



**Office of African Nova Scotian Affairs**

**Statement of Mandate**

**2011 – 2012**

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## **Message from the Minister, Deputy Minister and Chief Executive Officer**

We are pleased to present the 2011-2012 Statement of Mandate for the Office of African Nova Scotian Affairs (ANSA), for the Province of Nova Scotia. This year, ANSA will mark six years of working with community and government to facilitate and support integrated approaches to matters related to African Nova Scotians and their communities.

The creation of ANSA by Order in Council in 2004 indicated the provincial government's commitment to respect and recognize the intrinsic value and richness of all citizens. As African Nova Scotians are one of the province's founding cultures and fastest-growing populations, it remains important to ensure that ANSA assists communities to develop innovative solutions that lead to self-reliance and sustainable development.

In a continued effort to promote and strengthen the delivery of culturally competent services to African Nova Scotians, ANSA remains focused on collaborations with and between the African Nova Scotian community and government entities. Highlights of our work in the year ahead will include further development of several key strategic areas and initiatives.

In recent years ANSA has worked with the Black Business Initiative (BBI), community organizations and government partners to develop a cultural tourism niche market initiative that will enhance exposure and attendance at African Nova Scotian historic and cultural sites across the province. In a major milestone toward this goal, ANSA will host the 7<sup>th</sup> International African Diaspora Heritage Trail conference in Halifax in September 2011. The conference is part of an international tourism initiative designed to educate visitors and safeguard the core values and creativity of African culture and heritage. It is endorsed and attended by a wide assortment of organizations involved with cultural tourism, cultural preservation and academic research throughout North America, Africa and the Caribbean.

This event will draw a global audience to Nova Scotia. The long-term benefits will include enhanced international partnerships, increased capacity in community organizations, and a stronger presence in the fast-growing cultural tourism market, leading to economic growth and more good jobs.

ANSA will continue to offer support to the Africville Heritage Trust as they undertake a fitting memorial on the former site of Africville. The first phase of the project is scheduled to be completed in summer 2011.

Another initiative will focus on effective crime prevention strategies tailored to the unique needs of African Nova Scotian community. The initiative will be a 3-year pilot of the Legal Enrichment and Decision-making program (Project L.E.A.D) modeled after the project implemented in the State of California engaging children and youth. Support for the project will be provided in partnership with the Federal Crime Prevention Strategy, in line with the goal to create strong and safe communities in Nova Scotia.

ANSA will also create two new African Nova Scotian Community Action Partnerships (ANSCAPs) in the areas of Health and Culture & Heritage, to further the Office's work in these sectors. The existing two ANSCAPs, Youth and Community Engagement, will also be revitalized.

We look forward to another successful year of building on government and community successes to promote and facilitate positive change on behalf of Nova Scotians of African descent.

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Honourable Percy A. Paris  
Minister

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Laura Lee Langley  
Deputy Minister

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Wayn Hamilton  
Chief Executive Officer

## **Mandate**

The Office of African Nova Scotian Affairs is accountable to:

- a) Create and promote an integrated approach within government on matters related to the African Nova Scotian communities in the province.
- b) Represent the interests of the province in intergovernmental initiatives and negotiations on matters integral to the interests of African Nova Scotians.
- c) Provide research analysis and policy advice on African Nova Scotian issues.
- d) Develop communication strategies and public education to increase understanding within the province of African Nova Scotian culture, heritage, and community issues.

## **Mission**

The Office of African Nova Scotian Affairs will assist, support and enhance the provincial government's delivery of services to African Nova Scotians and be a partner in developing innovative solutions that lead to self reliance and sustainable development for African Nova Scotians and their communities.

## **Vision**

The Office of African Nova Scotian Affairs will build on government and community successes to promote and facilitate positive change on behalf of Nova Scotians of African descent. The Office will work with government and community, departments, agencies, divisions, and organizations to develop mutual strategies, goals, and practical solutions.

