



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 March 2024, there were 4 vacant units, as they undergo repairs and maintenance.

Membership

Compass NS welcomed three new Members. Welcome Chelsea, Ashley, and Kris!

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

Planning

Board of Directors

Mikaila Borden has resigned from the Compass NS Board. The Board will be appointing another Non-resident Member to fill the Board position until the next Annual General Meeting. The Board extends a thank you and best wishes to Mikaila.

Policy & Process

The Board has approved a revised Spending Policy. The main updates in the Policy are:

- spending thresholds,
- contract quote requirements, and
- addition of a credit card process.

The Spending Policy and other co-op policies can be found on the [Member Login](#) of the website, or in the Membership Handbook.

Annual Plan

The 2024/25 Annual Plan was approved at the February Board Meeting. The Plan has been added to both the Board and Member Login sections on the website and in the Membership Handbook.

General Meeting

A General Meeting was held on March 14, 2024, to approve the 2024/25 operating budget. The Members in attendance were provided with a presentation outlining each budget item.

A Special Resolution Meeting was held March 28, 2024, to pass three borrowing resolutions. The borrowing resolutions were to support borrowing additional funds for three development projects and for the refurbishment projects at New Armdale Westside and Gimmie Shelter Neighbourhoods.

Annual General Meeting

The AGM was held on January 23, 2023. The Co-op received two Non-resident Member nominations from CHF Canada and four Resident Member nominations. Two Resident Members were elected, and two Non-resident Members were acclaimed.

The current 2024/25 Board of Directors are:

- Angela Simpson*
- Caroline Chapman*
- Keith MacDonald*
- Kim Walker
- Mark Peori
- Savina MacDonald*

*Directors starting new terms



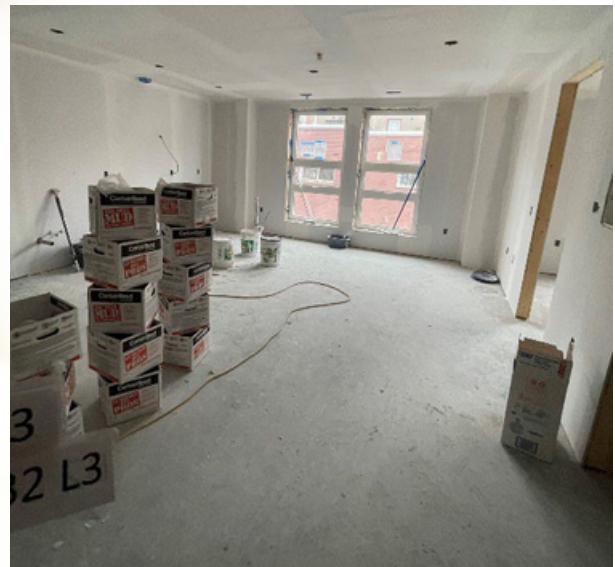
Sustainability, Growth & Development



Maitland Street

The Maitland Street Development, progressed with internal work including: drywall, plumbing rough-in and elevator install.

The first occupancy for building 2 is scheduled for late summer of 2024 and building 1 is scheduled for late fall of 2024.



Tri County

In March, Garian Construction tendered the projects. A three-week tender period is estimated with a possible extension of one week. Following the tender, Garian Construction and New Commons Development will compile and review the bids and provide award recommendations to the Compass NS Board.

It is anticipated that construction will begin in early May 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



Capital Repair Projects

The Capital repairs at Central Dartmouth and Topshee Neighbourhoods are completed.

Phase I (roofs & siding) & II (kitchens & stairway flooring) of the project plan for Spanish Bay have been completed. The final phase which includes HRV's, heat pumps and electrical panel upgrades is underway.

NAWS & Gimmie Shelter Neighbourhoods had site inspections completed. Additional funding to support the updated project plan and costing has been approved to support the needed capital repairs. The capital repair work is scheduled to begin in the Spring of 2024.

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).



Maitland Street Artwork

A metal art piece has been created and will be erected at the Maitland Street Development property. The art piece designed by a local Indigenous artist, Alan Syliboy from Redcrane Studios and produced by Creative Metals is currently weathering for installation in September.



Member Engagement

Naming Maitland Street Development Project

The Board has been working with a consultant to name the new Neighbourhood on Maitland Street. The consultant has distributed a community naming survey and has been working with community supporters and organizations in the North End of Halifax to develop a short list of possible names. The Board reviewed the names adopted the name.

