



Business Plan

2021–22

Infrastructure and Housing



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Departmental Business Plans
Finance and Treasury Board
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Message from the Minister and Deputy Minister



As the Minister with responsibility for the new Department of Infrastructure and Housing (IAH) I am pleased to present the department's 2021-2022 Business Plan. The aim of this plan is to focus on the key commitments outlined in the Ministerial Mandate.

IAH will work closely with partners and stakeholders in the construction and housing sectors to support Nova Scotians through economic recovery from the impacts of COVID-19.

This Spring we will begin preparing our second Action Plan, under the National Housing Strategy (NHS) Agreement and we will continue to consult and work with our stakeholders to advance initiatives to increase access to and the supply of affordable housing, including receiving and reviewing recommendations from the Affordable Housing Commission.

Health care needs are evolving and the redevelopment projects in Nova Scotia's two largest centres present a unique opportunity to rethink and rebuild the way that health care is delivered. Partnering with the Department of Health and Wellness and the Nova Scotia Health Authority, we will utilize IAH's core skill sets in architectural and engineering design, construction administration, and project management services to achieve this. The QEII New Generation and Cape Breton Regional Municipality Health Care Redevelopment projects include new facilities, major hospital expansions and renovations. The plans focus on improving the locations where healthcare is provided. Together, these projects will help support the health care of all Nova Scotians today, and for future generations.

These projects represent the most significant infrastructure investments made in Nova Scotia in decades, providing modern, efficient, robust infrastructure that is needed, while leveraging a significant positive economic impact to the Province that now, more than ever, is important to build an inclusive, vibrant and growing economy for all.

We look forward to continuing to lead and support governments' priorities and to fulfilling the commitments outlined in the Ministerial Mandate.

Sincerely,

(Original signed by)

Hon. Geoff MacLellan
Minister

(Original signed by)

Eiryn Devereaux
Deputy Minister

Section 1- Mission and Mandate

The mission of the Department of Infrastructure and Housing (IAH) is to:

Deliver quality public building infrastructure, and affordable housing options for Nova Scotia.

The Department's mandate is to:

Ensure our communities have the housing and infrastructure they need as we collectively act on climate change and improve the wellbeing of all Nova Scotians.

Section 2 - Core Business Areas and Program Initiatives

Building a Better Future

Infrastructure Project Management

The Department of Infrastructure and Housing offers a full range of building design and project management services for new buildings and major renovations.

Continuing in 2021-2022, IAH will provide infrastructure projects that will enhance communities throughout the province with a focus on innovative designs and sustainable site development while delivering quality provincial building infrastructure projects in a safe, cost effective and timely manner.

Federal Infrastructure Programs

IAH will coordinate provincial infrastructure needs to maximize the benefits of federal cost sharing to support major infrastructure priorities in Nova Scotia. The Department has significantly strengthened its partnership with its federal partners ensuring that Nova Scotia priorities are heard and that Nova Scotia is in the best position to leverage every possible resource to support provincial priorities and to support community infrastructure. Nova Scotia has been remarkable successful in accessing, leveraging, and aligning Federal Infrastructure programs to advance provincial priorities.

Housing

IAH will continue to invest in capital upgrades through public housing renewal projects and long-term financial planning to ensure predictability and sustainability of public housing assets.

Innovation and Economic Growth

Health Care Redevelopment in Nova Scotia

2021-2022 will see the continued support by the new Health Infrastructure Division at Nova Scotia Lands Inc. and the Building Project Services of IAH through provision of architectural and engineering design, construction administration, and project management services for major renovation and expansion projects.

The QEII New Generation project and the Cape Breton Regional Municipality Health Care Redevelopment will better connect Nova Scotians to the care they need, in the place they need it. Project information and timelines are available online at: <https://healthredevelopment.novascotia.ca/>

IAH has adopted an innovative approach to the redevelopment of educational, community and health infrastructure with the New Waterford Hub project. This project will help preserve existing community assets and renew critical education and community health infrastructure all at one site. The first of its kind in Nova Scotia, this creates an opportunity for infrastructure to provide conditions for ongoing innovation between health and education programs nestled in a community resource.

Education Facilities Infrastructure

As the infrastructure department to government, the Department of Infrastructure and Housing supports Government's capital investment for the new construction and renovations of existing schools. These projects will improve learning environments in communities across the Province. This will provide a positive influence for current and future generations of Nova Scotians. Schools and the students they graduate are the future of this province. These projects will modernize learning environments, and they will provide valuable civic resources for their respective communities, such as sports fields, gymnasiums, and meeting spaces.

Other Infrastructure

As the infrastructure department to all government departments, the Department of Infrastructure and Housing supports Government's capital investment for the new construction of significant projects such as the New Art Gallery of Nova Scotia. This project is the first in Atlantic Canada to hit the world stage through the innovation of employing an international design competition to select the external design team for the design for this important facility. The New Art Gallery, when complete will be an icon on the Halifax Waterfront and will bring visitors to our Province. The project will connect Nova Scotians with Art and will be designed to be a place for all Nova Scotians, a place of inclusion, a place that welcomes.

Housing

Access to safe, sustainable, and affordable housing supports prosperity for all Nova Scotians. The Nova Scotia Affordable Housing Commission (NSAHC) has been tasked with developing a set of recommendations to increase the supply and access to affordable housing in Nova Scotia. IAH will continue to advance this work to help our communities thrive.

Section 3 - Ministerial Mandate Commitments

Ministerial Mandate Commitments:

The Department of Infrastructure and Housing will effectively manage major infrastructure projects to ensure value and maximize opportunities for inclusive economic growth. Infrastructure investments made today will have lasting impacts on our communities and must be resilient in the face of climate change and must reflect our commitment to reducing our carbon impact.

IAH will continue to implement the National Housing Strategy and will continue to advance the work of the Nova Scotia Affordable Housing Commission and act on its recommendations. IAH will work with partners to develop innovative housing options for Nova Scotians.

Departmental Expense Summary

Budget Context

Infrastructure and Housing			
	2020-21	2020-21	2021-22
	Estimate	Forecast	Estimate
Program & Service Area	(\$ thousands)	(\$ thousands)	(\$ thousands)
Departmental Expenses:			
Senior Management	0	0	735
Policy and Planning	0	0	740
Federal Infrastructure Programs	0	0	1,091
Building Project Services	0	0	3,230
P3 Contract Management	0	0	1,131
Hospital Redevelopment Projects	0	0	18,015
Housing	0	0	107,840
Total Departmental Expenses	0	0	132,782
Additional Information:			
Ordinary Recoveries	0	0	4,622
TCA Purchase Requirements	0	0	18,068
TCA Cost Shared Revenue	0	0	11,795
Provincially Funded Staff (FTE's)	0	0	186