Existing financial agreements will not change as a result of the establishment of the new Crown Corporation.

Ultimately, our clients deserve better oversight, accountability, and consistent client service. This change will ensure policies and processes are uniformly applied in the same way for all Nova Scotians currently accessing, or waiting for, our housing.

We know this is a lot of change, and that this change will take time to implement. We ask for your patience as we continue to work through the details. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Thank you,

Mark Peck

Associate Deputy Minister Municipal Affairs and Housing



Nicolas A. Barr, B.Sc., J.D. Director, Governance & Advisory Services

Maritime Centre, Floor 8 North, 1505 Barrington Street PO Box 216, Halifax, NS B3J 2M4

**(902) 424-4656** 

Nick.Barr@novascotia.ca

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## Stéphane Cyr

From:

Barr, Nick < Nick.Barr@novascotia.ca>

Sent: To: October 20, 2022 12:50 PM AMA Maritime List Serve

Cc:

Juanita Spencer

Subject:

Housing Governance Restructuring

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Hello,

I am writing to provide you with an update.

The 5 Housing Authorities, along with the Department of Municipal Affairs and Housing (DMAH), are making organizational changes that will aim to benefit Nova Scotians already living in, or waiting for, access to public housing. To do this, we have commenced the work required to establish a new entity responsible for provincial housing.

A new Crown Corporation, with the proposed name "Nova Scotia Provincial Housing Agency", will be established to provide oversight and accountability for public housing in Nova Scotia. What does this mean?

- This means that the current 5 Housing Authorities will join together to become one new Crown Corporation. We anticipate that the Crown Corporation will be operational by the end of this year but is dependent on the new Legislation being approved (which was introduced today).
- The Crown Corporation will be solely focused on improving public housing from one end of the province to the other, by standardizing and streamlining operations.
- DMAH will provide strategic oversight to the Crown Corporation while continuing to maintain responsibility for other housing-related programs, agreements, and initiatives.
- In terms of staff movement, most staff from the Housing Authorities will transfer employment to the Crown Corporation. The Housing Authorities Rent Supplement Program Staff (Responsible for administering rental subsidies to low-income families and seniors) will transfer employment to DMAH. The DMAH Public Housing Leadership Team (Executive Directors, Directors, Managers and Support Staff) will transfer employment to the Crown Corporation.
- For those employees who will be transferring employment, their pension, benefits, and salaries will be kept whole (i.e., no one will be receiving less compensation than they do today).
- Regional offices will be maintained, and no staff will be relocated at this time.
- The 5 Housing Authority boards with be dissolved and their review function will be undertaken by staff of the Crown Corporation. Staff processes & guidelines will be developed and will ensure fairness, consistency, transparency, and accountability for the review of decisions.