Creating a different kind of profit

COMMUNITY SECTOR COUNCIL OF NOVA SCOTIA

Annual Report 2015-2016
The Community Sector Council is a tremendous resource. You have provided many terrific opportunities for learning and professional development. And the live-streaming is great for those who can’t make it to the actual event.
This past year has been an important one for the non-profit and voluntary sector and the Community Sector Council of Nova Scotia. As the sector stretches and grows to meet new and challenging needs, we too at the Community Sector Council have been changing.

Our initial 24 months in operation positioned us in regions across Nova Scotia, connecting non-profit organizations, staff and volunteers with important professional development and networking opportunities. We have responded to your needs and through these activities, we have developed and informed our voice for the sector while simultaneously added new capacity to organizations serving as our vital social safety net. In the last year, the Sector Council has also been focused on designing a vision and way forward. This identity project produced a new strategic plan as well as firm actions and SMART goals. We have identified four overlapping and important components of the Sector Council’s work, which include: Identity and Voice, Connecting and Convening, Capacity Building and Financial Sustainability. This has become our critical lens for developing mission-related activities. Along with this work, our board has grown to include new voices from across the province and every corner of our sector. Our staff are committed community leaders and sector advocates with a range of remarkable skills and expertise. In this - our third year of operation - I have witnessed a maturation process in the organization, which has coincided with some critical opportunities for conversations with key stakeholders about the present and future of our sector.

As we look ahead, we are keen to expand the capacity of the sector and promote the importance and value of our collective work. We want to continue to connect and convene the sector and facilitate collaborative initiatives and partnerships that both maximize our potential and address limitations. We want to raise awareness for the role that the sector plays in the broader socio-economic context. And we want to provide valuable new knowledge about the sector through research projects for policy development. We are also committed to our long-term financial sustainability so that we can continue to be a voice for the sector. As a result, we are investing in initiatives which will simultaneously support the sector and the Sector Council.

Thank you for being a critical member of our community of support. On behalf of our staff and the board of directors, please enjoy this annual report on our 2015 operating year and share in the collective success for Nova Scotia’s non-profit and voluntary organizations and the critical missions we steward.

Kristin Williams, Chair of Board of Directors
Community Sector Council of Nova Scotia
Who we are

The Community Sector Council of Nova Scotia was created in December 2012 to bring non-profit & voluntary organizations together to help them meet the needs of Nova Scotia’s citizens and communities. With funds provided by the provincial Department of Labour and Advanced Education, the Community Sector Council is administered by an independent board of directors drawn from the non-profit sector, and programs are run by a staff team experienced in the community sector.

Nova Scotia’s non-profits make a deep impact on both the economy and the social fabric of our province. According to research conducted by Imagine Canada, approximately 36,000 people are employed by Nova Scotia’s ‘core’ non-profit sector (this does not include municipalities, universities, schools, and hospitals). And more than 450,000 Nova Scotians volunteer, offering 50 million hours of service each year. The annual value of this volunteer service equals $1.8 billion.

The contributions of non-profits also add social value – a different kind of profit – to community life and local culture. The sector consists of organizations located in cities, towns, and villages in every corner of the province – there are more than 6,200 active groups. Non-profit organizations are leaders in building healthy, vibrant, and sustainable communities with engaged citizens, working in full partnership with governments and the private sector.

HELPING BUILD NOVA SCOTIA

The Community Sector Council works with non-profit & voluntary organizations as they contribute to the social, environmental, and economic needs of Nova Scotia.
What we do

The role of the Community Sector Council of Nova Scotia is to support the valuable work of the non-profit sector. The priorities are to:

1. Increase the capacity of the sector by offering relevant and high-quality learning opportunities

2. Act as a voice for the sector to promote its accomplishments, communicate relevant information on common issues and concerns, and develop solutions to shared problems

3. Create connective networks for the purpose of sharing information, addressing shared issues, and developing effective partnerships

Since our formation in December 2012, the Community Sector Council has developed a wide array of programs, services, and initiatives.

1. LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

In 2015, the Community Sector Council offered workshops and training programs in many topic areas where the sector demonstrated a need and an interest. The learning opportunities were specifically designed for the non-profit sector and included:

- Measuring Impact and Program Evaluation
- Financial Sustainability
- Non-Profit Salary and Compensation
- Stepping Up

The Community Sector Council also launched consulting services in topics tailored to the capacity needs of specific organizations and included:

- Board governance
- Strategic Planning
- Stakeholder consultation

Funds generated help to support regional outreach across Nova Scotia. CSCNS secured 12 non-profit clients in its first year.

