

Department of Intergovernmental Affairs

Annual Accountability Report

for the Fiscal Year 2009-2010

June 4, 2010

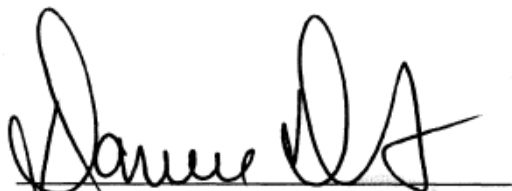
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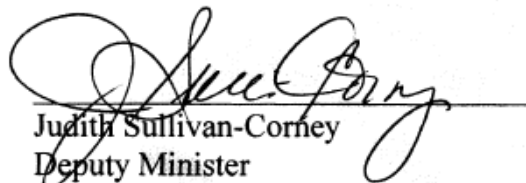
Accountability Statement

The accountability report of the Nova Scotia Department of Intergovernmental Affairs for the year ended March 31, 2010, is prepared pursuant to the *Provincial Finance Act* and government policies and guidelines. These authorities require the reporting of outcomes against Intergovernmental Affairs' business plan information for the fiscal year 2009-2010. The reporting of outcomes necessarily includes estimates, judgments and opinions by Intergovernmental Affairs management.

We acknowledge that this accountability report is the responsibility of Intergovernmental Affairs senior leadership. The report is, to the extent possible, a complete and accurate representation of outcomes relative to the goals and priorities set out in the Department's 2009-2010 business plan.



The Honourable Darrell Dexter
Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs



Judith Sullivan-Corney
Deputy Minister

Message from the Minister

I am pleased to present the 2009-10 Accountability Report for the Department of Intergovernmental Affairs. This report reflects Intergovernmental Affairs' progress and achievements for the 2009-10 fiscal year.

Intergovernmental Affairs, as a core central agency for the Province of Nova Scotia, continues to provide leadership and support on complex cross-departmental and intergovernmental public policy matters as required. Such leadership helps to ensure that corporate strategies for government are being developed and advanced, collective progress across departments is being achieved and positive outcomes for Nova Scotians are attained. Central to this is Intergovernmental Affairs' strategic efforts, and ongoing engagement and interaction with other governments on a regional, domestic and international level.

Throughout much of 2009-10, the department was actively engaged in advancing Nova Scotia's corporate priorities through a myriad of intergovernmental activities and preparing for key high level intergovernmental engagements, including:

- Southeastern United States-Canadian Provinces Alliance (SEUS), St. John's, NL, July, 2009;
- Council of the Federation (COF) Regina, SK, August 2009; and pre-COF meeting with National Aboriginal Leaders, Regina, SK, August 2010;
- 33rd Annual Conference of New England Governors and Eastern Canadian Premiers (NEG/ECP), Saint John, NB, September, 2009; and
- 17th Session of the Council of Atlantic Premiers (CAP), Churchill Falls, NL, November 2009.

These major government to government events, as well as other less public activities, resulted in the following shared outcomes for Nova Scotia:

- the development of five federal-provincial priorities;
- a successful COF Mission to Washington, February 2010, co-sponsored by Nova Scotia, where a range of policy matters were discussed with US legislators, and tidal technology research and development was profiled and promoted;
- enhanced trade relations developed with Asia, including Vietnam port, education and trade related MOU signings;
- successful adjustments to restrictions included in the "Buy American" legislation;
- informed policy decision making through improved evidenced-based practices and increased research and policy capacity;
- improved communications through an updated website (internet and intranet) and the development and implementation of a central repository and data collection mechanisms;
- creation of a new interdepartmental liaison officer program;
- development of key diplomatic and international trading relationships with Jordan and Russia; and

- award recognition for climate change leading practices in Nova Scotia awarded during the Climate Leaders Summit in Copenhagen.

This accountability report highlights the work of Intergovernmental Affairs, and outlines the progress and accomplishments in Intergovernmental Affairs' core business areas and financial results achieved during the 2009-10 fiscal year.

The Honourable Darrell Dexter
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Introduction

The Department of Intergovernmental Affairs continually strives for excellence and seeks to achieve the highest level of corporate accountability and governance. Departmental reporting is measured in terms of outcomes in order to report transparently to the public on progress and achievements of value to the citizens of Nova Scotia.

The Intergovernmental Affairs mandate states that -- under the direction of its Minister -- the department is responsible for:

- a) coordinating and advancing the Province's interests with the Government of Canada, other provinces and foreign governments at the national and sub-national levels;
- b) serving as a central point of contact for the co-ordination of the Province's intergovernmental priorities;
- c) the Protocol Office; and
- d) providing advice and co-ordination of the Province's trade policy as well as its interprovincial and international trade negotiations, agreements and disputes.

This mandate is fulfilled through three strategic goals:

1. Preserving and promoting the interests of Nova Scotia in its relations and negotiations with other governments in Canada and abroad.
2. Promoting and fostering cooperation between the Provinces of Atlantic Canada in development of policy and delivery of services.
3. Providing accurate and timely information in regard to the policies and initiatives of other governments that affect Nova Scotia to decision-makers responsible for advancing the government's core priorities.

The 2009-10 Intergovernmental Affairs Accountability Report includes sections on: financial results; progress towards achieving priorities or planned accomplishments and outcomes; and performance measures. Results are organized by the following six core business areas:

1. **Corporate Strategy Alignment:** Intergovernmental Affairs works to anticipate and identify government's strategic priorities and achieve corporate understanding of opportunities and challenges in the intergovernmental context.
2. **Negotiations:** Intergovernmental Affairs provides intergovernmental negotiation expertise to departments, and where mandated, negotiates on behalf of the province.
3. **Research and Information:** Performance of research and information gathering, analysis, and provision of responsive feedback supportive of intergovernmental priorities.

4. **Strategic Relationships:** Create and maintain trust-based, strategic relationships and contacts with other departments, other governments, and key non-governmental organizations.
5. **Strategic Forecasting:** Intergovernmental Affairs anticipates opportunities and challenges, through research and trend analysis, resulting in strategic options and approaches for advancing Nova Scotia's corporate interests.
6. **Management of Official Visits, Ceremonies, Events, and Special Programs:** Protocol coordinates and manages official visits, ceremonies and events, ensuring that correct protocol procedures are implemented to foster positive intergovernmental relationships. The Protocol Office also organizes the Installation Ceremony for the Lieutenant Governor, and Swearing in Ceremonies for the Premier and Members of the Executive Council. Through the Order of Nova Scotia, Government Gift Bank, and Premier's Certificate Program, Protocol ensures worthy Nova Scotians are honoured, special occasions are recognized and artisans are promoted. These programs foster positive relationships with all communities within the province, leading to the realization of successes, public confidence, and a foundation for cultural and business development.

The Ottawa Office

The Intergovernmental Affairs office in Ottawa promotes the province in the national capital, and provides information to Intergovernmental Affairs from the capital. The Office works closely with the federal government, elected officials, and with Embassies and High Commissions. It also serves as a base for Nova Scotia government officials and business and community leaders, with facilities designated for their use. Performance results for the Ottawa Office are reported by core business area throughout this document.

