

Nova Scotia Archives

Finding Aid - Nova Scotia Voluntary Planning Board ()

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Language of description: English

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Nova Scotia Voluntary Planning Board

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Summary information

Repository:	Nova Scotia Archives
Title:	Nova Scotia Voluntary Planning Board
Date:	1962-2006 (date of creation)
Physical description:	35.8 m of textual records
Dates of creation, revision and deletion:	Revised, 2015/06/01, Heather Allen Revised, 2016/09/15, Heather Allen Revised 2018-05-01 Heather Allen
Note [generalNote]:	Please search our Library Holdings for reports, papers, and studies published by the Voluntary Planning Board and its Sectors.
Note [generalNote]:	For a general history of the Voluntary Planning Board's first twenty-five years, see the book "Common Ground: 25 Years of Voluntary Planning in Nova Scotia" by Anthony Lamport.

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

The Nova Scotia Voluntary Planning Board (VPB) was established in 1963 as the Voluntary Economic Planning Board to assist and advise the Minister of Finance in the development and implementation of measures to increase the rate of economic growth in the Province by means of "voluntary economic planning." A Board of Directors was in charge of recruiting and directing planning projects in primary economic sectors.

In 1970, the Board's mandate expanded well beyond economic planning to embrace most areas of public policy in the Province, including the environment and tourism, and it was renamed the Voluntary Planning Board. More recently, the VPB have provided the Premier and Cabinet with volunteer-driven, citizen-based advice through the work of its sector committees. Projects were developed as requested by the Provincial Government, seeing sector committees working for a set period of time to engage citizens and experts in the production of reports presenting findings and recommendations.

In 1999, the sector committees were discontinued, though they were temporarily reinstated between 2001-2004. The VPB Board of Directors undertook a strategic review in 2004-2005 which resulted in the permanent discontinuation of the sector committees. In December 2010 the Voluntary Planning Board office was closed and staff moved to a new Public Engagement Support Unit under the Treasury Board, and subsequently under the Office of Policy and Priorities.

Custodial history

Records transferred to Nova Scotia Archives directly from the Voluntary Planning Board in accordance with One-Time Records Schedules.

Scope and content

Fonds consists of the records of the Nova Scotia Voluntary Planning Board (VPB), with particular focus on the Board's many sector committees and other citizen engagement responsibilities. The volunteer-based sector committees represent industries and issues from across the province, from social and economic concerns to cultural and environmental issues.

Fonds traces the beginnings of the VPB and its sector committees in the 1960s, their growth and influence, several reconfigurations, and finally their dissolution in the 2000s. These records will be of interest to a wide variety of researchers, as they offer an in-depth look into government process and policy across many fields, from natural resources to community growth, from small business development to cultural events. Researchers will get a sense of government-citizen engagement and partnerships, and how these influenced decisions and policy.

Notes

Title notes

Restrictions on access

Access to some records may be restricted under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIPOP) Act. Contact Reference Archivist or Government Records Archivist for more information.

Finding aids

File lists attached to Series descriptions

Accruals

No further accruals expected.

Other notes

- **Publication status:** Published

Access points

- Textual record (documentary form)

Series descriptions

Voluntary Planning Board Executive Operations

Date: 1963 - 2006 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series forms part of the Nova Scotia Voluntary Planning Board fonds and consists of records documenting Voluntary Planning Board's executive operations. These records document activity and decisions by senior management and executives of the Voluntary Planning Board (VPB) and primarily include briefing notes, planning documents, activity reports, and Minister's and Deputy Minister's correspondence.

Series highlights VPB's advisory role, including contributions to the policy and projects of several government departments. Executive-level activities are documented in annual report materials, accountability reports, meeting minutes, reports and studies (on topics like growth centres, exports, job creation, Spruce Budworm, Offshore development, and Manpower). Other topics covered include management training, economic development and tourism, financial services infrastructure, economic development, and small business development.

Physical description: 4.2 m of textual records

Finding aids:

[File list available.](<http://novascotia.ca/archives/lists/voluntary-planning-board-executive-operations.pdf>)

Publication status:

Published

File / item list

Voluntary Planning Board of Directors Operational records

Date: 1963-2006 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series forms part of the Nova Scotia Voluntary Planning Board fonds and consists of records documenting the operations of Voluntary Planning's Board of Directors, primarily minutes and

correspondence. Series documents engagement with several areas of government, the public and other relevant stakeholders.

Records include strategic planning documents, operational reviews, reports, and publicity and marketing material. Over the years, Voluntary Planning took on tasks varied in topic and scope, which is reflected here. Areas covered in this series include the Nova Scotia Federation of Labour, Federal/Provincial Working Groups, lifelong learning, the Task Force on Government Services to the Black Community and the Black Business Initiative, as well as strategic review and future planning for revitalizing the voluntary planning board itself.

Physical description: 5.2 m of textual records

Finding aids:

[File list available.](<http://novascotia.ca/archives/lists/voluntary-planning-board-of-directors-operational-records.pdf>)

Publication status:

Published

File / item list

Voluntary Planning Board Citizen Engagement records

Date: 1970-2001 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series forms part of the Nova Scotia Voluntary Planning Board fonds and consists of records documenting Voluntary Planning's Citizen Engagement role. A primary function of VPB was engaging the citizens of Nova Scotia to provide advice to government and inform projects and policy. This series covers the operation of task forces and other special projects, project planning and tracking, submissions by the public, transcripts of engagement sessions, relevant committee work, discussion papers, reports and recommendations.

