

Annual Plan 2016-2017

On August 14th, 2016 the Students Nova Scotia Board of Directors approved this Annual Plan. It prioritizes the organization's goals for the year, including measurable outcomes for each item.

1. "More Engagement with Political Parties"

This goal strives to build more bridges between Students Nova Scotia and the political parties and their elected MLAs in the legislature.

What	How	Goal
Increase the connection with opposition parties.	Invite opposition members to Board events or meetings.	Have the Board meet with the leader and critic of all oppositional parties at least one time (not including Advocacy Week). Ensure each student association meets with all candidates running during the upcoming Provincial election.
Engage all political parties prior to and during the election.	Produce a platform submission tailored to each party. Invite all candidates in the ridings representing StudentsNS member institutions to participate in the Get Out the Vote campaign.	Liaise with each party prior to September 1 st on the platform submission. Follow up with the party elected within one month of the election to review their plan for post-secondary issues. Share social media moments with all candidates via the Get Out the Vote website and accounts.

2. “Expand Student Opportunities”

This goal brings Students Nova Scotia back to its roots – the students it represents. It is highlighted this year because of the importance of getting more students involved in provincial advocacy and policy, as well as improving the organization’s ability to represent them.

What	How	Goal
Get more students involved in provincial advocacy.	Plan more creative student assemblies on campuses.	Produce a guide on hosting student assemblies using best practices. Host at least one student assembly on each campus throughout the year.
Capture a diverse student population in our policy.	Make sure all StudentsNS policy has a lens for graduate, undergraduate, domestic, out-of-province, international, young, mature, part-time, full-time, College and University students.	During the one-month preview time of StudentsNS policy, hold targeted focus groups with diverse student groups at each school.
Give all students the opportunity to voice their priorities during the Provincial election.	Run an effective Get Out the Vote campaign.	Achieve pledges from 30% of students from member institutions.

3. “Advocate on University Funding”

This specific goal directs Students Nova Scotia to form a more informed opinion on the funding formula for the province’s universities so that the organization can advocate more effectively on the issue.

What	How	Goal
Develop StudentsNS's approach to the University funding formula.	<p>Research and develop a policy by consulting stakeholders.</p> <p>Include it as part of the conversation during the StudentsNS Advocacy Week.</p>	<p>Meet with every University President (or appropriate administrator) and Department of Labour and Advanced Education stakeholder about it by October 31st, 2016.</p> <p>Produce a policy on the University funding formula by December 31st 2016.</p>

4. "Increase Involvement with NSCC Campuses"

Since bringing on two NSCC campuses, there is enormous opportunity to engage more campuses and college students to strengthen the organization.

What	How	Goal
Increase membership of NSCC campuses.	Strike a Membership Committee to focus on recruitment.	<p>Meet with every NSCC campus President in October.</p> <p>Recruit two new campuses by March 1st, 2016.</p>
Increase participation of NSCC student leaders.	<p>Create more opportunity to have NSCC delegates in leadership positions throughout the year.</p> <p>Improve participation of NSCC student leaders at government round tables.</p>	<p>Encourage college students to take on a leadership position by the end of the year (i.e. Chair of a committee).</p> <p>Have 80% of student associations represented at Government-NSCC Student Roundtables.</p>

5. "Ensure Internal Stability"

While the state of Students Nova Scotia remains strong, focusing on internal stability in 2016-2017 could make this year a defining one.

5th Floor Student Center
923 Robie St., Halifax, NS
B3H 3C3

What	How	Goal
<p>Understand all areas of risk in the organization.</p>	<p>Complete a Risk Assessment of the organization.</p>	<p>Present Risk Assessment to the Board by January 31st, 2017.</p> <p>Complete a review of governance documents by AGM 2017 to match recommendations from risk assessment and for consistency.</p> <p>Strike a Governance Committee to review all StudentsNS governance matters.</p>
<p>Increase opportunity for Board Member involvement and satisfaction.</p>	<p>Make the organization more accountable to the Board of Directors.</p> <p>Expand professional development opportunities for Board members.</p>	<p>Require a 6-month review of progress on the Annual Plan every year. Include this provision in Governing Documents and present the first to the Board by March 1st, 2017.</p> <p>Facilitate at least one opportunity for external research of another student advocacy organization this year.</p> <p>Build a formalized alumni network for the organization.</p>