



<b>Compass NS Vacancies</b>	May 0	June 0	July 0	August 0
<b>Compass NS Current Waitlist (new applications)</b>	May (4) 44	June (6) 50	July (7) 57	August (8) 65



Compass NS Current Neighborhoods	Units
Capeland Neighborhood Spryfield, NS	3
Chameleon Neighborhood Sackville, NS	22
Central Dartmouth Neighborhood Central Dartmouth, NS	19
Lake City Neighbourhood Dartmouth, NS	4
Topshee Neighborhood Antigonish, NS	10
Spanish Bay Neighborhood Cape Breton, NS	18
<b>Current Developments</b>	
Heritage Hall Shelburne, NS	5
Barton School Digby, NS	8
Maitland Street Halifax, NS	57

## Updates

### Education & resource development

A private membership login was added to the Compass NS website earlier this year. In the private login members can access resources such as Bylaws, Minutes, FAQ, contact information and financial information. In order to provide another source of communication for the membership a member comment box has been added to the Compass NS members only section of the website. The box is provided as a way to ease the process of communication.

The documents developed and info session recordings for the development projects as well as the membership engagement project have been included in the membership login portal.

### Promotional Video

Compass NS is working on a promotional video to add support to the current marketing initiatives. The video will give an overview of Compass NS – outlining its operational/organizational structure, current neighbourhoods, and new development projects currently underway. Compass NS's promotional video is planned to be complete at the end of October.

### Membership engagement

With the assistance of the project team frequently ask question documents were developed on the projects and an information session welcoming all members to attend was held on June 28, 2021 to outline the Maitland Street Development. Representatives from **Compass NS, New Commons Development** and **The Network** provided short presentations and gave the opportunity for members to ask questions.

After the information session was complete, a new survey was developed and feedback was requested. No members identified that further information was required.

30 members attended the July 28 borrowing resolution meeting and the two borrowing resolutions for Barton School and Maitland were passed.

## Community Housing Infrastructure Repair Program (CHIRP) Funding

Central Dartmouth Neighbourhood received approval in March 2021 to receive the Community Housing Infrastructure Repair Program (CHIRP) funding through Housing NS. Once the mortgage documents are signed the Community Housing Management Network (the Network) will provide the property management services.

The construction has begun at Topshee and Spanish Bay to complete renovations approved under the 2020 CHIRP offered through Housing NS. The Network is providing oversight for these projects and IRC is completing the project management. The construction on one building has been complete at Spanish Bay.



*Spanish Bay home during construction*



*First complete exterior of Spanish Bay*

## Membership engagement project

Compass NS was successfully approved by the [Community Housing Transformation Center](#) in April 2021 to receive funding under the Transformation Centers Community Based Tenant Initiative Fund project. This funding is to focus on member & tenant involvement in housing decisions.

This grant is being used to expand on Compass NS's annual plan to create a membership engagement strategy through a facilitated process. The grant funding allows the engagement strategy to include an education strategy and access to technology strategy.

The information gathering stage has been completed for this project. Three surveys were sent and completed. Two surveys were sent to the members and one was complete by the non-members. The data collected was presented to the members and non-members at two facilitated brainstorming sessions.

The next step in the process is to complete draft strategies based on the information supplied. The roll-out of the membership engagement strategy is scheduled for January 31, 2021.

Click [here](#) to learn more about the program.

## Community engagement

Compass NS is collaborating with the United Way Halifax and 902 Man Up to ensure that the community is being engaged during the Maitland Street development project.

902 Man Up has taken the lead on this project and completed three focus groups in June, 2021. The information was provided to the project team.

On August 23, 2021, Compass NS hosted a town hall event facilitated by 902 ManUp. Members of the project team provided presentations and were available to hear comments and answer questions from the community.

**Compass Nova Scotia  
Co-operative Homes Ltd.**

**Virtual Town Hall Meeting**  
Monday, August 23, 2021  
6:30pm – 8:30pm  
Register by:  
Email: [inquiry@902manup.com](mailto:inquiry@902manup.com)  
Phone: (902) 426-5202

This an interactive Town Hall forum that will provide an opportunity for residents and the general public to learn more about a new co-operative housing development coming to:

**2095-2219 Maitland Street, Halifax, NS**

**COMPASS NS**  
[compassnscoop.com](http://compassnscoop.com)

The project team consists of representatives from **Compass NS, New Commons Development, The Community Housing Management Network, and T.A. Scott Architecture.**

The town hall event recording has been posted on the Compass NS Maitland Street Development webpage:

<https://www.compassnscoop.com/maitland-street-development>

This webpage was created to provide further information on the development to the community and public. All the questions that were provided to the facilitator during the town hall meeting have been supplied to Compass NS by 902 ManUp. Compass NS will be providing a document responding to all questions asked during the town hall as a further resource.

Compass NS's board of directors and project team will be further reviewing the focus group information and feedback provided at the town hall.

Compass NS will explore community consultation for the following areas of the development; *how the founding members will be chosen for units, the name for the building and the use of common space.*

Compass NS is also collaborating with 902 Man Up and two local artists to erect a sign on the property. The sign will represent Compass NS and the community.

## Education opportunities

Compass NS had representatives attend CHF Canada and the Nova Scotia Co-operative Councils Annual General Meetings. The board has appointed delegates for both meetings and provided the opportunity for all board members to attend. All members of the co-operative had been invited to attend the CHF Canada AGM and education workshops.

All co-operative members have been invited and encouraged to attend the 2021 CHF Canada Fall Virtual Education Event.

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

## Media coverage

### Compass NS public statement

In response to the Halifax Regional Municipality forcibly removing a number of homeless encampments in Halifax, Compass NS's board of directors released a statement joining the community and coalition partners by highlighting the importance of safe affordable housing.

The full statement is outlined below:

*On August 18th, 2021, the Halifax Regional Municipality in partnership with the Halifax Regional Police forcibly removed a number of homeless encampments on the peninsula leading to a spotlight being put on the current housing crisis in Nova Scotia.*

*A core element of Compass Nova Scotia Co-operative Homes Ltd.'s experience is understanding and promoting safe, affordable access to housing for marginalized and vulnerable communities and we, therefore, join other community and coalition partners by highlighting the importance of, and calling on government for investments and access to safe, affordable housing across the province.*

*We further express our concern at the misconceptions and stigmatization between homelessness and safety expressed by the media.*

### Affordable Housing Commission

The Province of Nova Scotia used the Maitland Street location to make an announcement of the Nova Scotia Affordable Housing Commission (NSAHC) Recommendations. Click [here](#) to view the article.



*Geoff MacLellan, Housing Minister announced the province plans to help address the immediate recommendations made by the NSAHC.*



*Karen Brodeur, President of Compass NS and CHF Canada's Regional Manager spoke at the event as an appointed NSAHC member.*

## Development update

Compass NS is in the early stages of considering an amalgamation of two existing co-op's in Nova Scotia. [CHF Canada](#) is working with Housing NS and are in the feasibility stage of the possible amalgamation. More details to follow.

### Maitland Street

The Site Plan Application has been submitted to Halifax Regional Municipality to obtain the necessary permits to start the construction on Maitland Street. The construction manager has been tendered and hired. The construction manager will be completing pre-construction services which includes reviewing plans, providing advice on constructability coordination, value engineering and tendering.

Heritage Hall and Barton School developments will progress once funding is secured.

### Development funding update

#### Maitland Street

Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) has approved Maitland Street to receive a Co-Investment grant funding. Compass NS's partners stated that the approval received from CMHC is the fastest turn around they have ever seen.

Halifax Regional Municipality – Affordable Housing Grant Program application should be opening soon. Compass NS is working with [New Commons Development](#) to gather the required documentation for submission by December 1, 2021.

#### Barton School and Heritage Hall

Grant	Information	Status
Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP)	Potential to have 40% of the eligible capital costs for the projects funded through this program.	The program has 2 levels of approval and the application has been advanced from the provincial level to the federal level.
CMHC's – Housing Supply Challenge Grant	The program is based on eliminating barriers for pre-development work. 30 candidates will be approved.	An application was submitted August 25, 2021. Short-list candidates will be notified by October 31, 2021.
Housing NS – Affordable Housing Program (AHP)	An application was submitted to receive a capital contribution of up to \$50,000 per unit.	An application was submitted in April 2021.

## On the horizon

Compass NS is putting the finishing touches on a contest and giveaway to the members to celebrate *Co-op Week*.

The Compass NS AGM is scheduled for **November 17, 2021**. At the AGM one resident board seat will be available for election.

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