



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
Barton School Neighbourhood, Digby, NS	8
Capeland Neighbourhood - Spryfield, NS	3
Chameleon Neighbourhood - Sackville, NS	22
Central Dartmouth Neighbourhood - Central Dartmouth, NS	19
Gimmie Shelter Neighbourhood - Sydney, NS	9
Heritage Hall Neighbourhood, Shelburne, NS	5
Lake City Neighbourhood - Dartmouth, NS	4
New Armdale Westside Neighbourhood - Spryfield, NS	26
Topshee Neighbourhood - Antigonish, NS	10
Spanish Bay Neighbourhood - Sydney, NS	18
Unity North Neighbourhood, North End Halifax, NS	57

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



Strategic Planning

Make Your Voice Heard!

Compass NS is going through a strategic planning process, and we want members to inform it. That means we need to hear from YOU about the vision, mission, priorities, and future direction of your co-op.

A strategic planning committee has started working with a consultant to engage member voices and bring your experiences into the strategic plan. The board invites more resident members to get involved in the committee to steer this process. Information is available to bring you up to speed. Email kromain@thenetwork.coop or call 902-897-5045 if you would like to be added to the committee.

A member survey will launch in May to begin gathering member insights that will shape Compass NS' future. After this, we will have online conversations in June. Your participation is vital to creating a member-driven strategy and a vibrant co-op community. Please watch your inboxes and get involved!

Member Appreciation Gifts

All Compass NS households received a Member Appreciation Gift, delivered either in person by volunteers or by mail.

Each household received:

- A \$25 Sobeys gift card
- A fire blanket
- A thank-you card



Fire blankets were chosen as a simple and effective household fire-safety tool. A pamphlet was included to explain how to use them safely.

New members will also receive a fire blanket when they move in. This helps create a consistent standard of home safety across the co-op.

Through Sobeys' bulk purchase program, \$97 will be donated to a local food bank.

DEI Initiatives

Compass NS remains committed to equity-informed governance. In February, the board participated in a learning session focused on shared understanding of equity and anti-racism and how these values show up in decision-making.

Co-op Information

Our Co-op at a Glance

Compass NS is growing as a member-led housing co-operative focused on affordable homes, inclusion, and strong communities.

This was a busy quarter. We held a general membership meeting, welcomed new members through orientation, supported neighbourhoods, and prepared for key next steps at Heritage Hall and Barton School.

Vacancies

As of April 2026, five vacant of our 187 homes are vacant. Four of these homes are undergoing major repairs. One is expected to be ready for a new family in May.

New members

We are excited to announce that Barton School and Heritage Hall neighbourhoods are now fully occupied.

New resident members approved this quarter are Abigale, Isabelle, Noah and Felicia.

Planning

Learning Opportunity

Five Compass NS Board Members will attend the CHF Canada AGM conference from June 11–13, 2026, in Fredericton.

An invite has been sent to members as there is additional funding available. More details will be shared by email once availability is confirmed.

This conference offers workshops, networking, and learning sessions focused on co-operative housing and good governance.

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

Join co-op members and staff
from across Canada



Member Engagement

Community Space Bookings – Unity North Neighbourhood

The online community space booking system is now available through the Member Portal. Members can:

- learn about the two available spaces
- View booking availability
- Book spaces online

The rollout has gone and members are already using the spaces. The Barton School neighbourhood community space will be added in the coming months. Updates will be shared when it is ready.

General Membership Meetings

This quarter included two important opportunities for members to come together and exercise their role in the governance of Compass NS.

The Annual General Meeting (AGM)

- Held on February 19
- Audited financial statements were approved
- Board members were acclaimed.

The General Budget Meeting

- Held on March 25
- The annual budget was approved unanimously.



Thank you to everyone who attended and contributed thoughtful questions and discussion. Member participation is key to transparent, accountable governance.

To support meaningful participation:

- Meeting resources were shared in advance: Members received FAQs, tipsheets, and background materials
- After the meetings, a member survey was sent to gather feedback Results will be reviewed by the board at its April meeting.