Progress and Accomplishments

Performance measures have been established for all six core business areas and these are outlined in the Department's 2009–2010 Business Plan. Progress has been made in all areas as follows:

Progress Being Made on Core Business Area #1: Corporate Strategy Alignment

Intergovernmental Affairs works to anticipate and identify government's strategic priorities and achieve corporate understanding of opportunities and challenges in the intergovernmental context.

Federal-Provincial Priorities:

With respect to federal-provincial priorities and the related strategic forecasting, the transition of government in June 2009 impacted the approval process. However, there was general knowledge of the direction by the Premier's Office and as a result some tactical advancement occurred. As the cycle of priority setting resets, it is assumed that last cycle's work will be re-invigorated with sounder cases and enhanced tactical options.

For fiscal period 2009-10, Intergovernmental Affairs implemented a set of five federal-provincial priorities based on an identification process that involved: a departmental survey; Deputy Minister consultations; Ottawa office input; Intergovernmental Affairs research agenda; Interdepartmental Committee on Intergovernmental Relations validation; and discussions with the Premier's Office. These priorities included:

- Gateway (Atlantic Transportation Gateway and arguably the newly formed Atlantic Energy Gateway)
- Fiscal Relations (federal transfers)
- Green Economy (sustainable development; energy grid, renewable energy, green jobs)
- Federal Presence (federal/military jobs, infrastructure spending - fixed and floating)
- EU Negotiations (and other trade negotiations)

The Interdepartmental Committee on Intergovernmental Relations (ICIR), a committee consisting of key intergovernmental contacts in departments was instrumental in advancing key federal provincial priorities, as well as serving as an important forum for identifying intergovernmental issues and opportunities. ICIR also provided a forum for the province's Senior Representative in Ottawa to meet with representatives of line departments and provide an update on federal provincial relations from an Ottawa perspective.

The priority setting exercise for 2010-11 was commenced during the 2009-10 fiscal period.

International Framework:

Intergovernmental Affairs led the International Framework Steering Committee through a process to confirm its mandate and develop an action plan for the next 1-3 years. The plan

contains a vision, mission, three high level goals and 20 objectives in the form of outcome statements.

As part of the International Framework Steering Committee, sub-committees were established and work was completed on the following initiatives:

- Exportable Government Services Policy - to provide guidelines and directions to departments that are exploring projects in other jurisdictions that would involve NS government programs, services and systems. The policy was developed through an interdepartmental committee and was informed by the ongoing work of a Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations (SNSMR) initiative. In the fall of 2009, SNSMR made public the final stages of a multi-year negotiation with Trinidad and Tobago for the purchase of a license to use the Province's software in the operation of a registry of motor vehicles. This success had been supported by more than a year of research and advice by IGA on intergovernmental processes and risk management, in order to achieve value for Nova Scotia taxpayers and strengthen the Province's capacity for effectiveness in similar negotiations. This collaboration was instrumental in the development of the EGS policy.
- Engaging Foreign Governments Policy – to foster trade and general relations between jurisdictions. IGA developed, with multi-departmental input, a policy with guidelines for the appropriate type of engagement, including a standard approach to developing memoranda of understanding.
- Guidelines for International Delegations – to maximize the benefits of visits to Nova Scotia by Ambassadors and High Commissioners while creating a richer experience for the visiting dignitaries.
- International and Domestic Engagement Application (IDEA) Database – to track planned and completed government travel and to provide a database of departments and officials experienced in international initiatives. This was completed effectively and efficiently through the use of existing intranet infrastructure. Government and diplomatic contacts are now shared as a resource amongst government employees who promote Nova Scotia interests abroad.

Monitoring and Response - National Governance and Senate Reform:

Intergovernmental Affairs continues to track developments in Parliament, which could have implications for Nova Scotia. Over the last few years, the federal government has introduced Senate Reform legislation which would limit the terms of Senators, as well as determine a process to elect nominees for Senate vacancies; this legislation has not been passed.

In winter/spring 2010, the government has re-introduced Senate Reform Legislation, and has brought forth legislation to increase representation in the House of Commons for provinces with growing populations, i.e. Alberta and British Columbia. Intergovernmental Affairs is researching the legislation and seeking expert views on representation in the two houses in Parliament so the government is fully apprised of the legislation and the implications.

Nova Scotia's Offshore Territory - Coastal Jurisdiction, Policy and Sustainable Development:

Intergovernmental Affairs provided support and advice to various departments and interdepartmental forums regarding the offshore territory in Nova Scotia. Of significance was the department's participation in the interdepartmental Provincial Oceans Network (PON). The work by the PON committee continued to inform the goal of preparing a sustainable coastal development strategy for Nova Scotia. A key step toward this goal was realized in 2009-10 with the drafting and release of the State of the Coast Report.

Given the importance of offshore policy and legislative issues to Nova Scotia, Intergovernmental Affairs presented a technical briefing on Nova Scotia's offshore including; coastal jurisdiction; federal provincial agreements; and constitutional and legal issues to the ICIR membership in December 2009.

Fisheries and Oceans Canada - Maritimes Region continued the planning process leading to the designation of a Marine Protected Area (MPA) for the Eastern Scotian Shelf. Intergovernmental Affairs provided support and advice to line departments engaged in First Nation, stakeholder and public consultation processes regarding the MPA designation process.

Progress Being Made on Core Business Area #2: Negotiations

Intergovernmental Affairs provides intergovernmental negotiation expertise to departments, and where mandated, negotiates on behalf of the province.

Agreement on Internal Trade:

Two major revisions to the Agreement on Internal Trade (AIT) were negotiated and signed by 13 jurisdictions including a revised chapter on Labour Mobility (the 9th Protocol of Amendment, negotiated in conjunction with the Department of Labour and Workforce Development) and the introduction of a new dispute settlement process to better enforce the agreed terms of the Internal Trade Agreement (the 10th Protocol of Amendment was negotiated by Trade staff with implementation support from Economic and Rural Development).

Under the direction of Premiers, work continued on revising and reducing internal trade barriers by negotiating a new AIT Agriculture chapter and identifying areas for regulatory harmonization. A new AIT Agriculture chapter was approved by Cabinet in January 2010.

Nova Scotia continued to lead a work group tasked with scoping out the feasibility of including Financial Services Occupations within services covered by the AIT.

Canada-EU

The Canada - European Union Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) was launched in Prague, Czech Republic in May 2009. This was the first time provinces were directly involved in negotiating a free trade agreement. Substantial interdepartmental supports

were needed aligning departmental expertise with international trade negotiation modalities. The areas of specific interest to Nova Scotia included:

- cross-border trade in services (including financial), and related labour mobility issues;
- investment, possibly including corporate social responsibility issues;
- regulatory cooperation and technical barriers to trade (all sectors);
- government procurement (including sub-provincial entities);
- state enterprises / monopolies (including their intersection with competition policy); and
- sustainable development (including trade-related labour and environmental standards).

The Department of Intergovernmental Affairs sent three officials to participate in Canada-EU negotiations in Brussels in January 2010. This constituted the second of five rounds that the parties have committed to before undertaking a ‘taking stock’ exercise to determine the benefits of concluding an agreement.