Special projects include Encounter on Urban Environment, reviews and contributions to Royal Commissions and White Papers, Provincial Conference on the Economy ('Meeting the Challenge of Change'), the 30-60-90 consultation process, Round Table on Nova Scotia Air Facilities and Services, Mineral Policy Consultation, work with the Nova Scotia Coalition of Forest Interests, and climate change strategies.

As part of its Citizen Engagement role, Voluntary Planning produced numerous reports, such as 'Critical Choices: The Nova Scotia University System at a Crossroads', 'Voluntary Planning Forum on Public-Private Partnering', 'Powering Nova Scotia's Economy', and a report of the Roundtable on NS Air Facilities and Services.

Physical description: 2.7 m of textual records

Finding aids:

[File list available.](<http://novascotia.ca/archives/lists/voluntary-planning-board-citizen-engagement-records.pdf>)

Publication status:

Published

File / item list

Sector Committee Reorganization Records

Date: 1992 - 2005 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series forms part of the Nova Scotia Voluntary Planning Board fonds and consist of records documenting the restructuring of the VPB Sector Committees. The Board of Directors met in October 2001 to begin planning for a newly restructured Voluntary Planning Organization, resulting in the introduction of a new Sector Committee structure. Cabinet approval was given in June 2002, establishing six Societal Sectors to act in an advisory capacity to the Voluntary Planning Board of Directors: Economic Growth and Competitiveness, Fiscal Management Policy, Environmental Quality and Stewardship, Health and Social Well-being, Education and Lifelong Learning, and Natural Resources.

Series is made up of records documenting the restructuring process, such as correspondence, member recruitment and member orientation, as well as records of the six new sectors.

Physical description: 0.6 m of textual records (2 boxes)

Finding aids:

[File list available.](<http://novascotia.ca/archives/lists/sector-committee-reorganization-records.pdf>)

Publication status:

Published

File / item list

African Nova Scotian Business Ad-Hoc Committee

Date: 1991-1998 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series forms part of the Nova Scotia Voluntary Planning Board fonds and consists of records created by the African Nova Scotian Business Ad-Hoc Committee and its preceding committees and initiatives: Nova Scotia Advisory Group on Race Relations and African Nova Scotian Business Forum. In the early 1990s the VPB determined it was time for collaboration on a more multicultural level to better represent the province's population. The Advisory Group on Race Relations brought together three levels of government and members of the Black community to recommend a plan of action to eliminate racism and racial discrimination in the province. The African Nova Scotia

Business Forum was initially convened to discuss matters of access to financing, though it was quickly determined that there were other areas of need and the forum broadened focus to creating a strategy for African Nova Scotia business development. The African Nova Scotian Business Ad-Hoc Committee was formed to continue the work begun at the Forum.

Records in this series include reports and recommendations, meeting minutes and agendas, correspondence, and community consultation materials.

Physical description: 0.9 m textual records

Finding aids:

[File list available.](<http://novascotia.ca/archives/lists/african-nova-scotian-business-ad-hoc-committee.pdf>)

Accruals:

No further accruals expected.

Publication status:

Published

File / item list

Agriculture Sector Committee records

Date: 1962-1993 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series forms part of the Nova Scotia Voluntary Planning Board fonds and contains records created by the Agriculture Sector Committee of the Nova Scotia Voluntary Planning Board (VPB). This Sector Committee was formed to serve as a forum for farmers, producers, regulators and others from across the province with common concerns. Founded in 1963 as one of VPB's original sectors, members came from the Provincial Department of Agriculture, Federation of Agriculture, other related Provincial Government departments, Federal interests, agricultural associations and the larger agricultural community.

These records include correspondence, transcripts of speeches and presentations, background material for reports and papers, meeting minutes and agendas, discussion items, responses to position papers and other materials. The main focus of the records is planning for the future of the agricultural industry in Nova Scotia, touching on legislation, taxation, the stewardship of land and primary resources, education, and government policy in regards to various aspects of the industry.

Physical description: 0.6 m of textual records

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)

Restrictions on access:

Access to some records may be restricted under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIPOP) Act. Contact Reference Archivist or Government Records Archivist for more information.

Finding aids:

[File list available.](<http://novascotia.ca/archives/lists/agriculture-sector.pdf>)

Publication status:

Published

File / item list

Community Development Sector Committee records

Date: 1981-2001 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series forms part of the Nova Scotia Voluntary Planning Board (VPB) fonds and consists of the records of the Community Development Sector Committee of the Voluntary Planning Board. This committee was established in 1981 as a forum for community development groups and associations across the province, facilitating communications with government bodies and giving common voice to shared concerns and projects. When established, the Sector was known as the Voluntary Association for Community Development (VACD), adopting the name Community Development Sector in 1987. These records include correspondence, transcripts of speeches and presentations, background material for reports and papers, meeting minutes and agendas, discussion items, responses to position papers and other materials. The main focus of the records is planning for the future of the community development industry in Nova Scotia, touching on government policy around community development, legislation, taxation, education and information-sharing, conference planning and participation, networking, and entrepreneurship. Records outline a number of the Committee's projects, in particular the Northumberland Institute, the Rural Opportunities Program, the Community Economic Development Encounter, and Community-Based Investment Funds.