## **Government Priorities**

A statement of policy priorities sets out clear directions for government and objectives for governmental efforts. Departments will align their decision-making and strategic planning with these priorities, develop and implement action plans to meet the stated policy objectives, and evaluate performance against them on an ongoing basis.

The three core priorities of the government are:

1. Make health care better for you and your family
2. Create good jobs and grow the economy
3. Get back to balance and ensure government lives within its means

Government will build its 2011-2012 plans in line with these three priorities.

## Linking ANSA's Activities with Government Priorities

The Office of African Nova Scotian Affairs supports the governments in achieving its priorities by aligning ANSA's activities based on our strategic goals with the Government's priorities.

Government Priorities	ANSA's Activities
<p>1. Make health care better for you and your family</p>	<p>Support community based organizations to promote, educate, create awareness of health and wellness to African Canadian communities. (Strategic Goal #1)</p> <p>Support the development of safe and peaceful communities through the implantation of the Legal Enrichment and Decision Making project "Project LEAD" (Strategic Goal # 1)</p> <p>Support and assist the development of a transportation initiative for rural African Nova Scotian Communities (Strategic Goal #1)</p> <p>Partner with other government departments and agencies to host information sessions on health and wellness related topics. (Strategic Goal #2)</p> <p>Establish a Health African Nova Scotian Community Action Partnership (ANSCAP) (Strategic Goal #2)</p> <p>Communicate health and wellness related topics through ANSA's website and ANSA's newsletter <i>Passages and Prosperity</i> (Strategic Goal #3)</p>
<p>2. Create good jobs and grow the economy</p>	<p>ANSA continues to link its work with community and government partners to ensure the preservation, awareness and promotion of African Nova Scotian heritage as a founding culture of the province. Some of the cultural, heritage and tourism initiatives include undertakings such as: a fitting memorial for Africville, the inclusion of the Black Loyalists Heritage Society Museum into the Nova Scotia Family of Museums, the Fortress of Louisbourg, African Nova Scotian Music Association, the African Diaspora Heritage Trail Conference and the Glace Bay UNIA (Strategic Goal #1)</p> <p>Support non-profit organizations working with unemployed and under employed African Nova Scotians. (Strategic Goal #2)</p> <p>Work with government departments and non-profit organization to promote the <i>jobsHere</i> plan. (Strategic Goal #3)</p> <p>On behalf of the Province of Nova Scotia, host the 7<sup>th</sup> International African Diaspora Heritage Trail Conference. Work with government departments, non-profit organization and various Tourism departments and agencies to plan, promote and implement the Conference. (Strategic Goal #3)</p>
<p>3. Get back to balance and ensure government lives within its means</p>	<p>Through information sessions to the African Nova Scotian communities and stakeholders, ANSA ensures that our activities are essential and relevant to our stakeholders. ANSA will review and adjust programs to remain effective the most efficient way. (Strategic Goal #1)</p> <p>Where possible, ANSA partners with other government departments and agencies (Strategic Goal #1).</p>

## Performance Measurement

<b>Strategic Goal #1:</b> To facilitate and support an integrated approach within government on matters related to African Nova Scotian issues. This also includes providing corporate policy, strategic advice and support to departments in order to build a sustainable framework for African Nova Scotian government relations.					
<b>OUTCOMES</b>	<b>MEASURES</b>	<b>BASE YEAR 2005 - 2006</b>	<b>TARGET 2011 – 2012</b>	<b>TRENDS</b>	<b>STRATEGIES to achieve target</b>
Improve government's:  (1) understanding of African Nova Scotian issues and concerns;  (2) level of collaboration with the African Nova Scotian community;  (3) delivery of services to African Nova Scotians;  (4) delivery of an appropriate and timely response to matters affecting African Nova Scotian; and  (5) support the growth of African Nova Scotian Cultural and Heritage Initiatives.	Inquires	375*	600	Steady increase in base year realized in all measures, notably: 2007 – 2008 with the establishment of Cape Breton regional office (3 additional staff); 2008 – 2009 with the establishment of the African Heritage Month Information Network; and 2009 – 2010 with the addition of 3 staff in the Halifax/Main Office	Community-based programs  Community Information Sessions with government partners  Government Presentations  Interdepartmental meetings  Collaborations with government departments  Support the cultural and heritage initiatives as a board member or by providing information  Collaboration with government departments on the needs of the cultural and heritage initiatives
	presentations to government	14	21		
	attendance at scheduled government meetings	60% attendance rate	Achieve ultimate target of 90% attendance rate		
	participation on relevant interdepartmental committees, subcommittees, or task teams	15	30		
	African Nova Scotian groups collaborating with ANSA and government entities	15	25		
	Number of cultural and heritage initiatives supported	n/a	5		