Following Round 2, trade officials presented to departments to provide an update and overview. They also organized and executed a one-day workshop for 20 department representatives, led by a Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada (DFAIT) negotiator, to help better understand trade barriers as they relate to their regulations.

Nova Scotia organized a meeting in Halifax of trade officials from the Atlantic provinces, from the Departments of Fisheries and Oceans and Foreign and International Trade, to understand the implications for commercial fisheries in the CETA negotiations and to position the Atlantic provinces well in any final free trade agreement.

While negotiations continue into 2010-11, during the reporting period, early outcomes suggest that the EU negotiations represent a unique opportunity to expand and diversify trade and enhance the Atlantic Gateway.

Canada-US Procurement / Buy American:

Intergovernmental Affairs, in partnership with the Department of Economic and Rural Development engaged with provinces and territories resulting in intensive negotiations with the United States Administration. Efforts focused on putting a provincial government procurement offer together to provide provinces with an exemption from the purchasing restrictions on the US Stimulus Package. Nova Scotia joined other provinces in supporting an agreement that opened up some access to state procurement in exchange for state access to government procurement in the provinces.

Offshore Petroleum Accord Occupational Health and Safety:

Intergovernmental Affairs activities included effective intergovernmental engagement with multiple federal departments in Ottawa, with counterparts in Newfoundland and Labrador, and the respective offshore petroleum Boards. The outcome of this work resulted in near completion of law reform negotiations involving the Department of Labour and Workforce Development, and the Department of Energy. Joint federal-provincial stakeholder consultations are planned for

2010 with industry and workers, this consultation process will culminate in the introduction of interrelated federal and provincial Bills in the months ahead.

Sable Island:

The Interdepartmental Committee on Sable Island, coordinated by the Department of Intergovernmental Affairs, continued to meet to collaborate on long term planning for Sable Island. In May 2009, Intergovernmental Affairs obtained the signature of the federal government on a Letter of Agreement with Nova Scotia for the purpose of stewardship of Sable Island, ensuring accountability and coordination of onsite activity.

Intergovernmental Affairs was a key player in discussions to promote prompt action on legally effective protective legislation, which culminated in a federal-provincial MOU and joint announcement on January 25, 2010. After the MOU announcement, Intergovernmental Affairs continued to participate actively in the provincial Sable task group. This task group worked to identify provincial interests in the Sable Island designation. Intergovernmental Affairs continued to promote federal understanding and recognition of the offshore boundary as well as the cultural and ecological importance of this iconic part of Nova Scotia.

Partnership Agreement on Regulation and the Economy (PARE):

The PARE was agreed to by Premiers to make it easier to do business across the two provinces and to collaborate for government efficiency and effectiveness. In 2009-10, progress was made toward these objectives. Nova Scotia and New Brunswick continued to work together to establish priority areas for focus under PARE, to initiate action on approved projects, and to establish underlying governance structures and processes. The first meeting occurred between the Ministers responsible for PARE. The Deputy Ministers Management Committee met on several occasions providing guidance for the ongoing implementation of PARE initiatives. The first annual report is planned to be released during the summer of 2010.

Canadian International Law Activities:

Negotiations concerning the text of multi-lateral international declarations and treaties do not typically involve 'sub national' bodies, such as provinces. However, for constitutional and practical reasons, the Federal government consults or engages provinces in labour, human rights and environmental issues before making international commitments. Intergovernmental Affairs continued to provide various departments with guidance in federal-provincial dialogue in these situations, and advise on the Province's corporate approach to the development of text and process of ratification.

A particular focus during the past year has been support for the Justice-lead interdepartmental committee recommending a position in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, which was endorsed by Cabinet early in 2010. This year, Intergovernmental Affairs also provided support to the Office of Aboriginal Affairs on international law aspects regarding the UN Declaration on Indigenous Peoples.

In preparation for the Copenhagen Climate Change Conference, Intergovernmental Affairs was

able to advise Nova Scotia's delegation on the acceptability, from a legal policy perspective, of text adopted by sub national participants (including Nova Scotia) to reflect the roles they would assume in leading the implementation of climate change solutions.

Progress Being Made on Core Business Area #3: Research and Information

Performance of research and information gathering, analysis, and provision of responsive feedback supportive of intergovernmental priorities.

Research and Information:

Research, information gathering, and analysis was successfully conducted to support the work of the other core business areas. Intergovernmental Affairs continued to develop and grow its research capacity through the hiring of two new Research Officers. This year, a client research needs analysis was conducted in association with consultations/inputs from various stakeholders. These needs were consolidated and used as the basis for a research action plan which was developed.

In preparation for intergovernmental meetings, and to advise senior officials and the Premier's Office, briefings were prepared on issues such as federal provincial infrastructure funding transfers, innovation, economics, broadband, pensions, climate change, crown share agreements, and military reservist legislation. As a result of this research and information gathering, Nova Scotia was well informed during various high level events. For example, the Council of the Federation (COF) related research led to solid negotiating positions for the Premier at the COF Summer Meeting in Regina, SK – August 6 and 7, 2009. This research was also helpful to the Premier for his attendance at the SEUS and NEG/ECP meetings as well as other related bilateral meetings.

Data base information systems were created and maintained for cost-shared federal provincial programs, Interdepartmental Committee on Intergovernmental Relations (ICIR) priorities, Memorandums of Understanding, performance surveys, IGA documents, and department travel.

The Ottawa Office monitored federal activities within the nation's capital and prepared briefings on subjects such as the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization, the federal government's New Fish Certification Office, Shipbuilding, the Copenhagen Climate Conference, Offshore Helicopter Safety Inquiry, and others. Briefings were provided internally and through the ICIR intranet for a wider government audience.

The Ottawa Office also produced more than 200 media reports for Intergovernmental Affairs and ICIR, 78 Question Period and Parliamentary Reports and 21 reports on the Senate. In 2009-10, the Ottawa Office participated in 55 research or monitoring endeavors. This included tracking federal employment in Nova Scotia, and presenting findings internally and to officials from other areas of government.

Progress Being Made on Core Business Area #4: Strategic Relationships

Create and maintain trust-based, strategic relationships and contacts with other departments, other governments, and key non-governmental organizations.

Department of National Defence and Canadian Forces:

In 2009-10, Intergovernmental Affairs continued to recognize the important economic contribution and strategic significance of the Department of National Defence and Canadian Forces presence in Nova Scotia. To this end, it coordinated the interdepartmental approach to developing and maintaining positive relationships with the military community.

Intergovernmental Affairs supported the needs of the Minister responsible for Military Relations, and through the Defence Forum engaged various departments in this support role. The efforts of the Defence Forum to build and develop the provincial government's understanding of and relationship with the military have been instrumental for promoting the interests of the Province and for supporting a strong federal presence in Nova Scotia. Intergovernmental Affairs was also central to preparing the Premier in his role as Minister responsible for Military Relations in response to proposed refinements to reservist legislation.