2. ADVOCACY FOR THE SECTOR

The Community Sector Council informs Nova Scotians about the contributions that non-profits make to our province. In 2015, our advocacy activities included:

- Responding to media queries
- Presentations at conferences and other public events
- Liaising with government
- Presenting to party caucuses
- Producing original videos that tell the sector’s stories
- Representing the sector at events including celebration events (such as International Volunteer Day and Volunteer Awards Ceremony), information events (such as employment career fairs, panel discussions, and conferences), and consultation events (on topics such as the Workplace Strategy, Stepping Up, the Silver Economy).

3. NETWORKING

The Community Sector Council of Nova Scotia helps to build networks for the purpose of sharing information, addressing shared issues, and developing effective partnerships. This is done through social media, the online resource library, community conversations, and regional forums.
As a smaller non-profit organization we could never afford to hire a full-time Human Resources person. This workshop has enabled me to improve my management skills and to network with staff from other organizations who face similar challenges.
How we work

The non-profit sector spans the entire province and can be found in every community in Nova Scotia. That’s why the Community Sector Council embraces a regional structure and a collaborative approach.

Six convenors are located within communities in each of six regions across Nova Scotia. These regional offices play a vital role in giving a collective voice to the sector, and in enhancing the Community Sector Council’s capacity to address labour force and human resource issues across the province.

ENGAGING NON-PROFITS

Through conferences, community conversations, and regional workshops, the Community Sector Council brings non-profits together to discuss challenges and opportunities for the sector.

REGIONAL HUBS

Nicole Cammaert,
Convenor, Cape Breton Region

Philip Girvan,
Convenor, Highland Region

Laurie Cook,
Convenor, Central Region

Wendy Johnston,
Convenor, Northern Region

Joan Bower,
Convenor, South Shore Region

Dana Perry,
Convenor, Valley Region
Regional Highlights

**Measuring Impact & Program Evaluation**
CSC NS partnered with Tamarack Institute to develop and deliver a series of one-day workshops on Measuring Impact In the Nonprofit Sector. Eric Levitin-Reid of Tamarack facilitated five sessions from December 2014 - May 2015 in Halifax, Sydney, Bridgewater, Truro and Kentville. Sessions were attended by approximately 112 participants. Evaluations indicated participants wanted more practical tools and direction on how to evaluate the work of their organizations.

**Financial Sustainability**
CSC NS Convenors were trained by Kristin Williams to facilitate a one-day workshop on Financial Sustainability. Created by K. Williams, this program can be delivered in a ½ day or full-day format. In the fall of 2015, CSC NS staff delivered four Financial Sustainability sessions:
1. Bridgetown on Sept 22nd (12 participants)
2. Dartmouth on Oct 5th (16 participants)
3. Sydney on Oct 21st (13 participants)
4. Halifax on Nov 13th (10 participants)

**Engage NS Stepping Up Conference June 2015**
CSC NS partnered with the Engage NS Conference crew to deliver the conference in five regional sites across the province on June 6, 2016. Working with Engage NS, the CSC NS continues to engage in community conversations across the province.

**Engaging Youth**
CSC NS coordinates a non-profit section of the Halifax Career Fair every September which draws tens of thousands of post-secondary students to the event. CSC NS and other NGO’s encourage students to consider working and volunteering in the non-profit sector.

**Voice of the Sector**
June 2015 – CSC NS launches membership program. First year...58 members
CSC NS partnered with Community Foundations of Nova Scotia to provide data and input into the first ever Vital Signs for the Social Sector in Nova Scotia, 2015.
CSC staff continue to present at regional and national conferences on vital issues impacting the non-profit sector. Staff presented at six conferences in the fall 2015.
Non-profits create a *DIFFERENT KIND of PROFIT*

There are over **6,200** non-profit and voluntary organizations in Nova Scotia.

*That’s one organization for every 150 people.*

Non-profit organizations employ **7%** of Nova Scotia’s workforce.

*The core non-profit sector employs 36,000 people.*

**450,000** Nova Scotians volunteer each year.
Our Impact

The Nova Scotia Commission on Building Our New Economy called for widespread cooperation in creating meaningful employment in all corners of our province. While the report has stirred considerable interest, the significance of the non-profit sector to Nova Scotia’s economy is sometimes overlooked.

The non-profit sector not only employs a significant number of Nova Scotians, it creates communities where people want to live and work and start businesses.

The Community Sector Council worked hard in 2015 to continue strengthening and promoting the sector’s impact.