The Community Economic Development Encounter was held in February 1989 and was an invite-only event to generate recommendations for community economic development programs, policy, and initiatives to be considered by the Ministers of Small Business Development and of Industry, Trade and Technology. The event was primarily a workshop, but also included info-sharing and presentations.

Between 1995 and 1997, the Sector facilitated a series of 'Kitchen Meetings' in communities throughout the province to generate an overview of issues impacting Nova Scotians. Series includes correspondence, background information and final reports from these meetings.

Physical description: 1.2 m of textual records

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)

Restrictions on access:

Access to some records may be restricted under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIPOP) Act. Contact Reference Archivist or Government Records Archivist for more information.

Finding aids:

[File list available.](<http://novascotia.ca/archives/lists/community-development-sector.pdf>)

Publication status:

Published

File / item list

Construction Sector Committee records

Date: 1975-2000 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series forms part of the Nova Scotia Voluntary Planning Board fonds and consists of the records of the Construction Sector committee of the Voluntary Planning Board. This committee was established in 1964 as a forum for the province's construction industry, facilitating communications with government bodies and giving common voice to shared concerns and projects. The committee brought together members from labour, management, development and government organizations.

These records include correspondence, background material for reports and papers, meeting minutes and agendas, discussion items, responses to position papers and other materials. The main focus of the records is planning for the future of the construction industry in Nova Scotia, particularly a province-wide strategy for the industry. Other key topics include legislation, conference planning and participation, job creation, infrastructure, safety, and resource-sharing.

Records outline a number of the Committee's projects, in particular the Construction Strategy 2000.

Outlined in 1989, Construction Strategy 2000 was a plan to revitalize and sustain the construction industry in the province. It was a joint effort to address relevant issues and needs from all areas of the industry and province. The effort defined several goals and focus points to strengthen the industry by the year 2000 and moving forward. These goals included marketing and communications, training, technology transfer, government relations and labour relations.

The Construction Sector Committee had several offshoots, subcommittees and task forces, mostly established on an ad hoc basis. These included the Construction Industry Development Council of Nova Scotia (CIDCONS), Infrastructure Renewal Subcommittee, Occupational Health and Safety Subcommittee (responsible for Creating a Safer and Healthier Workplace, a 1992 conference and forum), Marketing and Communications Subcommittee, Education and Training Subcommittee.

Physical description: 0.8 m of textual records

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)

Restrictions on access:

Access to some records may be restricted under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIPOP) Act. Contact Reference Archivist or Government Records Archivist for more information.

Finding aids:

[File list available.](<http://novascotia.ca/archives/lists/construction-sector.pdf>)

Publication status:

Published

File / item list

Economic Strategy Committee

Date: 1989-1995 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series forms part of the Nova Scotia Voluntary Planning Board fonds and consists of records created by the Economic Strategy (CORE) Committee. In June 1988, Voluntary Planning urged the Government of Nova Scotia to update and replace Building Competitiveness, the 1984 White Paper on Economic Development that had been serving as the Province's primary Economic Strategy document. Voluntary Planning was invited to take on this project. In March 1989 Voluntary Planning established a CORE Committee of volunteers to begin the process, which led to the November 1991 release of the Economic Strategy, Creating Our Own Future. The Strategy was publicly accepted by the Premier of Nova Scotia.

The Economic Strategy Committee was extensive, both in size and scope. The main committee focused on economic issues and strategy of provincial concern, while subcommittees and issue groups branched out to focus on specific areas, such as Human Resources, New Business, Technology, Trade and Competitiveness, Telecommunications, Prosperity Initiative, and Government's Role. Records include meeting minutes and agendas, correspondence, community consultation materials, reports, and press and media coverage.

The Economic Strategy Committee coordinated input into the consultation paper 'Our Province Our Future Our Choice', as well as 'Will to Win - Encounter on the NS Economy' and other provincial economic initiatives.

Physical description: 3.3 m of textual records

Finding aids:

[File list available.](<http://novascotia.ca/archives/lists/economic-strategy-committee.pdf>)

Publication status:

Published

File / item list

Energy Sector Committee records

Date: 1963-2001 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series consists of records of the Energy Sector Committee of the Nova Scotia Voluntary Planning Board (VPB). Previously known as the Power Sector and as the Energy Advisory Council, the name Energy Sector was adopted in 1976. The Sector was established to provide for the effective involvement of private sector representatives in the long-term planning of energy issues affecting the province. Made up of representatives from across the public and private sectors, the Sector identified issues and made recommendations to Government through the VPB.