Regional Relations – Council of Atlantic Premiers (CAP):

Intergovernmental Affairs managed the Premier's participation in the 17th Session of the Council of the Atlantic Premiers (CAP) November 20, 2009. Given that this meeting was held in Churchill Falls, NL, the principle theme was energy cooperation in Atlantic Canada. To this end, discussions focused on examining energy development opportunities and transmission interests in the region.

This was a particularly important meeting for Atlantic Premiers and their discussion was timely in light of the October 29, 2009 signing of the Hydro-Quebec and New Brunswick Power Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

The outcome of the CAP meeting was a commitment to continue to discuss energy issues within the region. This ongoing discussion was of particular significance, and is critical to long-term energy sustainability in Nova Scotia. This is important given our interests in enhancing renewable energy development, especially our tidal technologies, within Atlantic Canada.

Atlantic Premiers also agreed to key messages that outlined the region's climate change priorities. Premier Dexter raised these key messages during the 2009 United Nations Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen, Denmark on behalf of his Atlantic colleagues. This contributed to Atlantic Canada being viewed on the world stage as making a meaningful contribution to address climate change.

Atlantic Premiers also discussed the Council of the Federation Mission to Washington, DC, February 2010. Nova Scotia agreed to develop a parallel program for Atlantic Premiers including a session with New England Governors and a private luncheon with Canadian Ambassador to the United States, Gary Doer.

Atlantic Premiers also launched "Let's Right the Future" - a wellness media campaign - on September 14, 2009 in Saint John, NB.

Canada-US Relations:

Nova Scotia, through Intergovernmental Affairs, continued to foster its strong ties with the United States in 2009-2010.

Annual Provincial-Territorial Consultations, Canadian Embassy, Washington, DC, May 20-22, 2009

In advance of the Consultations, Nova Scotia reached out to line departments and agencies to get a sense of their cross-border interests. This was very helpful in promoting to senior Embassy officials the exact nature of Nova Scotia's cross-border priorities, including energy and trade.

Southeastern United States // Canadian Provinces Alliance (SEUS), St. John's, NL, July 26-28, 2009

Intergovernmental Affairs led preparations for Premier Dexter during his inaugural cross-border event as Nova Scotia's Premier. At the annual SEUS Conference, Intergovernmental Affairs procured a number of bilateral meetings for the Premier. These included: Premiers Williams and Graham, Governor Sonny Purdue (R-GA) and Commissioner Matthew Kisber, TN, Department of Economic and Community Development.

33rd Annual Conference of New England Governors and Eastern Canadian Premiers (NEG/ECP), September 14-16, Saint John, NB.

For Nova Scotia, the Annual Conference of New England Governors and Eastern Canadian Premiers represented an important opportunity for the province to showcase its tidal technology. To this end, Scott Travers, President and Chief Operating Officer, Minas Basin Pulp and Power Co. Ltd presented to Governors and Premiers on the plans that Minas Basin Pulp and Paper has to harness the world's largest tides in the Bay of Fundy. His presentation was well received by Governors and Premiers.

The Conference also afforded Premier Dexter with the opportunity to raise awareness of Nova Scotia's energy efficiency technologies and requested that *in-stream* tidal and wave technology be recognized as a renewable energy source in any new US legislation, or regulation.

Visit to Nova Scotia by Colin Robertson, Distinguished Senior Fellow, Norman Patterson School of International Relations, Carleton University

As part of the province's direct sponsorship of Carleton University's "Canada-US Project", Intergovernmental Affairs organized a visit to the province by Colin Robertson. Mr Robertson provided his views on the Canada-US relationship and offered strategic suggestions on how Nova Scotia could influence it on a regular basis. In particular, he provided concrete advice on how Nova Scotia could effectively develop a program for Premier Dexter for his participation in the CoF Mission. These suggestions were well received and acted upon.

Council of the Federation (CoF) Mission to Washington, February 20-22, 2010

Nova Scotia acted as the de-facto co-lead for the CoF Mission to Washington, DC. Premier Dexter actively participated in the CoF related events and Intergovernmental Affairs was able to procure numerous bilateral meetings for the Premier. These included: Jon Wellinghoff, Chair,

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC); the Centre for Naval Analysis; Senator Susan Collins (R-M); Senator Olympia Snowe (R-ME); and Senator Jeanne Shaheen (R-NH). These meetings represented an important opportunity for Premier Dexter to put forth Nova Scotia's key messages on energy, environment and trade. In addition, Premier Dexter, along with senior officials from Nova Scotia Business Inc. (NSBI) met with representatives of Lockheed Martin and Neustar.

Strengthening Capacity for Formalizing International Relationships:

Over the past year various departments contacted Intergovernmental Affairs for advice and information as they considered relationships with particular international partners. Intergovernmental Affairs provided resources to help structure the early stages of such negotiations, piloting both a policy on foreign engagement and a toolkit for use in developing a memoranda of understanding.

An illustration of this process was the work of Intergovernmental Affairs to assist Nova Scotia Business Inc., Economic and Rural Development, and other mission participants in the development of an MOU to promote trade opportunities with the Vietnamese Province of BA Ria-Vung Tau which was signed during Premier Dexter's November 2009 visit.

Strengthening Strategic Relationships through the Ottawa Office:

In 2009-10, the Ottawa Office received 115 guests, representing federal and provincial departments, interest groups, businesses and individuals. Examples of activities the office has been involved in include:

Lobster industry

As a result of the work of the Intergovernmental Affairs Ottawa Office on lobster fishery issues, officials from the Atlantic Provinces and Quebec were given direct access to Parliament. As a result of this access, these officials were able to present critical information regarding the state of the lobster industry.

Halifax Port Authority strategic connections

The Ottawa Office assisted the Halifax Port Authority build upon their strategic connections with the Ambassador of Vietnam. Later in the year, the Halifax Port Authority successfully signed an MOU with their counterparts in Haiphong, Vietnam. Post-MOU, the Port Authority continued to build a positive relationship with Haiphong Port Officials. Discussions are expected between both parties on best practices and developing joint business opportunities this year.

Non-governmental relationship building

The Office forged relationships with non-governmental entities during the year, including East Coast Connected, Easter Seals, provincial Boards of Trade and Chambers of Commerce, Regional Development Agencies, academics and individuals.

Progress Being Made on Core Business Area #5: Strategic Forecasting

Intergovernmental Affairs anticipates opportunities and challenges, through research and trend analysis, resulting in strategic options and approaches for advancing Nova Scotia's corporate interests.

Intergovernmental Affairs engaged in significant strategic forecasting based on various sources of data:

- departmental Liaison quarterly reports on intergovernmental activity provided early awareness and intelligence gathering of emerging issues;
- daily media scans distributed from the Ottawa office, along with their notification of relevant Parliamentary committee presentations and hearings also provided key data source information and intelligence;
- analysis of Federal Speech from the Throne and Federal Budget;
- analysis of other provincial and territorial Throne Speeches;
- survey of departments federal provincial priorities;
- analysis of political platforms; and
- intelligence gathered through quarterly ICIR meetings.

