

## About the Nova Scotia Human Rights Commission

The Commission is an independent government agency that administers the Nova Scotia Human Rights Act. It is responsible for:

- Helping to eliminate barriers and prevent discrimination through education, training, public engagement and policy development
- Resolving allegations of discrimination

### **Vision**

The Commission is committed to actively engaging and working with all Nova Scotians to effectively:

- Advance equity and dignity
- Foster positive, productive and respectful relations
- Protect human rights

### **We are committed to:**

- Restorative processes
- Building inclusive communities
- Service excellence
- Continuous learning through research and innovation
- Transparency
- Finding ways to tackle systemic discrimination



## Need advice? Get in touch with us.

General inquiries: [hrcinquiries@novascotia.ca](mailto:hrcinquiries@novascotia.ca)  
Education inquiries: [hrceducation@novascotia.ca](mailto:hrceducation@novascotia.ca)

### **Halifax Office**

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Fax: 902-424-0596

### **Sydney Office**

Provincial Building  
360 Prince Street  
Sydney, NS B1P 5L1  
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### **Digby Office**

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84 Warwick Street  
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**Our offices are open 8:30–4:30pm  
from Monday to Friday.**



NOVA SCOTIA  
HUMAN RIGHTS  
COMMISSION

Your partner in Nova Scotia to  
address and prevent discrimination  
and promote inclusive and  
welcoming communities.

[humanrights.novascotia.ca](http://humanrights.novascotia.ca)

 [@NSHumanRights](https://www.facebook.com/NSHumanRights)

 [@NSHumanRights](https://twitter.com/NSHumanRights)

## Education, training and outreach

Commission staff are a resource for individuals and organizations across the province that want to:

- Better understand the provisions of the Nova Scotia Human Rights Act
- Advance respect for diversity to promote safe and welcoming environments for everyone
- Develop effective policies and practices that help them better serve all employees and customers

Human Rights training takes place through online e-Learning tools, group workshops and speaking engagements.

Individuals and organizations are also welcome to contact the Commission by phone or email and their questions will be answered by a human rights officer.

### Resolving Allegations of Discrimination

The Commission helps resolve allegations of discrimination under the Nova Scotia Human Rights Act. There are many ways that such allegations can be resolved and we work together with all parties to find solutions that promote safe environments.

### Partnerships

*If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together. ~ African Proverb*

The Commission is open to working with partners where our goals are aligned to develop events, activities and initiatives that promote respect for human rights in our province.

## Protected characteristics under the Nova Scotia Human Rights Act

- » Age
- » Race
- » Colour
- » Religion
- » Creed
- » Sex (including pregnancy)
- » Sexual orientation
- » Gender identity
- » Gender expression
- » Physical or mental disability
- » Irrational fear of contracting an illness or disease
- » Aboriginal, ethnic or national origin
- » Family status
- » Marital status
- » Source of income
- » Political belief, affiliation or activity
- » Harassment
- » Sexual harassment
- » Association with protected groups or individuals
- » Retaliation

## Discrimination is prohibited in the following areas

- » Employment
- » Housing or accommodation
- » Services and facilities
- » Purchase or sale of property
- » Volunteer public service
- » Publication, broadcasting or advertisement
- » Membership in a professional, business or trade association