These records include correspondence, background material for reports and papers, meeting minutes and agendas, discussion items, responses to position papers, final reports and other materials. The Sector focused on matters relating to the supply and consumption of energy across the Province of Nova Scotia in a wide variety of forms: coal, wood chips, oil, electricity, nuclear energy and tidal power. The records reflect this, as well as the Sector members' emphasis on educating the public about different forms of energy resources, assisting private industry in navigating public policy and in strategizing the development of future energy resources.

Physical description: 0.8 m of textual records

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)

Restrictions on access:

Access to some records may be restricted under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIPOP) Act. Contact Reference Archivist or Government Records Archivist for more information.

Finding aids:

[File list available.](<http://novascotia.ca/archives/lists/energy-sector.pdf>)

Publication status:

Published

File / item list

Environment and Economy Sector

Date: 1988-2001 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series consists of records of the Environment and Economy Sector Committee of the Nova Scotia Voluntary Planning Board (VPB). The Sector was established in 1988 promote the importance of the environment and how it related to the sustainable development of the economy of the province. Composed of members of environmental agencies, government representatives and private industry concerns, the Sector focused on public awareness programs, establishing recommendations to

resolve environmental conflict, and reviewing incentives for individuals and groups to be more environmentally responsible.

Series includes correspondence, background material for reports and papers, meeting minutes and agendas, discussion items, responses to position papers, final reports and other materials. Records outline a number of the Committee's projects, including sustainable development in coastal areas, pollution control, economic incentives, waste management, rural wastewater management, and private woodlots.

Physical description: 0.9 m of textual records

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)

Restrictions on access:

Access to some records may be restricted under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIPOP) Act. Contact Reference Archivist or Government Records Archivist for more information.

Finding aids:

[File list available.](<http://novascotia.ca/archives/lists/environment-and-economy-sector.pdf>)

Publication status:

Published

File / item list

Fiscal Management Task Force

Date: 1999-2001 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series forms part of the Nova Scotia Voluntary Planning Board fonds and consists of records created by the Fiscal Management Task Force. In October 1999, Premier Hamm announced that Voluntary Planning would appoint a special, independent Fiscal Management Task Force to advise government on debt management and spending cuts. This Task Force released a preliminary report in December 1999 and a final report in January 2000. The reports generated a great deal of public interest and comment, which is documented here.

Records reflect the formation of the Task Force, and document the development and completion of the reports. Presentations, meeting minutes, media coverage, correspondence and public submissions are included.

Physical description: 1.2 m of textual records

Publication status:

Published

File / item list**Fisheries Sector Committee records**

Date: 1972-2001 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series forms part of the Nova Scotia Voluntary Planning Board fonds and consists of the records of the Fisheries Sector Committee of the Voluntary Planning Board (VPB). One of the first Sectors established, Fisheries brought together inshore and offshore fishermen, processors, industry associations, unions and government officials, facilitating varied representation in the long-term conversation around the fisheries industry in Nova Scotia. The Sector played an important role in advising both provincial and federal governments on an assortment of projects and concerns. These records include correspondence, background material for reports and papers, meeting minutes and agendas, discussion items, responses to position papers and other materials. The main focus of the records is planning for the future of the fisheries industry in Nova Scotia as an entirety, touching on provincial fishing policy, fish processing plants in the province, quotas and allocations, Free Trade, problems with grey seals, aquaculture, pollution and environmental effects, safety and training for industry professionals, and the Fisheries Loan Board. The Sector also advised on offshore oil and gas development and on foreign investment. Records also include some minutes of the Eastern Shore Fisherman's Protection Association, Coastal Communities Network, and VPB special meetings on the Fisheries Sector.

Physical description: 0.6 m of textual records

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)

Restrictions on access:

Access to some records may be restricted under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIPOP) Act. Contact Reference Archivist or Government Records Archivist for more information.

Finding aids:

[File list available.](<http://novascotia.ca/archives/lists/fisheries-sector.pdf>)

Publication status:

Published

File / item list**Forestry Sector Committee records**

Date: 1969-2001 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series forms part of the Nova Scotia Voluntary Planning Board fonds and consists of the records of the Forestry Sector Committee of the Voluntary Planning Board (VPB). One of the first Sectors established, Forestry brought together private sector associations, mills, consultants, councils, unions, and government departments (both federal and provincial). The Sector was initially established to draft a plan for the future of the industry and to advocate for the long-term commitment to extensive forest management and protection.

These records include correspondence, background material for reports and papers, meeting minutes and agendas, discussion items, position papers and responses, and other materials. The main focus of the records is planning for the future of the industry, sustainability, and forest management. Sector's submissions and responses to the Royal Commission on Forestry are included, as well as records on pest control (Spruce Budworm, Whitemarked Tussock Moth), policy development, the NS Forest Accord and Forest Action Plan.

Series includes some records of the Nova Scotia Forestry Association and the Maritime Lumber Bureau as well, as these organizations had similar goals and an established relationship with the Forestry Sector.

Physical description: 1.2 m of textual records

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)

Restrictions on access:

Access to some records may be restricted under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIPOP) Act. Contact Reference Archivist or Government Records Archivist for more information.