As noted above, due to the changing set of political circumstances within the province, Intergovernmental Affairs conducted a review of policy platforms of parties during the Nova Scotia general election in June 2009. A review of the Nova Scotia Speech from the Throne outlining priorities of the new government was also prepared.

As a result of this comprehensive strategic forecasting, Intergovernmental Affairs was able to anticipate issues within key policy areas, such as energy; senate reform; and the Atlantic Gateway.

Progress Being Made on Core Business Area #6: Management of Official Visits, Ceremonies, Events, and Special Programs

Protocol co-ordinates and manages official visits, ceremonies and events, ensuring that correct protocol procedures are implemented to foster positive intergovernmental relationships. The Protocol Office also organizes the Installation Ceremony for the Lieutenant Governor, and Swearing in Ceremonies for the Premier and Members of the Executive Council. Through the Order of Nova Scotia, Government Gift Bank, and Premier's Certificate Program, Protocol ensures worthy Nova Scotians are honoured, special occasions are recognized and artisans are promoted. These programs foster positive relationships with all communities within the province, leading to the realization of successes, public confidence, and a foundation for cultural and business development.

Intergovernmental Affairs – Protocol:

Official Visits

Intergovernmental Affairs - Protocol was able to successfully promote the interest and global strategy of the province of Nova Scotia to foreign governments through official visits, resulting in increased opportunities for business, education, and cultural exchanges.

Nova Scotia hosted formal visits from 25 visiting countries. These official visits helped to profile Nova Scotia businesses and performers, local cuisine, and historical venues to national and international visitors. This resulted in economic, tourism and diplomatic benefits for Nova Scotia.

Order of Nova Scotia

Seventy-five nominations were received and five individuals were awarded the Order of Nova Scotia. While all the Nova Scotians honoured were deserving of the award of special note was the investiture of Sidney Crosby to the Order of Nova Scotia.

Gift Bank

The gift bank profiled artisans, promoted Nova Scotia culture, and created a positive economic impact. The Intergovernmental Affairs – Protocol gift bank sustained sales for this fiscal period over the previous year.

The Premier’s congratulatory certificate program, which recognizes special anniversary dates and occasions, such as milestone birthdays and anniversaries, provided certificates to 2500 recipients.

Additional Reporting

Information Management/Technology:

Intergovernmental Affairs has developed a multi-year equipment replacement schedule for its information technology hardware. This has resulted in staff having the necessary electronic tools to perform their functions effectively and efficiently. Evaluation of the hardware is being conducted. In response to new budget constraints, new requests for equipment are being evaluated based on the user's needs in contrast with the activity they conduct.

Intergovernmental Affairs enhanced its network connections in its Ottawa Office. This resulted in the Ottawa Office having access to new and existing technologies and by extension improved sharing between the Halifax and Ottawa offices. These enhancements set the stage for the implementation of other technologies like web conferencing.

In keeping with Intergovernmental Affairs’ goals to collect, track and share information related to intergovernmental issues, Intergovernmental Affairs enhanced and maintained the federal/provincial agreements inventory initiated in 2008-09 - an inventory of government memorandum of understandings and related policies.

New Intergovernmental Affairs internet and intranet sites were implemented. These technological advancements have resulted in greater access to information, as well as providing Intergovernmental Affairs with a mechanism to communicate publicly on progress.

Financial Results

In 2009-10, Intergovernmental Affairs had an approved budget allocation of \$3,107,000. Actual gross 2009-10 expenditures totaled \$2,994,804 (96% spent relative to the budget). The following table provides a breakdown of authority versus actual 2009-10 expenditures.

Program and Service Area	2009-2010 Estimate (\$000's)	2009-2010 Actual (\$000's)	Variance (\$000's)	Note #
Gross Expenses:				
Administration	\$2,119	\$2,133	\$14	1
Ottawa Office	\$496	\$442	(\$54)	2
Protocol Office	\$492	\$420	(\$72)	3
Total Gross Expenses	\$3,107	\$2,995	(\$112)	
Net Expenses	\$2,989	\$2,932	(\$57)	4
Salaries and Employee Benefits	\$2,069	\$1,946	(\$123)	5
Funded Staff (FTE's)	26.0	24.5	-1.5	6

Variance Reference Notes:

- Expenditures are slightly over budget mainly due to an increase in professional services and grants and contributions.
- The decrease is mainly attributed to savings related to vacant positions and clerical services.
- The decrease is mainly attributed to savings due to the retirement of the Chief of Protocol, vacant positions and other services.
- The decrease is attributed mainly to savings related to vacant positions throughout the Department, other general expenditures, and an increase in less chargeable due to an increase in Protocol payments from other departments. These savings were partially offset by increases in professional services and grants and contributions, lower than anticipated Fees and Other Charges due to lower Protocol Office Payments and lower than anticipated Recoveries due to the early return of a federally seconded employee.
- The decrease is attributed to savings related to vacant positions throughout the Department.
- The FTE decrease is due to vacant positions throughout the Department.

Measuring Our Performance

Specific performance measures have been developed to assess Intergovernmental Affairs' progress in fulfilling its core business functions. During the 2008-09 fiscal period, Intergovernmental Affairs went through an internal functional restructuring exercise. New functions were established in six core business areas:

1. corporate strategy alignment;
2. negotiations;
3. research and information;
4. strategic relationships;
5. strategic forecasting; and
6. Management of Official Visits, Ceremonies, Events and Recognition Programs

This realignment of functions ensures that Intergovernmental Affairs is well positioned to address challenges and seize new opportunities as they arise. The new structure underscores the importance of making continuous organizational improvements, ensures that we are strategically in the best position to achieve positive results for government and that we are operating effectively and efficiently.

The newly established six core business areas will support Intergovernmental Affairs in reaching its strategic goals. It should be noted, that it is not always possible to control the outcomes of activities which involve either negotiation or delivery by the line departments of government. The development of these new performance measures addresses this issue. These revised performance measures were reported in the 2010-11 Statement of Mandate and will be included in the 2010-11 Accountability Report.

It should be noted that over the 2009-10 fiscal year, Intergovernmental Affairs further revised and refined its performance measures to more accurately measure core business area success. Due to the nature of these revisions, certain performance measures in the 2009-10 Accountability Report do not directly correlate to the performance measures listed in the 2009-10 Business Plan, please see next section for information on each performance measure. This will be corrected in 2010-11.

Intergovernmental Affairs has based a significant number of performance measures on survey results from its primary client group. This survey of Nova Scotia departments and agencies was designed to provide:

- an examination of the role and function of the Department within the Nova Scotia government;
- an evaluation of the quality of the products and services offered by Intergovernmental Affairs to other departments/agencies;
- an assessment of Intergovernmental Affairs' current business direction;

- a determination of the extent to which Intergovernmental Affairs' organization and business direction are meeting the needs of its clients; and,
- a better understanding of how Intergovernmental Affairs' services generate value for its clients and where service improvements can be made. This was measured in terms of level of priority and satisfaction of individual departments/agencies and their individual comments.

Defining Measures - Core Business Area #1: Corporate Strategy Alignment

Intergovernmental Affairs' works to anticipate and identify government's strategic priorities and achieve corporate understanding of opportunities and challenges in the intergovernmental context.

