

6.7 Co-Publishing Policy

Policy Statement

Co-publishing is a means by which departments and offices may partner in publishing projects with trade publishers, thereby availing themselves of the expertise of those publishers and achieving savings for the province. The responsibility for administering this process lies with Communications Nova Scotia (CNS) and is carried out by means of a competitive procurement process via Procurement Services.

Definitions

CO-PUBLISHING

Co-publishing means the establishment of partnerships between the government and private-sector publishers to jointly publish books, maps, and magazines that originate with government but have some form of commercial potential that would be attractive to the private sector.

Policy Objectives

To provide a framework that will help ensure publications originating in government, that have some commercial potential, are offered to private sector publishers in order to:

- support Nova Scotia's publishing industry
- benefit from the expertise of publishers to increase the quality of publications
- provide a marketplace distribution of government initiated publications that may appeal to the general public
- achieve cost savings for the province.

Application

This policy applies to all government departments and offices.

Agencies, boards, commissions, or other independent or arm's-length organizations are not covered under this policy but are encouraged to follow the premise of the policy, and may consult with, and request advice and support from, Communications Nova Scotia.

Policy Directives

- Government departments and offices must consider a co-publishing arrangement when developing documents with commercial potential, in order to benefit from the appropriate subject matter experts, specifically local private-sector publishers.
- All government departments and offices must work with Communications Nova Scotia to deliver communications products and services, including co-publishing projects.
- Communications Nova Scotia will work with Procurement Services to identify the appropriate competitive process for a co-publishing project.

Accountability

Co-publishing projects will involve three parties: Communications Nova Scotia, a sponsoring Government department or office, and a trade publisher.

COMMUNICATIONS NOVA SCOTIA

Communications Nova Scotia's role is to:

- serve as project facilitator and liaison between the sponsor and the publisher
- advise government departments and offices on the suitability of titles for co-publishing
- manage the competitive procurement process, including assisting in drafting procurement documents, if needed, and evaluating responses
- ensure the terms of these agreements are fair to both parties and result in economies for the government
- monitor contracts with selected publishers, ensuring all obligations are met.

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND OFFICES

Government departments and offices will:

- Consult with Communications Nova Scotia when potential titles for co-publishing are identified
- Provide access to, or completed versions of, all content for the co-publishing project

Monitoring

Communications Nova Scotia, in co-operation with the Internal Services Department's Procurement Services division, when necessary, will monitor and update this policy annually.

References

Nova Scotia Sustainable Procurement Policy
Nova Scotia Procurement Protocols

Enquiries

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