

Nova Scotia, Canada Grows Business

Your Guide to our
Business Advantages

Invest 
NOVA SCOTIA



Notes:

Canada's East Coast

Nova Scotia has every business advantage you need: educated workers, a thriving tech sector, and a location on Canada's East Coast—halfway between the Pacific Coast and Europe—that offers global reach and modern infrastructure.

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Why Nova Scotia?

Why Nova Scotia?

Strategic Location

Global access makes it easy for your business to operate internationally.

Time Zone Advantage

Nova Scotia's time zone makes it an ideal location for doing business from the West Coast of North America to Europe, all in the same workday. Our Atlantic Time Zone links us to international markets in the United States and Europe on the same workday—a strategic business advantage.

Reduced Travel Time:

Halifax Stanfield International Airport is the nearest major mainland airport to Europe in North America. Nova Scotia has the closest North American container port to Europe, the Mediterranean and the Suez Canada Canal. Cargo arrives a day sooner in Halifax from Europe than any other mainland East Coast port.

Convenient Harbour Access:

Nova Scotia has an abundance of natural, year-round, ice-free harbours with depths ranging from 55 ft. draft on Halifax Harbour to 200+ ft. draft on the Strait of Canso, giving it the deepest cargo berths on Canada's East Coast.

Reliable Transportation Infrastructure:

Our transportation system is an efficient and reliable combination of air, road, rail, and marine infrastructure, meeting supply chain management and logistics needs. Faster intermodal connections get your cargo to central Canada and the U.S. Midwest up to five days sooner than other ports.

Why Nova Scotia?

Strategic Location

Global access makes it easy for your business to operate internationally.

Shorter Customs Wait Times:

Nova Scotia is home to the only U.S. pre-clearance facility in Atlantic Canada and offers 24/7 Canada Customs services – plus NEXUS and CANPASS programs for frequent travelers.

Preferential Market Access:

Canada has 14 bilateral and regional free trade agreements (FTAs) in force, providing investors with preferential access to 51 countries and nearly two-thirds of global GDP. It is the only G7 nation with FTAs covering all six other G7 members.

The Nova Scotia Gateway includes:

- The award-winning Halifax Stanfield International Airport
- The Port of Halifax (including two super post-Panamax container terminals)
- Canadian National Railway (CN Rail)
- A strong logistics and warehousing sector
- An excellent Class 1 Highway infrastructure (Trans-Canada Highway)
- A comprehensive air route network serving virtually any location around the globe – and easy transport of perishable and non-perishable products worldwide



Why Nova Scotia?

Educated Workforce

Our skilled, accessible and well-educated workforce is one of Nova Scotia's greatest assets.

Canada's Education Capital:

With 10 universities and province-wide community college campuses, Nova Scotia boasts more university students and graduates per capita each year than anywhere else in Canada. In fact, more than two thirds of Halifax's working age population has a trade, college, or university designation.

Talented Graduates:

In 2023, Nova Scotia graduated over 12,000 university students with over 3,000 in business and 1,000 in computer science. Our loyal talented workforce makes Nova Scotia a great place to do business.

Workforce Training:

Invest Nova Scotia works closely with industry, academic, and government partners to provide education programs designed to meet specific industry needs.

Research and Innovation:

- Dalhousie University is one of Canada's leading research universities with 54 Canada Research Chairs.
- Nova Scotia has one of the highest concentrations of ocean related PhDs and is home to Canada's largest centre for ocean research, the Bedford Institute of Oceanography.
- Over 5,000 public and private sector researchers are undertaking exciting R&D in industries like renewable energy, aerospace and defence, life sciences, and environmental studies.



Business Development Incentives

Business Development Incentives

Whether you are starting or expanding a company, Nova Scotia has incentives to help businesses go further.

Payroll Rebate:

A performance-based, financial incentive offered to qualified companies expanding or locating in Nova Scotia. The Payroll Rebate offers a return on a company's eligible gross payroll, helping to save on eligible payroll expenses.

Innovate to Opportunity:

Helps businesses hire recent graduates with advanced (masters or doctoral) degrees for permanent, full-time jobs focused on innovation and exports, by providing a salary incentive for the first three years of employment. Employers receive 35% of the graduate's annual salary in year one, 20% in year two, and 12.5% in year three.