Core Business Area 1: Corporate Strategy Alignment					
Outcome	Measure	Base Year	Results 2009-10	Annual Target 2010-11	Ultimate Target
3-6 corporate federal-provincial priorities	Number of priorities	2009/10	5	3-6	developed annually
2-5 corporate international priorities	Number of priorities	2009/10	3	2-5	developed annually

Corporate Priorities: Federal/Provincial and International

One of the department's core business areas is Corporate Strategy Alignment. Corporate federal/provincial and international priorities are a desired outcome that falls within this core business area.

What does this measure tell us?

Intergovernmental Affairs recommends three-to-six corporate federal provincial priorities and two-to-five corporate international priorities that are relevant to government's overall corporate priorities. These priorities are researched and developed by Intergovernmental Affairs, validated through the Interdepartmental Committee on Intergovernmental Relations (ICIR), and approved by the Premier. This measure tells us the number of corporate federal provincial priorities, and corporate international priorities.

Where are we now?

In 2009-10, Intergovernmental Affairs approved five federal-provincial priorities and three international priorities.

Where do we want to go/be in the future?

Intergovernmental Affairs will continue to develop priorities annually and work with appropriate departments and agencies to develop and reinforce a strong understanding of corporate positions and priorities relative to intergovernmental issues and negotiations.

Defining Measures - Core Business Area #2: Negotiations

Intergovernmental Affairs provides intergovernmental negotiation expertise to departments, and where mandated, negotiates on behalf of the province.

Corporate Business Area 2: Negotiations Support/Delivery					
Outcome	Measure	Base Year	2009/10	Annual Target 2010-11	Ultimate Target
Reliable process, guidance & info to support IG negotiations conducted by other departments	Client Survey: Intergovernmental Affairs provides valued IG negotiation expertise to departments	2009/10	87%	90%	95%
In negotiations under IGA's mandate, achievement of agreements compatible with NS corporate priorities	Percentage of IGA led negotiations ending in a product that is approved by Cabinet when submitted; number of negotiations led; number of negotiations completed during the year; number of completed negotiations which resulted in cabinet approval	annual	first available 2010-11	100% of negotiations completed in target year and resulted in cabinet approval	100%
Relevant policy and tool kit for corporate use concerning formalizing of international IG relations produced and approved as corporate policy	Existence of toolkit and approved corporate policy Percentage of matters which formalize an international IG relationship that follow the policy process	2010/11	delivered first available 2010-11	Tool kit developed and delivered 75% of all international MOU's follow policy process	100%

Support Intergovernmental Negotiations

One of the department's core business areas is Negotiations Support/Delivery. Providing a reliable process, guidance & information to support intergovernmental negotiations conducted by other departments; is one outcome that falls within this core business area.

What does this measure tell us?

Where line departments are negotiating matters with corporate intergovernmental implications, Intergovernmental Affairs will make available reliable information, strategic guidance, and support in the manner and timeframe necessary to enable informed, collaborative decisions by the responsible department. This measure tells us the percent of client survey respondents who agree that Intergovernmental Affairs provides valued intergovernmental negotiations expertise to departments.

Where are we now?

In response to the 2009-10 client survey, 87% of respondents agreed with the statement that Intergovernmental Affairs provides valued intergovernmental negotiation expertise to departments.

Where do we want to go/be in the future?

The annual target for 2010/11 is to increase agreement to 90% with an ultimate target of 95%.

Achievement of Agreements

One of the department's core business areas is Negotiations Support/Delivery. In negotiations under the Intergovernmental Affairs mandate, the achievement of agreements compatible with Nova Scotia Corporate Priorities; is one outcome that falls within this core business area.

What does this measure tell us?

This measure will tell us the percentage of Intergovernmental Affairs led negotiations ending in a product that is approved by Cabinet when submitted. There will be specific measures including: number of negotiations led, number of negotiations completed during the year, and number of completed negotiations which resulted in cabinet approval.

Where are we now?

This measure will first be available in 2010-11.

Where do we want to go/be in the future?

The annual target for 2010-11 will be 100% of negotiations completed and resulted in cabinet approval, this is also the ultimate target.

Formalizing International Intergovernmental relations

One of the department's core business areas is Negotiations Support/Delivery. Relevant policy and tool kit for corporate use concerning formalizing of international intergovernmental relations produced and approved as corporate policy; is one outcome that falls within this core business area.

What does this measure tell us?

Intergovernmental Affairs will provide line departments and agencies with a toolkit aimed at helping officials determine the most appropriate method for recognizing an international relationship. This measure will tell us if a toolkit and corporate policy was developed and the percentage of matters which formalize an international intergovernmental relationship that follow the policy process.

Where we are now?

In 2009-10, a toolkit and corporate policy was developed and delivered. The percentage of matters which formalize an international intergovernmental relationship that follow the policy process will first be available in 2010-11

Where do we want to go/be in the future?

In 2010-11 it is expected that 75% of all international MOU's follow the policy process.

Defining Measures - Core Business Area #3: Research and Information

Performance of research and information gathering, analysis, and provision of responsive feedback supportive of intergovernmental priorities.

Core Business Area 3: Research and Information					
Outcome	Measure	Base Year	Results 2009-10	Annual Target 2010-11	Ultimate Target
Intelligence gathering, analysis and policy advice supports sound client decision making	Needs analyses conducted annually within IGA and with select key departments. Client Survey: IGA supports IG priorities based upon evidence from research, information gathering, analysis	2009/10	annually 89%	annually 90%	annually 90%
Ongoing development of user friendly procedures for accessing IGA services	Feedback from IGA staff and clients gathered through quarterly department liaison meetings	2009/10	quarterly	quarterly	quarterly
Valid conclusions drawn based upon sound analysis of reliable data	Client Survey: IGA provides reliable, relevant and timely research by monitoring, analyzing and providing policy advice in support of key IG issues	2009/10	68%	TBD	TBD

Intelligence Gathering, Analysis and Policy Advice

One of the department's core business areas is Research and Information. Intelligence gathering, analysis and policy advice supports sound client decision making; is one outcome that falls within this core business area.

What does this measure tell us?

Intergovernmental Affairs provides key clients with relevant and timely information that supports established requirements, but also anticipates emerging opportunities and needs. This measure tells us the percent of client survey respondents who agree that Intergovernmental Affairs supports intergovernmental priorities based upon evidence from research, information gathering and analysis.

Where are we now?

In response to the 2009-10 client survey, 89% of survey respondents agreed that Intergovernmental Affairs supports intergovernmental priorities based upon evidence from research, information gathering and analysis.

Where do we want to go/be in the future?

The annual target for 2010-11 will be 90% agreement, this is also the ultimate target.

Accessing Intergovernmental Affairs Services

One of the department's core business areas is Research and Information. Ongoing development of user friendly procedures for accessing Intergovernmental Affairs services; is one outcome that falls within this core business area.

What does this measure tell us?

