



This communications 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.

Current Neighbourhoods

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

There are currently four vacant units; one is in the Spanish Bay Neighbourhood and is being used by Members getting repairs completed to their units; the remaining three units are in the Gimmie Shelter Neighbourhood and need extensive repairs which will be completed under CHIRP funding.

Membership

Compass NS welcomed two new Members. Welcome Clarice and Shirlene!

Governance

Board of Directors

Two Non-resident Board Members’ terms will be coming to an end at the Compass NS AGM this year. Nomination recommendations have been submitted to the CHF Canada Board for approval at their September 26, 2023, Board meeting.

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

Policy & Process

The current Spending Policy is being reviewed by CHF Canada and The Network management staff with consideration of the Board's feedback and Compass NS's operational requirements. The revised Spending Policy will be available for final review and adoption in early Fall.

Annual Plan

The Co-op's annual plan for August 1, 2023, to July 31, 2024, has come into effect.

2023-2024 annual goals are:

1. Develop 3 policies and 1 process
2. Support 3 existing growth projects
3. Complete 3 amalgamations
4. Increase membership engagement by 10%
5. Improve training and education by developing 2 resources
6. Increase Indigenous input in board meetings and development practices

Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting is being scheduled for November (date confirmation and details to follow). At the AGM there will be two Resident Member and two Non-Resident Member positions to fill. If you are interested in learning more about this exciting volunteer opportunity, please contact Karen Romain at kromain@thenetwork.coop or call 1-855-843-5432.

Core values: sustainability, inclusion and collaboration

Member Engagement

Tenant Initiative Project Update

The website has been updated to include recent resources. These include a Membership Handbook and a video series:

- How to join Membership meetings
- How to access Membership resources
- About Compass NS
- Compass NS Membership
- Compass NS Board

Co-op Week



Co-op Week will take place from October 15 to 21, 2023. This year Compass NS has purchased tickets to see Michelle Obama at the Scotiabank Centre in Halifax on October 18, 2023.

This event is being put on by the Nova Scotia Co-operative Council. It is a good way to support the sector and provide an exciting Co-op Week prize.

Members will be able to enter to win tickets by watching the new About Compass NS and Compass NS Membership videos. Once they confirm that they have watched the video their name will be added for a random draw. The ticket package will include travel reimbursement and one nights stay for those outside of HRM.

New member welcome package

The new Members received a welcome packages that includes a personalized card with a mug, website membership login information, a key chain and ear buds.

Education & Training

CHF Canada Vision Session

CHF Canada held a Create your Destiny: exploring options for mergers session on September 9, 2023, in Dartmouth. Angela Simpson, Vice-President attended on Compass NS's behalf and provided a presentation that told Compass NS's story from incorporation to now. Angela's presentation was very well received by the 16 Co-ops in attendance.



Atlantic Summit CHF Canada

CHF Canada's Atlantic Summit will be held on October 21, 2023 in Dartmouth, NS. There will be opportunities for networking with fellow Co-op Members in Atlantic Canada and workshops.

Compass NS plans to host a shared tradeshow booth at the event where they will be provided a small giveaway and information about Compass NS to fellow co-op members.

An invitation was sent to all Members and all those who expressed an interest have been approved to attend.

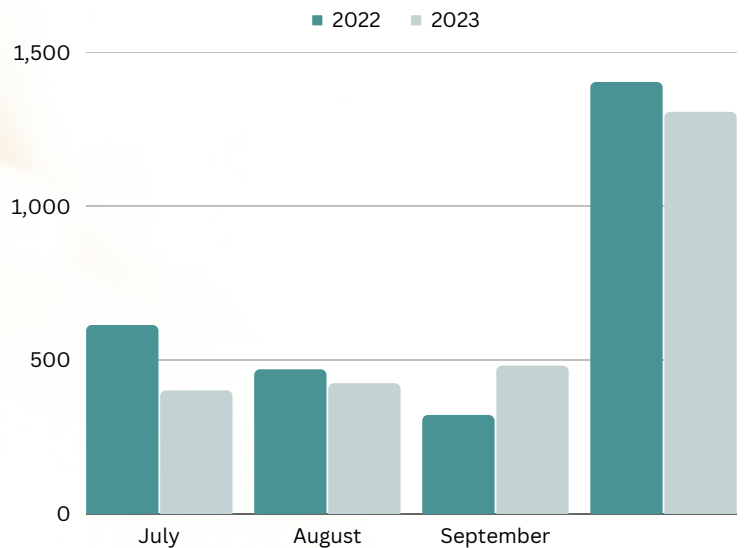
Three Board Members are planning to attend virtually and one Board Member and two Members plan to attend in-person.

Media and Communication

Website

In the 2023/24 annual plan the Board approved the production of a new website. Creative Curve Media has been retained and is committed to creating a website that is unique to Compass NS that incorporates the information from the current website in a much more organized and user-friendly manner.

Traffic is slightly down from last year (7%). It is believed to have been caused by the fact the ground was just breaking on the Maitland Street Development project last year so more people were going to the website to learn more about the development.



Interest in general information about the Co-op, and how to apply are some of the highest traffic areas. 42 applications were submitted.

Sustainability, Growth & Development

Current Developments

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

Tri County

Two planning and pre-development applications have been submitted to the Nova Scotia Community Housing Growth Fund to support the Barton School and Heritage Hall development projects. The applications are currently being reviewed.

Maitland Street

Construction continues at the Maitland Street development site. Concrete pouring for Building 1 has progressed to Level 6 and Building 2 concrete structure is complete and exterior steel framing is progressing. The tower crane is anticipated to be removed in October.



The Maitland Street project will deliver 57 units of housing in two distinct low-rise buildings separated by an accessible pedestrian corridor. The project is situated in North End Halifax, near public transit, services, health care facilities and other amenities.

Capital Repair Projects

Compass NS received Co-operative Housing Infrastructure and Repair (CHIRP) funding through Municipal Affairs and Housing (DMAH) to complete renovations at Topshee, Central Dartmouth, Spanish Bay, New Armdale Westside and Gimmie Shelter Neighbourhoods.

Spanish Bay (\$2,458,100) Phase 3 will include HRV, electrical upgrades and heat pumps. Efficiency NS has approved a \$50,106 rebate.

Topshee (\$952,600) Phase 3 will include paving their 4 parking lots.

Central Dartmouth (\$349,620) funding is complete. The Neighbourhood received roof, siding, and exterior lighting; masonry and concrete foundation work; along with decks/front porches.

Gimmie Shelter and New Armdale Westside Neighbourhood will be receiving a combined total of \$3.6 million for capital repairs.

Maitland Street Sculpture

Compass NS is considering a proposal from a local Indigenous artist who is interested in collaborating with a Nova Scotia metal artist, to produce a sculpture for the Maitland Street development.