Workplace Innovation and Productivity Skills Incentive (WIPSI):

Provides eligible employers with a funding incentive to invest in employee skills through workforce training.

Co-Op Education Incentive:

Provides wage assistance to private-sector, government-funded, and non-profit organizations offering career-related work experiences for university and community college co-operative students.

Innovative Rebate Program (IRP):

A rebate against a company's direct capital costs, IRP provides a 25% rebate of eligible project costs for investments ranging between \$350K to \$15 million.

Business Development Incentives

Whether you are starting or expanding a company, Nova Scotia has incentives to help businesses go further.

Capital Investment Tax Credit (CITC):

A refundable corporate income tax credit claimed by eligible corporations for capital equipment acquired for use in Nova Scotia. The rate of the tax credit is 25% of the capital cost of qualified property acquired in a taxation year and a maximum tax credit of \$100 million per approved project.

Scientific Research and Experimental Development (SR&ED) Program:

Provides tax incentives to encourage research and development in Canada. Administered by the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA), it is the largest single source of federal government support for industrial research and development.

Nova Scotia Research and Development Tax Credit:

Mirrors the federal program, and provides an additional 15% tax credit to Nova Scotia corporations that incur qualified SR&ED expenditures made in Nova Scotia, as defined by the federal Income Tax Act.

Regional Economic Growth through Innovation (REGI):

Supports high-growth businesses, innovation, and productivity in Atlantic Canada by funding projects that help companies scale up, commercialize new products, and expand into global markets.

Atlantic Investment Tax Credit (AITC):

Provides a 10% refundable credit on eligible capital investments in sectors such as manufacturing, farming, fishing, and processing.

Competitive Business Costs

Nova Scotia is a cost-competitive location for business.

Competitive labour costs:

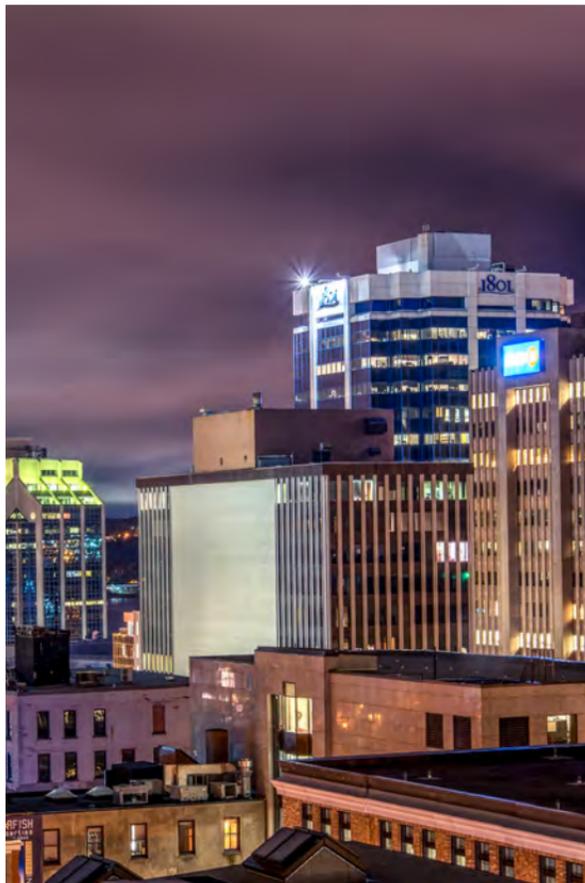
Salaries in Nova Scotia tend to be lower than in other provinces and U.S. states—a competitive advantage for companies here.

Inexpensive office space:

Q2 2024—the average Class A office space in Halifax was \$32.77/sq. ft.

Software development costs:

Halifax, Nova Scotia offers more than 50% cost savings over the U.S. average cost for software development.



Quality of Life

Where people want to live and work.

Best Overall Living Conditions:

According to the OECD Better Life Index, Canada performs high across multiple well-being indicators, ranking among the top G7 nations in income, jobs, education, health, environmental quality, social connections, and life satisfaction.

Affordable Living:

The average home price in Nova Scotia was \$449,312 in January 2025, which is approximately 33% lower than the national average of \$670,064.