Intergovernmental Affairs uses a network of sources that provide reliable and valid information leading to the achievement of its intergovernmental priorities. This measure tells us if Intergovernmental Affairs staff are meeting with department representatives to ensure access to Intergovernmental Affairs services.

Where are we now?

In 2009-10, Intergovernmental Affairs staff met with clients from departments quarterly.

Where do we want to go/be in the future?

It is expected that quarterly meetings will occur in the future.

Valid Conclusions are drawn

One of the department's core business areas is Research and Information. Valid conclusions drawn based upon sound analysis of reliable data; is one outcome that falls within this core business area.

What does this measure tell us?

The measure tells us the percent of client survey respondents who are satisfied with the statement that Intergovernmental Affairs provides reliable, relevant and timely research by monitoring, analyzing and providing policy advice in support of key intergovernmental issues.

Where are we now?

In response to the 2009-10 client survey, 68% of survey respondents were satisfied with the statement that Intergovernmental Affairs provides reliable, relevant and timely research by monitoring, analyzing and providing policy advice in support of key intergovernmental issues.

Where do we want to go/be in the future?

This survey question is going to be redesigned for the 2010-11 client survey and a new baseline will be set in 2010-11, along with appropriate targets.

Defining Measures - Core Business Area #4: Strategic Relationships

Create and maintain trust-based, strategic relationships and contacts with other departments, other governments, and key non-governmental organizations.

Core Business Area 4: Strategic Relationships					
Outcome	Measure	Base Year	Results 2009-10	Annual Target 2010-11	Ultimate Target
Nova Scotia line departments, central agencies and the Premier's Office fully served via productive: interdepartmental relationships; IG relationships; and Province of Nova Scotia to external agency relationships	Client Survey: IGA works to create and maintain trust-based strategic relationships with others;	2009/10	85%	85%	95%
	Client Survey: IGA works effectively to engage relevant stakeholders to develop and achieve IG objectives;	2009/10	77%	TBD	TBD
	number of facilitated transactions;	2010/11	first available 2010-11	TBD	TBD
	execution of IGA pre/post meeting engagement process for every significant meeting/event (% of times used)	2010/11	first available 2010-11	100%	100%

Productive Interdepartmental Relationships

One of the department's core business areas is Strategic Relationships. Ensuring that Nova Scotia line departments, central agencies and the Premier's Office are full served via productive interdepartmental relationships; is the outcome that falls within this core business area.

What does this measure tell us?

This measure tells us:

- a) The percent of client survey respondents who agree with the statement that Intergovernmental Affairs works to create and maintain trust-based strategic relationships with others.
- b) The percent of client survey respondents who are satisfied with the statement that Intergovernmental Affairs works effectively to engage relevant stakeholders to develop and achieve intergovernmental objectives.
- c) The number of facilitated transactions.
- d) The execution of an IGA pre/post meeting engagement process for every significant meeting/event (% of times used).

Where are we now?

- a) In response to the 2009-10 client survey, 85% of survey respondents agreed that Intergovernmental Affairs works to create and maintain trust-based strategic relationships with others.
- b) In response to the 2009-10 client survey, 77% of survey respondents are satisfied with the statement that Intergovernmental Affairs works effectively to engage relevant stakeholders to develop and achieve intergovernmental objectives.
- c) This information was not available for 2009-10.
- d) This information was not available for 2009-10.

Where do we want to go/be in the future?

- a) The annual target for 2010-11 is for 85% of survey respondents agreed that Intergovernmental Affairs works to create and maintain trust-based strategic relationships with others, with an ultimate target of 95%.
- b) This survey question is going to be redesigned for the 2010-11 client survey and a new baseline will be set in 2010-11, along with appropriate targets.
- c) Baseline data will be available for the number of facilitated transaction in 2010-11, along with appropriate targets.
- d) Baseline data will be available on the execution of Intergovernmental Affairs pre/post meeting engagement process for every significant meeting/event in 2010-11, along with appropriate targets.

Defining Measures - Core Business Area #5: Strategic Forecasting

Intergovernmental Affairs anticipates opportunities and challenges, through research and trend analysis, resulting in strategic options and approaches for advancing Nova Scotia’s corporate interests.

Core Business Area 5: Strategic Forecasting					
Outcome	Measure	Base Year	Results 2009-10	Annual Target 2010-11	Ultimate Target
Anticipation of policy and advice requirements backed up with evidence based responses/ action options	Client Survey: IGA anticipates and forecasts government's strategic priorities and develops corporate understanding of IG opportunities and challenges	2009/10	83%	85%	90%

Anticipation of Policy and Advice Requirements

One of the department’s core business areas is Strategic Forecasting. Anticipation of policy and advice requirements backed up with evidence based responses/action options; is the outcome that falls within this core business area.

What does this measure tell us?

This measure tells us the percent of client survey respondents who agree with the statement that Intergovernmental Affairs anticipates and forecasts government’s strategic priorities and develops corporate understanding of intergovernmental opportunities and challenges.

Where are we now?

In response to the 2009-10 client survey, 83% of survey respondents agreed with the statement that Intergovernmental Affairs anticipates and forecasts government’s strategic priorities and develops corporate understanding of intergovernmental opportunities and challenges.

Where do we want to go/be in the future?

The annual target for 2010-11 will be 85% agreement; the ultimate target is 90%.

Defining Measures - Core Business Area #6: Management of Official Visits, Ceremonies, Events, and Special Programs

Protocol co-ordinates and manages official visits, ceremonies and events, ensuring that correct protocol procedures are implemented to foster positive intergovernmental relationships. The Protocol Office also organizes the Installation Ceremony for the Lieutenant Governor, and Swearing in Ceremonies for the Premier and Members of the Executive Council. Through the Order of Nova Scotia, Government Gift Bank, and Premier's Certificate Program, Protocol ensures worthy Nova Scotians are honoured, special occasions are recognized and artisans are promoted. These programs foster positive relationships with all communities within the province, leading to the realization of successes, public confidence, and a foundation for cultural and business development.

Core Business Area 6: Management of Official Visits, Ceremonies, Events, and Special Programs					
Outcome	Measure	Base Year 2009-10	Results 2009-10	Annual Target 2010-11	Ultimate Target
Promotion of the interests and global strategy of PNS to foreign governments through official visits, resulting in increased opportunities for business, education and cultural exchanges	Number of visiting countries;	2009/10	18	25	30
	number of priority countries;		11	5	15
	engagement of Honorary Consuls;		100%	100%	100%
	departmental support;		100%	100%	100%
	Executive Council member engagement		100%	100%	100%
Official events profile performers, local cuisine, and historical venues to national and international visitors	Performers profiled are from Nova Scotia;	2009/10	100%	95%	100%
	local cuisine served at events;		90%	90%	100%
	events take place in historic venues (Province House, Government House)		100%	90%	100%
The Order of Nova Scotia encourages Nova Scotians to take pride in their province and its people and encourages the pursuit of excellence	Number of nominations and re-nominations;	2009/10	75	75	65
	number of recipients invested		5	5	5 (6 if a youth is selected)

The Gift Bank promotes artisans working in different mediums that represent the diverse communities and culture that exist in Nova Scotia	Number of artisans profiled from communities across the Province	2009/ 10	94 56 artisans 20 authors 18 musicians	75	75
Premier's Congratulatory Certificate Program recognizes 2,500 Nova Scotians annually	Number of Nova Scotians recognized	2009/ 10	1,957 1,734 birth/ Anniversary 223 civil servant retirement	2,000	2,000

Promotion of Interests and Global Strategy

One of the department's core business areas is Management of Official Visits, Ceremonies, Events, and Special Programs. Promotion of the interests and global strategy of Nova Scotia to foreign governments through official visits, resulting in increased opportunities for business, education and cultural exchanges; is the outcome that falls within this core business area.