Finding aids:

[File list available.](<http://novascotia.ca/archives/lists/forestry-sector.pdf>)

Publication status:

Published

File / item list

Health Sector Committee records

Date: 1987-1991 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series forms part of the Nova Scotia Voluntary Planning Board fonds and consists of the records of the Health Care Sector Committee of the Voluntary Planning Board (VPB). Also referred to as the Health Sector, it was established to address concerns around the rising costs of health care, decreasing health status indicators, and the lack of coordinated policy in provincial health care. Sector membership included health care providers, medical societies, care workers, educators, consumer organizations and representatives from hospital boards, public health, community clinics, and labour.

Records include correspondence, background material for reports and papers, meeting minutes and agendas, discussion items, reports, and other materials. The records focus on the relationship between the public and private areas and the Sector's contribution to the Royal Commission on Health Care.

Physical description: 0.2 m of textual records

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)

Restrictions on access:

Access to some records may be restricted under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIPOP) Act. Contact Reference Archivist or Government Records Archivist for more information.

Finding aids:

[File list available.](<http://novascotia.ca/archives/lists/health-sector.pdf>)

Publication status:

Published

File / item list

Heritage Strategy Task Force

Date: 2005-2006 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series forms part of the Nova Scotia Voluntary Planning Board fonds and consists of records created by the Heritage Strategy Task Force. The Task Force was recruited in Spring 2005, with a mandate from the Nova Scotia Department of Tourism, Culture and Heritage in partnership with the Federation of Nova Scotia Heritage. Task Force members conducted community hall meetings, received written submissions, met with organizations and heritage specialists, conducted research and published an interim report, inviting comment on initial findings. Recommendations for a provincial heritage strategy were released in December 2006 as a report entitled 'Our Heritage Future: A Shared Responsibility'.

Records reflect the formation of the Task Force, and document the development and completion of the reports. Presentations, meeting minutes, media coverage, correspondence and public submissions are included.

Physical description: 1.5 m of textual records

Finding aids:

[File list available.](<http://novascotia.ca/archives/lists/heritage-strategy-task-force.pdf>)

Publication status:

Published

File / item list**Human Resources Sector Committee records**Date: 1975-2001 (date of creation)Scope and content:

Series forms part of the Nova Scotia Voluntary Planning Board fonds and consists of the records of the Human Resources Sector Committee of the Voluntary Planning Board (VPB). Formerly known as the Education Sector, the name Human Resources Sector was adopted in 1982 to more fully reflect the growing scope of the committee. The Sector was established to address education, training and employment opportunity issues, and to develop the human resource potential of the province to its highest potential. Membership was drawn from large and small businesses, academics and educators, unions, and representatives from federal and provincial government departments.

These records include correspondence, background material for reports and papers, meeting minutes and agendas, discussion items, final reports and concept papers, workshop materials, responses to position papers and other materials. The main focus of the records is literacy, apprenticeship training, career options, automation in the workplace, community college system, and cooperative education. Records detail a number of the Sector's projects, including the Atlantic Groundfish Strategy, Review of Vocational Education, and several papers on and reviews of the Community College system.

Series includes submissions and responses to the Royal Commission on Post-Secondary Education.

Physical description: 0.9 m of textual recordsAccess points:

- Textual record (documentary form)

Restrictions on access:

Access to some records may be restricted under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIPOP) Act. Contact Reference Archivist or Government Records Archivist for more information.

Finding aids:

[File list available.](<http://novascotia.ca/archives/lists/human-resources-sector.pdf>)

Publication status:

Published

File / item list**Labour Management Forum**Date: 1992 - 2002 (date of creation)Scope and content:

Series forms part of the Nova Scotia Voluntary Planning Board fonds and consist of the records of the Labour Management Forum. During the development of an economic strategy for Nova Scotia in 1992, 'Labour Management Relations' was identified as a critical issue. In March 1992, Voluntary Planning initiated the Labour Management Forum - modeled after the Labour Management Study Committee of the 1970s, but with a broadened mandate, and envisioned as an ongoing mechanism to promote greater partnerships in the workplace and in the economy.

In January 2002, administration of the Non-Binding Arbitration Panel Process was transferred from Voluntary Planning Board to the Department of Environment and Labour. The Labour Management Forum had designed and implemented the process in 1994 and proved its success with 143 applications to 2002. Employers and unions had an opportunity to meet with a panel, comprised of one labour and one management member who co-chaired the process and rendered a decision to assist the parties in mutually resolving a grievance.

Series is made up of correspondence, meeting materials, background and discussion items, and several reports.

Physical description: 0.9 m of textual records (3 boxes)

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)

Finding aids:

[File list available.](<http://novascotia.ca/archives/lists/labour-management-forum.pdf>)

Publication status:

Published

File / item list

Land Resources Coordinating Council records

Date: 1981-2001 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series forms part of the Nova Scotia Voluntary Planning Board fonds and consists of the records of the Land Resources Coordinating Council (LRCC) of the Voluntary Planning Board (VPB). Briefly known as the Wildlife Resource Coordinating Committee, the LRCC was founded in 1979 as a response to concerns and tensions around land use and hunting activity. The Council provided a forum for landowners and recreational land users in the province to discuss joint issues, such as fire prevention, hunter safety and rights, conservation and development, trespass laws and the effects of litter and waste. LRCC taught respect for the land and cooperated with several government departments on the development of legislation and policy. The LRCC played a large part in the foundation of such organizations and initiatives as Clean Nova Scotia Foundation, Hunting and Fishing Guides of Nova Scotia, the Arson Prevention Council of Nova Scotia and the Land Registration and Information System.