Congratulations as well to our gift card draw winners:

- AGM winner: Linda from Unity North
- General Budget Meeting winner: Eric from Barton School

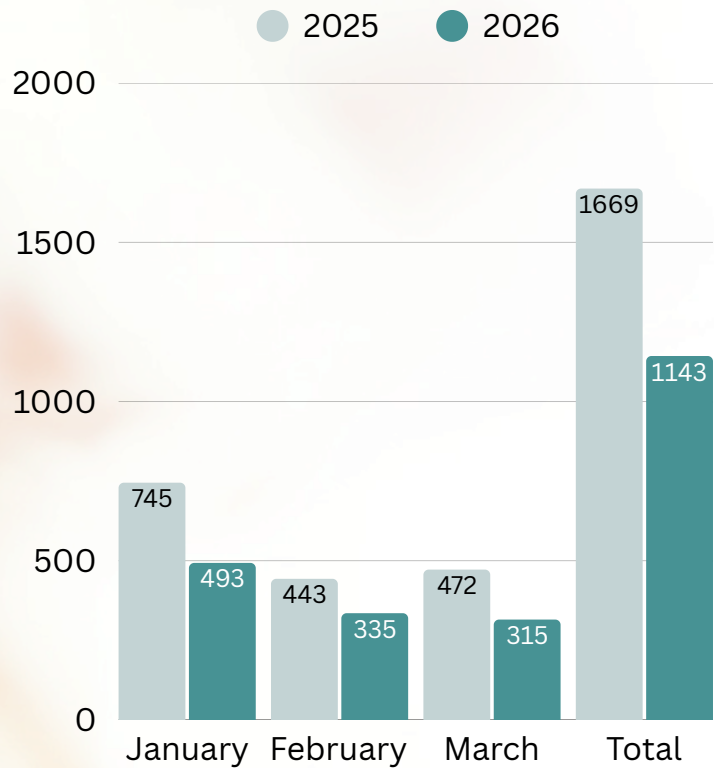
Thank you again to all members for your continued engagement and commitment to Compass NS.

Marketing and Communication

Website

Website traffic was lower this quarter than at the same time last year. This change was expected. Last January had unusually high traffic due to active lease-up of the final Unity North Neighbourhood building, which brought in many new visitors.

Despite the overall decrease, the most frequently visited pages continue to be Apply, About, and Neighbourhoods. This shows continued interest in Compass NS and how to join our community.



Traffic decrease: 46%

Sustainability, Growth and Development

Growth

Heritage Hall - Shelburne

The conversion of the former community hall is complete, and the first residents have moved in.

Barton School – Digby

Construction at the Barton School is complete. Residents took part in an in-person orientation in their common space. This session was interactive, and members shared excitement about taking part in decision-making and building their community.



Barton School Neighbourhood Members

Grand opening & building names

The Art & Social Committee at Unity North Neighbourhood has been hard at work creating opportunities for residents to connect and beautify shared spaces. This fall, the committee successfully obtained a Placemaking Grant from the City of Halifax.

Core committee members will be completing leadership workshops facilitated by the city. The committee has also gathered input through a resident survey, which revealed strong interest in social gathering and displaying resident artwork.



Rental Assistance

Many members across the country rely on rental assistance to help pay their housing charges. Two programs, Federal Community Housing Initiative (FCHI) and the Canada Community Housing Initiative (CCHI), are set to end in March 2028. If they are not renewed, some members may face higher housing costs.

CHF Canada is asking the federal government to renew this funding through the [You Hold the Key: Protect Affordable Homes. Renew Rental Assistance Now](#),

How you can help:

- [Send a letter to your MP](#) (template linked here)
- Join CHF Canada's virtual rally on [May 5, 2026](#) at 7:00 pm
- Stay informed
- Spread the word to friends and family, and have them sign up too.

Why this matters:

Rental assistance helps people stay in their homes. Renewing these programs protects affordable housing for co-ops across the country.