What does this measure tell us?

The measure tells us:

- a) The number of visiting countries to Nova Scotia
- b) The number of priority countries that made official visits to Nova Scotia
- c) The percent of engagement of Honorary Consuls based in Halifax that were contacted and involved in the visit of a dignitary from the country they represent
- d) The percent of support provided by line departments for official visits
- e) The percent of Executive Council members (Ministers or their representatives) were involved in visits when meeting with those departments were requested by various embassies

Where are we now?

In 2009-10:

- a) Nova Scotia received 18 visiting countries
- b) 11 priority countries made official visits to Nova Scotia
- c) 100% of Honorary Consuls were engaged
- d) 100% of departments were supported
- e) 100% engagement with Executive Council

Where do we want to go/be in the future?

- a) The annual target for 2010/11 is to receive 25 visiting countries, this is also the ultimate target
- b) The annual target for 2010-11 is for at least five priority countries to make official visits to Nova Scotia, with an ultimate target of 15 countries
- c) The annual target for 2010-11 is 100% engagement of Honorary Consuls, this is also the ultimate target
- d) The annual target for 2010-11 is 100% department support, this is also the ultimate target
- e) The annual target for 2010-11 is 100% engagement of Executive Council members, this is also the ultimate target

Official Events

One of the department's core business areas is Management of Official Visits, Ceremonies, Events, and Special Programs. Official events profile performers, local cuisine, and historical venues to national and international visitors; is the outcome that falls within this core business area.

What does this measure tell us?

This measure tells us:

- a) The percent of performers profiled at official events that are from Nova Scotia.
- b) The percent of official events where local cuisine was served.
- c) The percent of official events that take place in historic venues.

Where are we now?

In 2009-10:

- a) 100% of performers profiled at official events were from Nova Scotia.
- b) 90% of official events served local cuisine.
- c) 100% of official events took place in historic venues.

Where do we want to go/be in the future?

- a) The annual target for 2010-11 is 50% of performers profiled from Nova Scotia, with an ultimate target of 100%.
- b) The annual target for 2010-11 is 90% of official events serving local cuisine, with an ultimate target of 100%.
- c) The annual target for 2010-11 is 90% of events taking place in historic venues, with an ultimate target of 100%.

The Order of Nova Scotia

One of the department's core business areas is Management of Official Visits, Ceremonies, Events, and Special Programs. The Order of Nova Scotia encourages Nova Scotians to take pride in their province and its people and encourages the pursuit of excellence; is the outcome that falls within this core business area.

What does this measure tell us?

The Order of Nova Scotia will profile the outstanding achievements of five to six individual Nova Scotians on the national and international stage, building confidence in our communities, promoting excellence and contributing to the positive image of the province and its people. This measure tells us the number of nominations and re-nominations for the Order of Nova Scotia, and the number of recipients invested.

Where are we now?

In 2009-10, 75 nominations and re-nominations were received for the Order of Nova Scotia and five recipients were invested.

Where do we want to go/be in the future?

The annual target for 2010-11 is 75 nominations and re-nominations received and five recipients invested, with an ultimate target of 65 nominations and re-nominations received and five recipients invested (six if a youth is selected).

The Gift Bank

One of the department's core business areas is Management of Official Visits, Ceremonies, Events, and Special Programs. The Gift Bank promotes artisans working in different mediums that represent the diverse communities and culture that exist in Nova Scotia; is the outcome that falls within this core business area.

What does this measure tell us?

Through the Government Gift Bank, outstanding artisans will be annually recognized by utilizing their products to promote Nova Scotia culture, expert craftsmanship and enhance our economy. This measure tells us the number of artisans profiled from communities across the Province.

Where are we now?

In 2009-10, 94 artisans were profiled from communities across the Province.

Where do we want to go/be in the future?

The annual target for 2010-11 is 75 artisans profiled, this is also the ultimate target.

Premier's Congratulatory Certificate Program

One of the department's core business areas is Management of Official Visits, Ceremonies, Events, and Special Programs. Premier's Congratulatory Certificate Program recognizes 2,500 Nova Scotians annually; is the outcome that falls within this core business area.

What does this measure tell us?

The Premier and elected/appointed officials will recognize approximately 2,500 Nova Scotians annually with the Premier's Congratulatory Certificate Program, reinforcing the values of their contributions within Nova Scotia. This measure tells us the number of Nova Scotians recognized.

Where are we now?

In 2009-10, 1,957 Nova Scotians were recognized (1,734 birth/anniversary and 223 civil servant retirement).

Where do we want to go/be in the future?

The annual target for 2010-11 is 2,000 Nova Scotians recognized, this is also the ultimate target.

Human Resource Strategy

The Department of Intergovernmental Affairs is committed to a culture that promotes a diverse, considerate, safe and highly developed workplace where all staff are valued and respected. In addition, Intergovernmental Affairs is committed to maintaining a high level of ethical practice within the department and more broadly with our government partners in Nova Scotia, Canada and Internationally. We uphold the values, ethics, and conduct expected of Nova Scotia's public servants.

The 2009-10 business plan identified five Corporate HR goals and related Department Objectives. The five goals are:

1. To make a difference through a skilled, committed, and accountable public service
2. To be a preferred employer;
3. To be a safe and supportive workplace;
4. To be a diverse workforce; and
5. To be a learning organization.

In 2009-10, Intergovernmental Affairs continued to pursue the corporate human resource goals and objectives. Performance management was completed for professional staff as defined by Public Service Commission (PSC) guidelines. All staff were provided with opportunities for development and training, attendance at conferences, and other learning options, including mentoring and coaching. During the 2009-10 period there were a number of human resource accomplishments:

- An Intergovernmental Affairs staff member completed a term as secretary to the Executive Committee of GoverNEXT -- government's community of new public servants who work to promote a workplace that is diverse, rewarding, and collaborative.
- Intergovernmental Affairs staff attended culturally relevant events, such as Mi'kmaq Treaty Day and History Month activities, African Heritage Month cultural activities and Acadian activities including the "Bonjour! Awards for Excellence in French-language Services" where former French-language services co-ordinators and a French-language services champion were recognized. Participation in these cultural events provided important educational learning, helped raise cultural awareness and contributed to Intergovernmental Affairs' diversity understandings.
- Fourteen Intergovernmental Affairs staff completed at least one course facilitated by the Public Service Commission, in the areas of diversity and employment equity; respectful workplace; and occupational health and safety. This exceeded the goal set for the period of ten staff completing at least one course.