These records include correspondence, background material for reports and papers, meeting minutes and agendas, discussion items, responses to position papers and other materials. Records reflect the

actions of the LRCC, as well as subcommittees on Arson Prevention, Trails and Liability, Abandoned Rail Lines, Conservation/Development, Occupiers' Liability, the Sharing the Land Program, Pipelines, Hazardous Waste and Education. The main focus of the records is planning for the future of land use in the province and building relationships and understanding between land owners and land users. Records outline a number of the LRCC's projects, in particular Sharing the Land Week, Waste Management Awards, Caretakers of the Environment initiative, a Review of Provincial Parks and Campgrounds, Silvilog, and the The Law, Landuse and the People workshop.

Physical description: 1.8 m of textual records

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)

Restrictions on access:

Access to some records may be restricted under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIPOP) Act. Contact Reference Archivist or Government Records Archivist for more information.

Finding aids:

[File list available.](<http://novascotia.ca/archives/lists/land-resources-coordinating-council.pdf>)

Publication status:

Published

File / item list

Manufacturing Sector Committee records

Date: 1963-1995 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series forms part of the Nova Scotia Voluntary Planning Board fonds and consists of the records of the Manufacturing Sector Committee of the Voluntary Planning Board (VPB). The Sector, also known as Secondary Manufacturing, was established in 1963 and was divided geographically into five 'segments': Annapolis Valley, Colchester/Cumberland/Pictou, South Shore, Cape Breton and Halifax Metro/Dartmouth. Membership and participation varied from segment to segment, but always featured representatives from both public and private sectors.

Records include correspondence, background material for reports and papers, meeting minutes and agendas for the Sector and segments, discussion items, responses to position papers and other materials. The main focus of the records is maintaining the growth of the manufacturing industry in Nova Scotia through consultations, recommendations and reports to government. The Sector had major input into the Green Paper and White Papers on economic development, aided in a review of the Workers' Compensation Board, and was involved in several studies on employment insurance. The Sector provided input into provincial legislation and programs and was concerned with taxation, training, and liability.

Physical description: 0.6 m of textual record

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)

Restrictions on access:

Access to some records may be restricted under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIPOP) Act. Contact Reference Archivist or Government Records Archivist for more information.

Finding aids:

[File list available.](<http://novascotia.ca/archives/lists/manufacturing-sector.pdf>)

Publication status:

Published

File / item list

Mineral Resources Sector Committee records

Date: 1964-1999 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series forms part of the Nova Scotia Voluntary Planning Board fonds and consists of the records of the Mineral Resources Sector Committee of the Voluntary Planning Board (VPB). The Sector, known as Mining until 1988, was established in 1964 and initially focused predominantly on coal with a strong Cape Breton representation. Its earliest initiatives focused on appealing to the federal government for assistance and support for the Cape Breton mining industry, which was under threat of shut down. Membership included representation from mineral commodity groups (producers), mineral exploration and processing interests, the Mining Society of Nova Scotia, labour, academics, and related government departments.

These records include correspondence, background material for reports and papers, submissions, meeting minutes and agendas, discussion items, final reports and other materials. The main focus of the records is planning for the future of the mining and mineral resource industry in Nova Scotia and the production of several reports and industry strategies. Records reflect Sector's input into Nova Scotia's Energy Plan, uranium exploration in the province and related policies, organization of the Mineral Resources Forum, as well as the exploration permit process and approvals.

Physical description: 0.6 m of textual records

Restrictions on access:

Access to some records may be restricted under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIPOP) Act. Contact Reference Archivist or Government Records Archivist for more information.

Finding aids:

[File list available.](<http://novascotia.ca/archives/lists/mineral-resources-sector.pdf>)

Publication status:

Published

File / item list

Non-Resident Land Ownership Task Force

Date: 1997-2001 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series forms part of the Nova Scotia Voluntary Planning Board fonds and consists of records created by the Non-Resident Land Owners Task Force. On April 10, 2000, the Government of Nova Scotia introduced Bill 42, which included measures to enable municipalities to levy additional property taxes on non-resident property owners. This legislation received Royal Assent on June 8, 2000. However, the section dealing with non-resident land ownership was not enacted, as the issues were not as straightforward as originally envisioned. Cabinet then called upon Voluntary Planning to hold open discussions, conduct additional research, and provide recommendations on this topic. VPB's Task Force on Non-Resident Land Ownership in Nova Scotia assembled in March 2001 and released an Interim Report and Final Report later that year.

Records in this series include reports and recommendations, meeting minutes and agendas, correspondence, and community consultation materials.

Physical description: 1.2 m of textual records

Finding aids:

[File list available.](<http://novascotia.ca/archives/lists/non-resident-land-ownership-task-force.pdf>)

Publication status:

Published

File / item list

Off-Highway Vehicle Task Force

Date: 2003-2005 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series forms part of the Nova Scotia Voluntary Planning Board fonds and consists of records created by the Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) Task Force. In March 2003, the Province of Nova Scotia asked Voluntary Planning to help develop public policy related to off-highway vehicle use. A volunteer task force held community hall meetings, met with stakeholder organizations, invited written submissions and conducted extensive research on off-highway vehicle issues and best practices. In February 2004, the Task Force issued its interim report, entitled 'Out of Control'. Reaction to the report led to another

call for written submissions and further meetings with select stakeholders. A final report was issued in November 2004.

Records reflect the formation of the Task Force, and document the development and completion of the reports. Presentations, meeting minutes, media coverage, correspondence and public submissions are included.

Physical description: 1.5 m of textual records

Finding aids:

[File list available.](<http://novascotia.ca/archives/lists/off-highway-vehicle-task-force.pdf>)

Publication status:

Published

File / item list

Professional Services Industry Sector

Date: 1987-1990 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series forms part of the Nova Scotia Voluntary Planning Board fonds and consists of the records of the Professional Services Industry Sector Committee of the Voluntary Planning Board (VPB). The primary focus of this Sector was government's contracting-out of professional services, the growth of the professional services industry, and its contribution to the province's economy. The scope of the Professional Industry Sector touched many fields, including science, engineering, technology and information management, contributing to government policy and aiding in the implementation of the White Paper and Premier's Economic Conference (1985).

These records include correspondence, background material for reports and papers, meeting minutes and agendas, and other materials. The primary tasks reflected in the records is the making of recommendations relating to the contracting of professional services, procurement and taxation.

Physical description: 0.1 m of textual records

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)

Restrictions on access:

Access to some records may be restricted under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIPOP) Act. Contact Reference Archivist or Government Records Archivist for more information.

Finding aids:

[File list available.](<http://novascotia.ca/archives/lists/professional-services-industry-sector.pdf>)

Publication status:

Published

File / item list**Research and Development Sector**Date: 1981-1990 (date of creation)Scope and content:

Series forms part of the Nova Scotia Voluntary Planning Board fonds and consists of the records of the Research and Development Sector Committee of the Voluntary Planning Board (VPB). The Sector began as a committee of the Board to examine issues in the growing fields of research and development. These fields, particularly technological innovation and adaptation, had become a focus of government and a means of diversifying and strengthening the economy. Membership was composed predominantly from the private sector, with a smaller representation from academia and government.

These records include correspondence, background material for reports and papers, notices, meeting minutes and agendas, and discussion items. The main focus of the records is planning for the future of research and development in the province, highlighting such interests as super computers, the formation of the Council of Applied Science, government discussion papers on technology strategy, the Centres of Excellence Program, and the founding of the Nova Scotia Society for Academic and Industrial Liaison (SAIL).

Physical description: 0.2 m of textual recordsRestrictions on access:

Access to some records may be restricted under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIPOP) Act. Contact Reference Archivist or Government Records Archivist for more information.

Finding aids:

[File list available.](<http://novascotia.ca/archives/lists/research-and-development-sector.pdf>)

Publication status:

Published

File / item list**Small Business Development Committee**Date: 1989-1991 (date of creation)Scope and content:

Series forms part of the Nova Scotia Voluntary Planning Board fonds and consists of the records of the Small Business Development Sector Committee of the Voluntary Planning Board (VPB). The Sector was created in 1989 to provide a multidisciplinary and multi-sectoral approach to the strengthening of existing small businesses and the creation of new businesses in Nova Scotia in a sustainable context.

The Sector served as an advisory group to the Minister of Small Business Development and a forum for small businesses to have input into development planning for the province. Records in this series highlight the Sector's purpose of providing advice to those government departments responsible for business development, as well as the generation of ideas, programs, and regulation directed at public and private sector business development.

Physical description: 0.1 m of textual records

Finding aids:

[File list available.](<http://novascotia.ca/archives/lists/small-business-development-committee.pdf>)

Publication status:

Published

File / item list

Special Committee on Free Trade Adjustment

Date: 1987-1991 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series forms part of the Nova Scotia Voluntary Planning Board fonds and consists of the records of the Special Committee on Free Trade Adjustment (SCFTA) of the Voluntary Planning Board (VPB). SCFTA was established in 1987 as a special committee of Voluntary Planning board members to identify risks, opportunities and recommendations regarding Free Trade and changes to the Act. One of the principal achievements of SCFTA was preparing a questionnaire which was distributed it to all Sector Committees, with several objectives:

1. To assess the availability and knowledge of the current Free Trade Agreement.
2. To assess the current competitive position of Sector members within their industries.
3. Identify ways for Nova Scotia to make full use of all opportunities and minimize negative impacts.

The majority of the records in the Series focus on this questionnaire.

Physical description: 0.1 m of textual records

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)

Restrictions on access:

Access to some records may be restricted under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIPOP) Act. Contact Reference Archivist or Government Records Archivist for more information.

