



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.

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 five vacant units in the co-operative. Units are currently vacant while repairs are completed.

Membership

Compass NS welcomed two new Members. Welcome Gina and Bonnie.

Governance

Board of Directors

At the Annual General Meeting (AGM) scheduled to take place in January, there will be two non-resident and two resident positions up for election. The Board would like to thank Karen Brodeur, Keith MacDonald, Angela Simpson and Tina Hiscock for their dedication and hard work on behalf of Compass Nova Scotia.

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

Policy & Process

A revised Spending Policy his being drafted. The policy has been created to provide guidance to management. The main revision was to add credit card usage guidelines.

Annual Plan

A schedule has been established for the Annual Planning Sessions to support the 2024/25 annual plan. The virtual sessions are to be held on January 24th and February 7th, 2024. An agenda and meeting invites have been sent to the current Board Members and will be provided to all Board Members after the AGM.

Homes Within Reach Campaign

CHF Canada has launched a campaign called Homes within Reach: Keep Co-op Communities Inclusive. This campaign is asking the Nova Scotian government to commit to long-term rental assistance programs for low-income households living in co-op and non-profit housing. Without this provincial support, co-op housing could soon be inaccessible to low-income Nova Scotians.

Compass Nova Scotia has shown their support by signing the resolution that endorses the Homes Within Reach campaign calling on the Government of Nova Scotia to support low-income households living in co-op housing through a long-term 10-year rental assistance program and are committed to working with CHF Canada and other housing allies to achieve these goals.

**HOMES
WITHIN REACH**

Keep Co-op Communities Inclusive

Annual General Meeting

An AGM information email was sent to the Membership that included videos about the Board's roles and responsibilities as well as the video on how to join a Membership Meeting.

Member Engagement

Holiday Gift

Each household received a holiday gift from the Board of Directors which included a card and a Peace by Chocolate bar.



Social Committee

The creation of a Social Committee was identified in the 2023-2024 Annual Plan. The purpose of the Committee is to create a process that facilitates opportunities for Members to execute social events with the goal to build community and promote a culture of belonging and increase Membership Engagement. Notices will be sent to all the Compass NS Members in January about the Social Committee asking for volunteers.

Naming Maitland Street Development Project

A consultant working with community supporters and organizations in the North End of Halifax is developing a short list of possible names for the new Neighbourhood on Maitland Street. Once the Board has reviewed the recommended names, the Membership will have the final approval on the new name.

Education & Training

Atlantic Summit CHF Canada

Five Members (3 virtual and 2 in-person) attended the CHF Canada Atlantic Summit on October 21, 2023, in Dartmouth, where they enjoyed networking with fellow Co-op Members in Atlantic Canada and attending workshops. Compass Nova Scotia also hosted a tradeshow table.



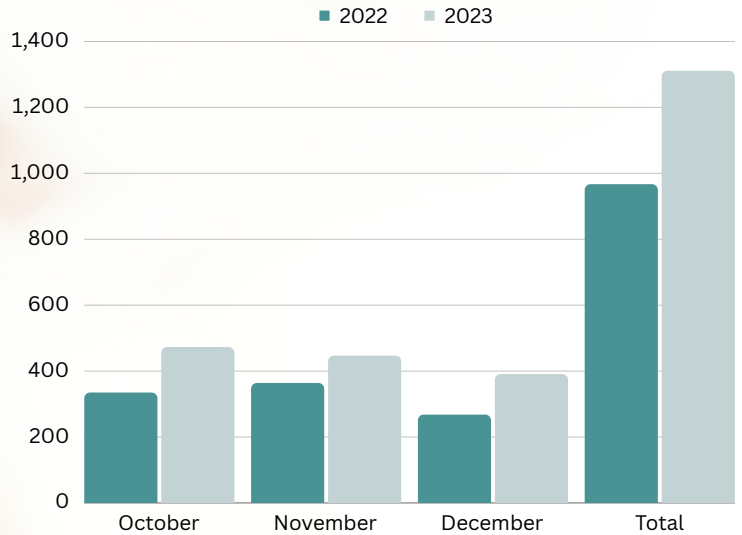
Reconciliation Toolkit

To increase Indigenous input during Board meetings and in development practices, the Board has reviewed recommendations from the CHF Canada – Building better relationships: reconciliation toolkit. Going forward the Board will continue to review and share information about Reconciliation with the Members.

Media and Communication

Website

Creative Curve has been retained to develop a new website that is unique to Compass NS while incorporating information from the current website in a much more organized and user-friendly manner. The new look will be revealed in 2024.



Sustainability, Growth & Development

Current Developments

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



Tri County

The development permit and building permit application for Heritage Hall Project was submitted to the Town of Shelburne.

A building permit for Barton School was approved with support from the Municipality of Digby who funded the cost of the building permit fee.

The project manager intends to tender the projects in two phases. The first phase would include interior demolition, potentially starting prior to end of 2023. The second phase would include the remainder of the work to be tendered January 2024 with work commencing February or March 2024.

Maitland Street

The Maitland Street Development Project is proceeding, including steel framing, exterior sheathing, HVAC rough-in and plumbing rough-in; and most of the windows are in place. Building occupancy is scheduled for late summer of 2024. An onsite tour was held on November 29th.



Capital Repair Projects

Capital repairs at Central Dartmouth and Topshee Neighbourhoods have been completed.

The final 4 units at Spanish Bay are undergoing bathroom and kitchen work and once completed the stairway flooring will be replaced.

NAWS & Gimmie Shelter capital repairs has started with site inspections. The work will begin in the Spring of 2024.

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

Maitland Street Sculpture

A local Indigenous artist, Alan Syliboy from Redcrane Studios, has been contracted to design an art piece that will be erected on the Maitland Street development site as part of the Halifax permitting requirements.

The Red Crane comes from the two-star brides legend. The story is that the crane ferried people across the river and helped the two sisters find their way back home. A Crane petroglyph was the inspiration and will be in the colour red which is considered a sacred colour.