Beautiful Natural Environment:

Nova Scotia's mix of urban rural landscapes and communities balance work and play with city and nature.

Short Commutes:

The average commuting distance in Nova Scotia is just 20 minutes.

Immigration Retention:

Nova Scotia has seen an average annual growth rate of 17.5% in immigration from 2014 to 2023.

Cultural Diversity:

Home to 100+ cultures and ethnicities from around the globe.

High Satisfaction: According to the *Halifax Index 2023* published by the Halifax Partnership, 83.5% of residents expressed satisfaction or high satisfaction with Halifax, Nova Scotia as a place to live.





Ocean Technology

Ocean Technology

investnovascotia.ca/oceantech

Nova Scotia is a global leader in ocean technology, offering businesses in the sector a thriving ecosystem for innovation and growth.

Oceans is big business for Nova Scotia:

- Nova Scotia is home to 300 oceans companies, with more than 140 focused on innovative technology products and services.
- The oceans sector in Nova Scotia is diverse, providing goods and services to fisheries and aquaculture, tourism, shipbuilding, offshore energy, ocean observation, marine transportation, defence and security, and life sciences.
- Nova Scotia's ocean tech products are in demand in more than 92 countries around the world, demonstrating the global recognition of our expertise in this sector.
- Nova Scotia leads Canada in ocean tech start-ups, with 40% based here.

The convergence of multiple technologies drives our innovative companies to new depths including:

- Robotics and autonomous vehicles
- Underwater acoustics, sensing and imaging
- Marine communication and navigation
- Wireless networks and sensors
- Informatics and artificial intelligence
- Enhanced engineering and environmental services

Ocean Technology

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The Centre for Ocean Ventures and Entrepreneurship (COVE), located on Halifax Harbour, is a world-class hub for ocean technology innovation.

Knowledge clusters:

- Nova Scotia universities and colleges hold approximately 25% of all federal Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) oceans research grants.
- We have a high concentration of PhDs in oceans-related sciences.
- Dalhousie University has Canada's first multidisciplinary bachelor's degree program—ocean sciences—and a marine biology major at the bachelor's level. It offers master's and doctoral programs in oceanography, marine biology, marine management, and marine law.
- NSCC offers 10+ programs that lead to careers in the marine, the fisheries and oceans industries. It is home to SEATAC.

Canada's Ocean Supercluster

A private sector-led partnership concentrated in Atlantic Canada bringing companies together to boost innovation and modernization across oceans sectors. Through strategic investment, the Supercluster develops talent, improves supply chain opportunities, and fosters more ocean startups to build the innovation and entrepreneurial ecosystem.



Ocean Technology

investnovascotia.ca/oceantech

Companies including Kongsberg, Ultra, Lockheed Martin, Thales, and many others choose Nova Scotia to access the most competitive operating costs in North America.

Fast facts:

- The ocean technology industry is about one-third of total research and development among Nova Scotia businesses.
- The Centre for Ocean Ventures and Entrepreneurship (COVE) is Nova Scotia's hub for ocean innovation and commercialization, offering deep water access, opportunities for collaboration, and access to office and workshop space for ocean technology companies.
- Oceans accounts for 13.5% of provincial GDP.
- \$154 million in research funding was awarded to Dalhousie University to investigate the ocean's role in climate change.

- The Ocean Frontier Institute (OFI) is an international hub for ocean science, bringing together researchers and institutes from across the globe to understand our changing ocean and create safe, sustainable solutions for development. OFI was created from a \$220-million investment from the Canada First Research Excellence Fund and other public and private sector partners.
- The region is home to more than \$500 million in strategic investments focused on the ocean. These include the Ocean Frontier Institute, DeepSense, COVE, Ocean Tracking Network MEOPAR and Nova Scotia Community College SEATAC.

You'll be in good company:



KONGSBERG



KRAKEN



LEEWAY
MARINE

metOcean
TECHNOLOGIES

ULTRA



Technology

Technology

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A strong workforce:

Nova Scotia's tech industry is a dynamic and rapidly growing ecosystem, fostering innovation across multiple sectors. Supported by a skilled workforce, strong infrastructure, and competitive business costs, the province is home to cutting-edge advancements in:

- Interactive and digital media
- Digital health
- Cybersecurity
- