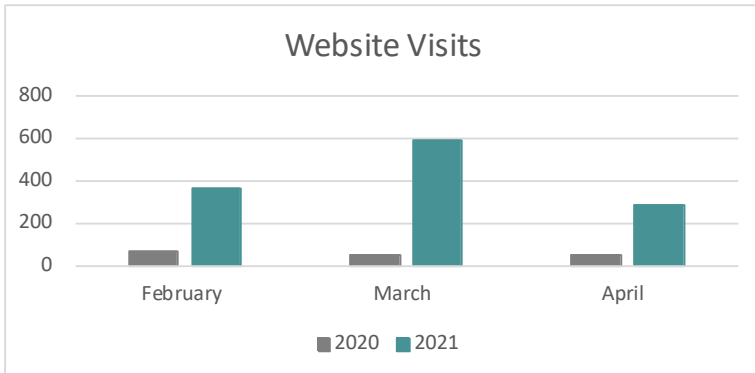




<b>Compass NS Vacancies</b>	February 0 ↓	March 0 ◆	April 0 ◆
<b>Compass NS Current Waitlist (new applications)</b>	February (8) 14 ↑	March (16) 30 ↑	April (10) 40 ◆



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 has been added to the Compass NS website and provided to all members. This login is one-stop shop for membership and is intended to answer any questions and provide resources. This portal has Compass NS’s resources (FAQ’s and board orientation), links to CHF Canada resources with information on how to create membership, Compass NS’s financials, policies and By-laws as well as information provided from The Community Housing Management Network (The Network) in regards to maintenance emergency response and contact information.

### Sale of Property

In October 2020, the membership approved the sale of 60 Spar Crescent. The property was part of the Central Dartmouth Neighborhood and had been vacant for several years prior to the building being demolished approximately three years ago. The approval was granted under the condition that the proceeds from the sale of the property be transferred to the Development Reserve to assist in increasing Compass Nova Scotia Co-operative Ltd. units. An offer for the asking price was accepted and the sale closed on April 28, 2021.

### Membership engagement

A new application was submitted to the Transformation Center in March 2021 to apply for the Community Based Tenant Initiative Fund project. This funding is to focus on member & tenant involvement in housing decisions. Compass NS was approved for the project.

This grant will be 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 first step of the project will be to survey the members. The survey is scheduled to be sent to the members in May. The results will be reported to the members through a facilitated session. Responses from this session will assist in the development of an education and access to technology strategy. In addition, engagement with both tenants and members will result in a plan to increase membership in the co-operative through the development of a strategy and a complete orientation package.

## Community Housing Infrastructure Repair Program (CHIRP) Funding

Central Dartmouth received approval in March 2021 to receive the Community Housing Infrastructure Repair Program (CHIRP) funding through Nova Scotia Infrastructure and Housing. A special resolution meeting was held with the members to pre-approve borrowing the funds through the CHIRP program for the purpose of completing the repairs.

Spanish Bay, Topshee neighborhoods were approved for the program in 2020. The funding will be used to complete repairs to the building. These projects have been tendered, the construction start date is contingent on sourcing supplies.

## Media Coverage

In February, Housing Nova Scotia announced funding commitment of \$3M (requested \$2.5M) for the Maitland Street Project. Visit [here](#) for further details.

In March, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) announced their commitment to the project through Canada's National Housing Strategy (NHS) and Federal Lands Initiative (FLI) in a live press conference with Andy Fillmore, *Member of Parliament* and Karen, President of Compass NS. Click [here](#) for details.

With the support of CHF Canada's Public Affairs and Policy team. Compass NS provided quotes and a press release in support of the project funding announcements. Click [here](#) to view. The release was used by several media outlets. Visit Compass NS's website to view all recent publications. [www.compassnscoop.com](http://www.compassnscoop.com)

## Community Engagement

Compass NS is collaborating with the United Way and 902 Man Up to ensure that the community engagement phases are being completed for the Maitland Street development project.

902 Man Up have taken the lead on this project in order to engage the community prior to the formal engagement event by hosting focus groups. The formal public engagement event for all community members is scheduled to be held on June 7, 2021.

In support of the engagement process Compass NS has created several resources as well as a webpage. The page is part of the current website and will be available for the remainder of the development. The community engagement team has been instructing their contacts to visit the website to find out further information on the development. Visit the [webpage](#) for more details.

## On the Horizon

As part of the Compass NS's strategic plan, it was agreed that a promotional video and photos would add support to the current marketing initiatives. Funding for this project is budgeted under the Sector Transformation Center grant funding. The video production is planned to start in June and give an overview of Compass NS – outlining how it was created, its operational/organizational structure and current neighbourhoods and new development projects currently underway. The video will serve as a tool to engage the community.

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

## Governance updates & activities

### Board updates

Jeanne Harnett stepped down from her board position in March 2021. The board appointed Mark Peori during the April 2021 board meeting. Mark will serve until the next Annual General Meeting scheduled for November, 2021.

Mark Peori is a resident of the Central Dartmouth Neighborhood. He has been living in his co-op home for over six years and applied to the board in the November, 2020 AGM. He has been a supporter of Compass NS and played a supporting role in the amalgamation of the Central Dartmouth Co-operative into Compass NS.

### Activities & resources

Compass NS had a board information session in April 2021. The Managing Director and President of Compass NS gave a presentation on Compass NS's history, strategic directions, development process and organizational structure.

All board members have access to a *Board Members Only* section of the website. This section of the website provides resources to the board members.

The board has appointed delegates to attend the CHF Canada and NS Co-operative Council AGM's. Both meetings provided an opportunity for all board members to attend. Additionally, all members of the co-operative have been invited to attend the CHF Canada AGM.

### General Membership Meeting

Compass NS had a general membership meeting in March. Updates were provided on the current projects and the Property Manager presented the budget and the membership approved the budget as presented.

## Project Funding

A funding proposal to the Nova Scotia Infrastructure and Housing under their Affordable Housing Program (AHP) for Heritage Hall was returned due to the project not being considered viable without support from the larger co-operative. A new application was submitted in April 2021 under the AHP program for Heritage Hall and Barton School combined.

A grant application for the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP) for Barton School and Heritage Hall has been submitted. The program has 2 levels of approval and the application has been advanced from the provincial level up to the federal level. If the application is approved, there is the potential to have 40% of the eligible capital costs for the projects funded through this program. A response is expected in the next few weeks.

In April, Compass NS submitted a Co-Investment application to CMHC for the development on Maitland Street.