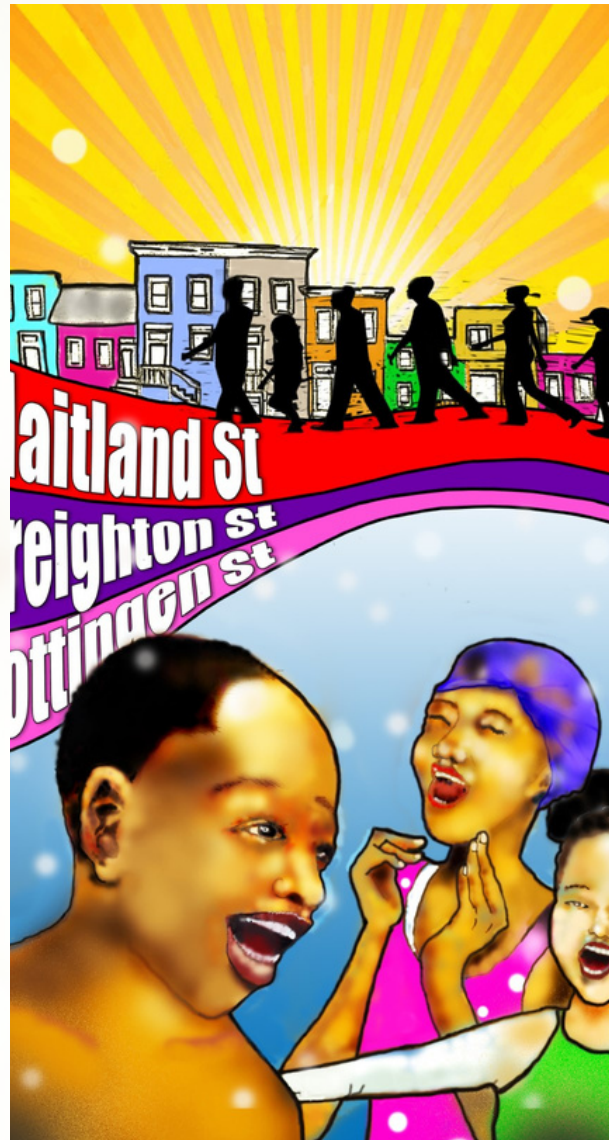
The new name is: **Unity North Neighbourhood**

Meaning: Unity is meant to underline and promote the unifying characteristics of a housing co-operative and North acknowledges the cultural significance and traditional values attributable to the people of the North End of Halifax.

First Resident Members of Maitland Street Development

The Co-op will be welcoming new Members into the Unity North Neighbourhood as early as July 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.



Member Engagement

Advocating together: Expedite the launch of the co-operative housing development program

In April 2022, the Federal government announced the Co-operative Housing Development Program – the first federal investment in co-op housing in 30 years. The co-op housing sector welcomed new investment after years of advocacy and have put forward expert advice during the co-design process.

Unified Saint John supported CHF Canada’s ask for housing co-ops to support the Advocating together: Expedite the launch of the co-op housing development program Campaign by passing and submitting a motion to support the campaign and submit letters to the Minister of Housing and MP’s.

Click [here](#) to learn more about how you can show your support.

CHF Canada Diversity Scholarship

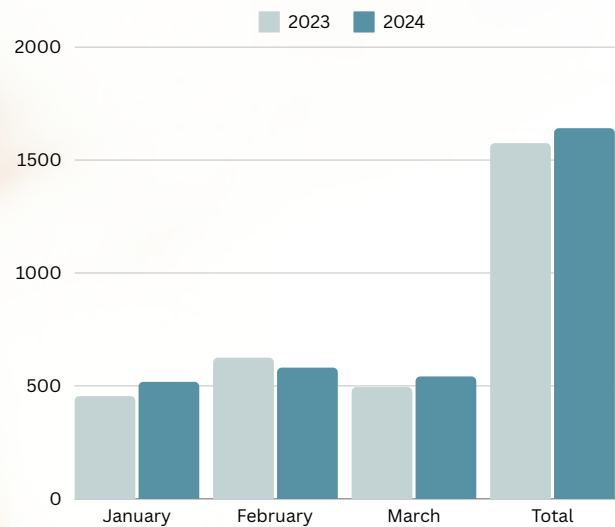
Applications are now open for the 2024 Diversity Scholarships. Any Member (or child of a Member) who is a new or returning university/college student and who are actively involved in making positive contributions to their community, may be eligible for a scholarship from CHF Canada.

Learn more about eligibility and the application process [here](#).
Applications close April 30, 2024.

Marketing and Communication

Website

Creative Curve has created the first draft of the new website. The Board is currently reviewing the website, the new look will be revealed in 2024.



Traffic increase: 4%

The top three pages that were visited were home, about, apply and Maitland Street.