We also offered webinar training to communities across the province.

TRAINING WORKSHOPS

Since its inception, the Community Sector Council has offered many training and capacity-building activities across the province.

Over 150 workshop offered to over 2,000 participants.

Sessions covered a wide range of topics.
Training was offered in many communities in all six regions across Nova Scotia:

- Amherst
- Antigonish
- Baddeck
- Bridgetown
- Bridgewater
- Dartmouth
- Digby
- Elmsdale
- Halifax
- Kentville
- Liverpool
- Middleton
- Port Hawkesbury
- Port Mouton
- Shelburne
- Ship Harbour
- Stellarton
- Sydney
- Tatamagouche
- Truro
- Yarmouth
Our Governance

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Community Sector Council’s board of directors is comprised of nine members drawn from the non-profit sector. During 2015, the board of directors included:

**Kristin Williams, Chair**
President and CEO, Junior Achievement
Nova Scotia, Halifax

**Pamela Johnson, Vice Chair**
Teaching Staff, Coady International Institute, Antigonish

**Li Jin, Treasurer**
Chief Financial Officer, Immigrant Services Association of Nova Scotia, Halifax

**Kathryn Gamache, Secretary**
Executive Director, Aspotogan Heritage Trust Society, Hubbards

**Chris Googoo, Member-at-large**
General Manager, Ulnooweg, Truro

**Jayne Hunter, Member-at-large**
Executive Director, Literacy Nova Scotia, Truro

**Pat Bradshaw, Member-at-large**
Dean, Sobey School of Business, Saint Mary’s University, Halifax

**Tim Crooks, Member-at-large**
Executive Director, Phoenix Youth, Halifax

PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

The Community Sector Council also works with a growing list of partners who collaborate with us on many activities—and who also inform our work. They include:

- Antigonish County Adult Learning Association
- Association of Industry Sector Councils
- Association of Western Valley CAP Sites
- Canadian Federation of Voluntary Sector Networks
- Clean Foundation
- Community Services Benefits Trust
- Community Foundations of Canada
- Confederacy of Mainland Mi’kmaq
- Dalhousie’s School of Continuing Education
- Department of Labour and Advanced Education
- Department of Community Services
- Department of Communities, Culture & Heritage
- Engage Nova Scotia
- Federation of Community Organizations
- HeartWood Centre for Youth
- Community Development
- Imagine Canada
- Kings Volunteer Resource Centre
- Knightsbridge Robertson Surrette
- La Fédération acadienne de la Nouvelle-Écosse
- Lunenburg Queens Volunteer Partnership
- New Dawn Enterprises
- Nova Scotia Community College
- Tatamagouche Centre
- Université Sainte-Anne
- United Way of Halifax
- Volunteer Canada
- Yarmouth-Shelburne Municipal Recreation Association
- 211 Nova Scotia
- ......and more!
Financial Summary

The Community Sector Council of Nova Scotia has produced a summary document for the 2015/16 Annual Report based on the audited financial statements prepared by Collins Barrow Nova Scotia, Chartered Accountants. Full audited financial statements for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2016 are available upon request.

### Statement of Operations and Changes in Net Assets

For the year ended March 31, 2016

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<th>2016</th>
<th>2015</th>
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<td><strong>Revenues</strong></td>
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<td>Government grants</td>
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<td>735,299</td>
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<td>Other</td>
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<td>12,702</td>
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<td><strong>Total Revenues</strong></td>
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<td>Amortization</td>
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<td>Dues and fees</td>
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<td>Insurance</td>
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<td>1,798</td>
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<td>Interest and bank charges</td>
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<td>Meetings</td>
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<td>Occupancy</td>
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<td>Professional fees</td>
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<td>Salaries and wages</td>
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<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Excess of Revenues Over Expenses</strong></td>
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<td>12,701</td>
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<td><strong>Net Assets</strong></td>
<td>$42,351</td>
<td>$17,890</td>
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### Statement of Financial Position

At March 31, 2016

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<th>2016</th>
<th>2015</th>
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<td><strong>Assets</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Current</strong></td>
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<td>Cash</td>
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<td>Accounts Receivable</td>
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<td>HST recoverable</td>
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<td><strong>Total Current Assets</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Capital Assets</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Liabilities</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Current</strong></td>
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<td>Accounts payable</td>
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<td>Deferred revenue</td>
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<td><strong>Total Current Liabilities</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Net Assets</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Unrestricted</strong></td>
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<td>17,890</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Net Assets</strong></td>
<td>$138,200</td>
<td>$187,753</td>
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CONTACT US

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