\* indicates total # number of inquires (including telephone, e-mail, letter & walk-ins) from government and community.

## Performance Measures

<b>Strategic Goal 2: To work collaboratively with the African Nova Scotian Community to foster development and capacity building.</b>					
<b>OUTCOMES</b>	<b>MEASURES</b>	<b>Base Year 2005 - 2006</b>	<b>TARGET 2011 - 2012</b>	<b>TRENDS</b>	<b>STRATEGIES to achieve target</b>
Increase:  (1) the understanding of government by the African Nova Scotian Community;  (2) the number of partnerships between government and the African Nova Scotian community;  (3) the opportunities for input by the African Nova Scotian community; and	African Nova Scotians involved with ABCs, Gov't/Community Consultations	5	7	An increase in base year realized in 2008 – 2009, in all measures, due to the creation of 2 ANSCAPs which provided the opportunity to draw upon the expertise and networks of the African Nova Scotian community.	Community organizational support through community-based programs, grants & contributions, facilitation and consultation  ABC/government & community consultation strategy & information workshops
	community presentations	20	23		Community Organization Registry implementation
	activities and groups (registered and non-registered) supported	55	61		Maintain the Youth Leadership and Community Engagement ANSCAPs
	Inquires	375*	650		Review and evaluate the ANSCAP model
	African Nova Scotian Action Partnerships (ANSCAPs) created and maintained	n/a	2		Establish a Health ANSCAP  Establish a Culture & Heritage ANSCAP

\* indicates total # number of inquires (including telephone, e-mail, letter & walk-ins) from government and community.

## Performance Measures

<b>Strategic Goal 3: To enhance awareness and understanding of African Nova Scotian experiences to government.</b>					
<b>OUTCOMES</b>	<b>MEASURES</b>	<b>Base Year 2005/06</b>	<b>TARGET 2011 - 2012</b>	<b>TRENDS</b>	<b>STRATEGIES to achieve target</b>
Provide:					Support community activities and provide government-wide information during African Heritage Month
(1) opportunities for African Nova Scotian groups to articulate their concerns to government; and	communication plans developed and implemented for significant ANSA initiatives	4	6	Steady increase in base year realized in all measures, notably: 2008 – 2009 with the creation of 2 ANSCAPs; and 2009 – 2010 with the addition of a part-time Communications Officer	Encourage government-wide support of African Heritage Month activities
(2) government entities with relevant information related to African Nova Scotians.	African Nova Scotian Community Action Partnerships (ANSCAPs) created and maintained	n/a	2		Produce the newly enhanced ANSA Newsletter, featuring community & government spotlights
					Enhance the ANSA Website
					ANS Roundtables where appropriate between government and ANS organizations
					Maintain the Youth Leadership and Community Engagement ANSCAPs
					Review and evaluate the ANSCAP model
					Establish a Health ANSCAP
					Establish a Culture & Heritage ANSCAP
					Host the 7 <sup>th</sup> International African Diaspora Heritage Trail Conference

## **Budget Context**

The Office of African Nova Scotian Affairs falls under the umbrella of the Department of Communities, Culture and Heritage (CCH) and therefore the budget context for ANSA is located in the Statement of Mandate for CCH, which can be found online at <http://www.gov.ns.ca/tch/mandate.asp> .