Online Tools**

The department is currently developing more online tools to help stakeholders and businesses comply with laws, including an online calculator for calculating pay and overtime required by Labour Standards, as well as more information on pension benefits.

- **Labour Standards Compliance Promotion Strategy**

The Labour Standards Division is currently working with various stakeholders to develop a comprehensive strategy to promote compliance with Labour Standards laws.

- **Plain Language Guide**

The department is developing a guide to assist department staff in using plain language to develop materials for public use.

*The Watercourse Alteration Certification Training Program offered by Environment and Labour and delivered by the Maritime College of Forest Technology is a must for any individual involved in installation of culverts and small bridges. Graduation from this course is a requirement for all J.D. Irving Limited road construction crews working near water.*

John Gilbert, Manager, Fish and Wildlife, J.D. Irving Limited



## Regulatory Improvement

**T**HE DEPARTMENT IS TARGETING specific regulatory programs in need of review. The regulatory improvements provide a faster turnaround on approvals, increase in-field inspections to improve consumer protection, allow licenses to be renewed on a three-year cycle rather than annually, and ensure regulations reflect modern business practices.

### Harmonizing Legislation

- **Securities Legislation Harmonization**

Nova Scotia's securities legislation covers investments of all kinds – including personal investments, corporate investments and trading in stocks, bonds and mutual funds. Recent high-profile trials in Canada and elsewhere have focused attention on strengthening securities legislation. As of July 2006, amendments to the Securities Act harmonize Nova Scotia's securities laws with those of other Canadian jurisdictions, which will reduce the time and expense of complying with different laws in different jurisdictions. The legislation also encourages compliance by raising penalties and increasing the capacity to investigate complaints.

- **Building Code Harmonization**

The province's building code and its regulations were updated in July 2006 to improve safety and accessibility for Nova Scotians and create a level-playing field for business and municipalities. The improvements protect Nova Scotians by establishing: minimum qualifications for building inspection officials; new requirements for barrier-free design; and stiffer penalties for individuals or companies who knowingly commit an offence that results in loss of life, serious injury or damage to a person or community. The updated legislation assures harmonization and consistency with Canada's national building and plumbing codes.

- **Film Classification System Harmonization**

Since April 2005, Nova Scotia's system of film ratings has been brought in line with all other film rating jurisdictions in Canada, except for Quebec. This ensures consistent application of film classification laws across Canada.



## **Increasing Environmental Protection By Reducing Unnecessary Requirements**

- **Special Places Protection Act Improvements**

We updated the Special Places Protection Act to simplify the process of designating nature reserves – especially for private landowners wanting to protect natural areas on their land. Instead of requiring detailed and lengthy management plans for all natural reserves, management plans are now necessary only for highly visited nature reserves that may need special protective measures. Enhanced flexibility and reduced red tape have created a more attractive process for private landowners who want their properties designated. The amendments have already begun to pay off. Four of five new nature reserves designated in July 2006 were on private land offered voluntarily by landowners. Without the recent changes, these designations would have taken much longer or never happened at all.

### **Projects in the works:**

- **Modernization of Liquor Licensing Regulation**

Some of Nova Scotia's liquor licensing regulations under the Liquor Control Act are more than 20 years old. Nova Scotia's liquor laws are recognized by many as cumbersome, outdated and in need of review. These outmoded regulations are hindering the success of our important food, entertainment, tourism and hospitality businesses. Environment and Labour, with the support of CCI, has been reviewing these regulations to improve and simplify them.

