



*This communication report is being sent from Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq People covered by the “Treaties of Peace and Friendship”, first signed with the British Crown in 1725. This treaty did not deal with the surrender of lands, but instead was meant to build a relationship between nations.*

## Co-op Information

Current Neighbourhoods	Units
Capeland Neighborhood - Spryfield, NS	3
Chameleon Neighborhood - Sackville, NS	22
Central Dartmouth Neighborhood - Central Dartmouth, NS	19
Gimmie Shelter Neighborhood - Sydney, NS	9
Lake City Neighborhood - Dartmouth, NS	4
New Armdale Westside Neighborhood - Spryfield, NS	26
Topshee Neighborhood - Antigonish, NS	10
Spanish Bay Neighborhood - Sydney, NS	18

### Vacancies

As of June 2024, there were 4 vacant units, as they undergo repairs and maintenance.

### Membership

Compass NS welcomed one new Member. Welcome Stephen.

***We sustain, build and grow inclusive housing co-operative communities.***

## Planning

### Board of Directors

The Board appointed Barb Casey to fill the open Non-resident Member Board position until the next Annual General Meeting. Barb Casey was a founding member of Compass NS and has worked in the community housing sector for over 35 years. She previously lived in a housing co-op in BC and was a previous CHF Canada Board Member.

Click [here](#) to learn more about Barb and the other Board Members of Compass NS.

### Policy & Process

The Board has approved a new Investment Policy. This policy outlines the process and restrictions for the co-op to invest funds. The Investment Policy and other co-op policies can be found on the [Member Login of the website](#) or in the Membership Handbook.



### Education

#### **Governance training**

The Board and Membership were invited to attend governance training. A workshop called Board Basics was facilitated by Denise McGahan, CHF Canada's Program Manager, Co-op & Planning Services, Southwestern Ontario. The workshop was designed to provide foundational information on what governance of a housing co-op is. An invitation was sent to all the Members, however they did not attend.

#### **DEI Training**

The Board invited Members to join them in Diversity Equity and Inclusion training facilitated by Raj Dhasi from Turning Point Resolution. The workshop allowed for participants to look at what diversity, equity, and inclusion mean, why DEI is resisted.

Special attention will be given to:

- Understanding where DEI emerged from.
- Understanding the resistance to DEI.
- Implementing DEI into our communities.

The workshop presentation has been added to the Membership portal under Resources.

## CHF Canada AGM

More than 500 co-op members and supporters attended CHF Canada's 2024 Annual Meeting in Winnipeg June 6-8, 2024, to learn, network and make important decisions in support of the meeting theme 'Building Communities Together' and our shared vision of Co-op Housing for All.



Member Co-operatives elected Angela Simpson, from Compass Nova Scotia Co-operative Homes to serve on the Board of CHF Canada representing Nova Scotia and Newfoundland & Labrador.

The CHF Canada Board has 16 seats in total, with nine regional representatives, one Indigenous Communities representative, and six directors at-large. These positions are elected by the membership. You can learn more about the CHF Canada Board [here](#).

Three Board Members (Caroline, Angela and Mark) and three Members (Edyta, Brianne and Stephen) attended the CHF Canada Annual General Meeting June 6-8, 2024, in Winnipeg and completed shifts at Tradeshow Booth that Compass NS shared with The Range Housing Co-operative and Unified Saint John Housing Co-operative. Compass NS gave away logoed lip balm and brochures to fellow housing co-op members and supporters.



## Member Engagement

### First Resident Members of Maitland Street Development

The Co-op will be welcoming new Members into the Unity North Neighbourhood as early as this fall 2024. The Board has approved the process and marketing and communications plan for the first resident Members.

Through the development process, the Co-op has consulted the community to ensure that each neighbourhood's identity is acknowledged and recognized. In this process reflection and learnings of land, buildings and historical significance was taken into consideration. Compass NS will provide priority to applicants who self-identify as Black and/or Indigenous and those that currently live or have previously lived in the North End of Halifax. 42 applications have been received so far.