Finding aids:

[File list available.](<http://novascotia.ca/archives/lists/special-committee-on-free-trade-adjustment.pdf>)

Publication status:

Published

File / item list**Taxation Sector**Date: 1978-2001 (date of creation)Scope and content:

Series forms part of the Nova Scotia Voluntary Planning Board fonds and consists of the records of the Taxation Sector Committee of the Voluntary Planning Board (VPB). This Sector was established to represent a spectrum of interests in matters of taxation and government finance, to review all areas of taxation and investment, and to respond to tax-related problems identified by other sectors. Membership was composed of representatives from other Sectors, the Board of Trade, Canadian Manufacturers Association, lawyers, accountants, private company tax representatives and government.

Records include correspondence, background material for reports and papers, meeting minutes and agendas, discussion items, responses to position papers and other materials. The main focus of the records is on advising government, responding to concerns over changes to taxation, and how taxation influences business and the economy in Nova Scotia. The Sector raises questions on provincial budgeting, deficit, and federal and provincial sales tax reform, while participating in initiatives such as the Task Force on Investment and Taxation, Deed Transfer Tax, Tourism taxation problems and Manufacturing and Machinery Tax.

Physical description: 0.9 m of textual recordsAccess points:

- Textual record (documentary form)

Restrictions on access:

Access to some records may be restricted under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIPOP) Act. Contact Reference Archivist or Government Records Archivist for more information.

Finding aids:

[File list available.](<http://novascotia.ca/archives/lists/taxation-sector.pdf>)

Publication status:

Published

File / item list**Timely Assistance Program**Date: 1994 - 1999 (date of creation)Scope and content:

Series forms part of the Nova Scotia Voluntary Planning Board fonds and consist of the records of the Timely Assistance Program, formerly known as the Early Assistance Program. In September 1994, the Workers' Compensation Board submitted a request to the Voluntary Planning Board to act as a facilitator for labour, business and medical communities to work together in developing a common approach to early assistance for injured workers. The Timely Assistance Program Committee was established to develop and promote a policy and system of principles for reintegrating, in a timely and appropriate manner, workers who had suffered work related injuries or illnesses. Series is made up of correspondence, meeting materials and reports.

Physical description: 0.3 m of textual records (1 box)

Finding aids:

[File list available.](<http://novascotia.ca/archives/lists/timely-assistance-program.pdf>)

Publication status:

Published

File / item list

Tourism Sector Committee records

Date: 1964-2001 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series forms part of the Nova Scotia Voluntary Planning Board fonds and consists of the records of the Tourism Sector Committee of the Voluntary Planning Board (VPB). One of the first Sectors established, Tourism brought together tourist associations, accommodation and restaurant operators, event organizers, government representatives and many others with a stake in the lucrative tourism industry. The Sector was established in 1963 to provide advice on the economic viability of the tourism industry and to maximize its profitability. The Sector had input into the Tourism Subsidiary Agreement, legislation and planning documents.

These records include correspondence, background material for reports and papers, meeting minutes, notices and agendas, discussion items, reports, responses to position papers and other materials.

The main focus of the records is planning for the future of the tourism industry in Nova Scotia as an entirety, touching on policy, marketing and development strategies, tax incentives, tourism statistics, and the economic benefits of a strong and vibrant industry. Records detail a number of the Sector's initiatives, including Mi'kmaq Cultural Tourism, Air Access Roundtable, NS Motorcoach Marketing Study, Sail Sell Tourism Promotion, Tourism Symposium, Mass Mode Transportation Study, and a series of reports.

Records also include some materials from Tourism Industry Association of Nova Scotia (TIANS), including a Tourism Strategy developed over five years by the Tourism Sector in conjunction with the TIANS, Tourism Nova Scotia and ACOA.

Physical description: 1.8 m of textual records

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)

Restrictions on access:

Access to some records may be restricted under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIPOP) Act. Contact Reference Archivist or Government Records Archivist for more information.

Finding aids:

[File list available.](<http://novascotia.ca/archives/lists/tourism-sector.pdf>)

Publication status:

Published

File / item list**Series 2012-035, 2013-027: Transportation Sector Committee records**

Date: 1964-2001 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series forms part of the Nova Scotia Voluntary Planning Board fonds and consists of the records of the Transportation Sector Committee of the Voluntary Planning Board (VPB). One of the first Sectors established, Transportation brought together transportation providers (air, land, water and rail), as well as users, regulators and representatives from government. Formerly known as the Transportation and Communication Sector, it was established to identify transportation needs and issues, to evaluate programs, make recommendations, and to promote planning opportunities. The Sector provided advice on transportation policy issues with the objective of promoting the development of best possible transportation service in Nova Scotia, while being responsive to the needs of shippers and carriers. These records include correspondence, background material for reports and papers, meeting minutes, notices and agendas, discussion items, reports, responses to position papers and other materials. The main focus of the records is planning for the future of the transportation industry in Nova Scotia as an entirety, touching on policy, fuel pricing, satellite communications in the trucking industry, highway improvements, freight rates, and sales tax reform. Records detail a number of the Sector's initiatives, including Freedom to Move legislation, Free Trade discussions and a series of reports.

Physical description: 1.2 m of textual records

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)

Restrictions on access:

Access to some records may be restricted under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIPOP) Act. Contact Reference Archivist or Government Records Archivist for more information.

Finding aids:

[File list available.](<http://novascotia.ca/archives/lists/transportation-sector.pdf>)

Publication status:

Published

File / item list