- **Hazardous Waste Management Review**

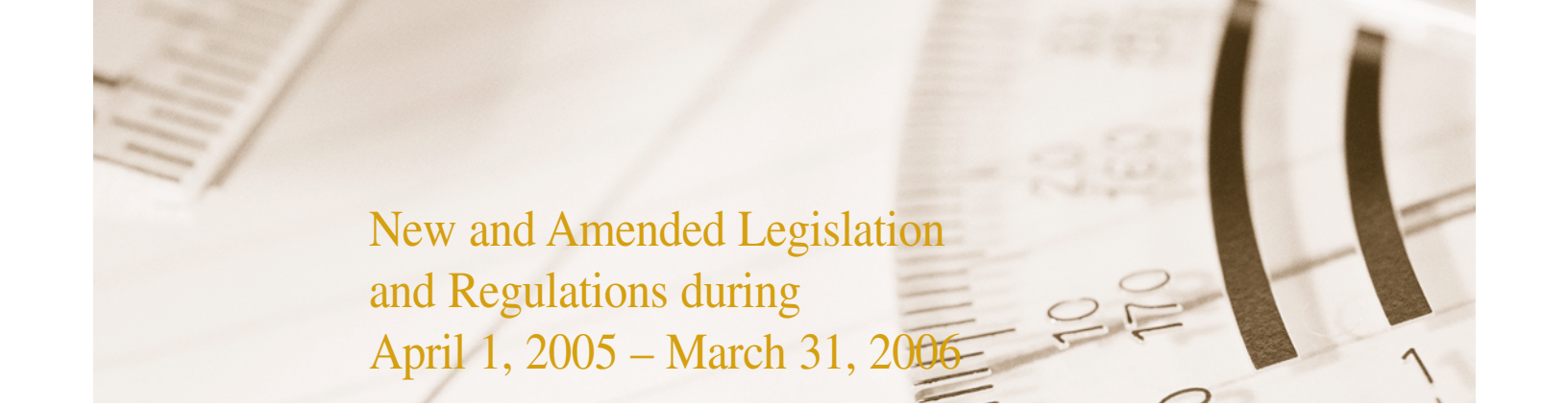
We are reviewing the Hazardous Waste Management Program to find opportunities to enhance environmental protection, improve the cost effectiveness of regulatory resources, reduce regulatory costs and jurisdictional duplication, and provide greater flexibility and predictability for industry. The department is currently working on the recommendations for regulatory improvements, in consultation with stakeholders.

- **Brownfield Redevelopment**

In follow-up to the science forum on Brownfields, we are working with stakeholders and with other provinces in Atlantic Canada to develop options for cleaning up contaminated land sites. One option under development is streamlining the regulatory process to encourage environmentally responsible redevelopment of brownfield sites. This will not only improve the environment, but also create opportunities for economic development

- **Public Safety Law Review**

The objective of this review is to replace multiple laws dealing with specific categories of machinery with an overall law that establishes general principles and leaves specific rules on different categories of machinery to the regulations. This will increase consistency and coherence of our public safety laws and increase flexibility to deal with technological changes.



## New and Amended Legislation and Regulations during April 1, 2005 – March 31, 2006

### **New Legislation Proclaimed**

*Amusement Devices Safety Act* - Proclaimed July 8, 2005

*Credit Union Act* - Proclaimed May 4, 2005

*Securities Act* - Proclaimed July 29, 2005

*Special Places Protection Act* - Proclaimed July 29, 2005

*Trade Union Act* - Effective October 1, 2006

*Workers' Compensation Act* - Proclaimed July 13, 2005

### **New or Amended Regulations in Force**

- Activities Designation Regulations (*Environment Act*)
- Amusement Devices Safety Act Regulations (*Amusement Devices Safety Act*)
- Casino Regulations (*Gaming Control Act*)
- Elevators and Lifts Regulations (*Elevators and Lifts Acts*)
- Minimum Wage Regulations (Labour Standards Code)
- New Corporate Governance Regulations (*Credit Union Act*)
- Pensions Benefits Regulations (*Pensions Benefits Act*)
- Regulations Respecting Labour Standards (Labour Standards Code)
- Summary Offence Ticket Regulations for Public Safety Offences (*Summary Proceedings Act*)
- Summary Offence Tickets Regulations (*Wilderness Areas Protection Act*)
- Video Classification Regulations (*Theatre and Amusements Act*)
- Water and Wastewater Facility Regulations (*Environment Act*)





Office of Competitiveness and Compliance  
Nova Scotia Environment and Labour  
5151 Terminal Road, 5th Floor  
PO Box 697  
Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 2T8

T (902) 424-3081  
F (902) 428-3139  
[cci@gov.ns.ca](mailto:cci@gov.ns.ca)  
[www.gov.ns.ca/enla/cci](http://www.gov.ns.ca/enla/cci)