[Click here to view the application.](#)

### Donation

Compass NS donated to Rooftops Canada. Rooftops Canada is an international development program of co-operative and social housing organizations in Canada. Their vision is to work with Canadian and international partners to achieve a world where everyone has a secure place to live in peace and dignity. Click [here](#) to learn more.



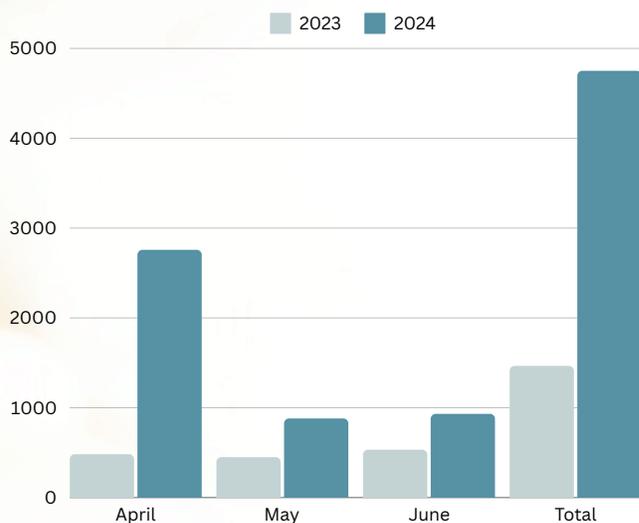
Rooftops Canada  
Abri International

## Marketing and Communication

### Website

The co-op is currently revamping the website. The new look will be revealed in the upcoming months.

The top three pages that were visited were "Apply", "Home", "Unity North Neighbourhood", and "About". The major traffic increase trend is a result of the Unity North Neighbourhood application opening.



Traffic increase: 212%

### Co-op promotion

Jaclyn Johnston, Program Manager (Atlantic), CHF Canada, provided a presentation to the New Brunswick Non-Profit Housing Association that highlighted the community engagement that Compass NS has completed to support the Unity North Neighbourhood.



## Sustainability, Growth and Development

### New Development Program Launch

In June 2024, the Federal Government announced \$1.5 billion in funding for the Co-op Housing Development Program to expand co-op rental housing. This is the largest investment supporting the co-op housing sector in the last 30 years. The program is estimated to support the development of thousands of affordable rental co-operative housing units by 2028. This program will access forgivable loans along with low-interest repayable loans to build rental co-operative housing, supporting a new generation of non-profit co-operative housing.

The Co-op Housing Development Program was co-designed with the Co-operative Housing Federation of Canada and the co-operative housing sector. The application portal opens July 15, 2024.

Click [here](#) for more information.

## Member Engagement

### Stay Up to Date

Members are encouraged to check the member portal of the website to learn more about your membership and stay up to date with co-op activities.

Members of Compass Nova Scotia Homes Co-operative can also access CHF Canada's library of co-op resources and sign up to receive CHF Canada's eNews to stay up to date on upcoming events, CHF Canada services and benefits, co-op housing news, and more.





### Maitland Street

The future Unity North Neighbourhood development is progressing. Kitchens and appliances are being installed and the exterior cladding is being completed on Building 2. Drywall and plumbing rough-in work are being completed in Building 1.

The first occupancy for Building 2 is scheduled for late fall of 2024 and Building 1 is scheduled for winter of 2025.

### Capital Repair Projects

The Capital repairs at the Spanish Bay Neighbourhood are almost complete.

### NAWS & Gimmie Shelter

Neighbourhoods had site inspections completed and the capital project plan has been established. The exterior repairs could include roofs, siding, windows, doors, decks, masonry, driveways, and structural repairs. Interior repairs could include bathrooms, kitchens, flooring, ceiling, walls and electrical and plumbing.

Grant funding for these capital repairs is being received through the Department of Municipal Affairs and Housing (DMAH) Community Housing Infrastructure and Repair Program (CHIRP).

### Tri County

The Board approved the construction tenders and the subcontractors have been established to complete the Heritage Hall and Barton School development projects.

It is anticipated that construction will begin in mid July and should be completed within 18 to 24 months.

### Current Developments

Heritage Hall, Shelburne, NS - 5  
 Barton School, Digby NS - 8  
 Maitland Street, Halifax, NS - 57

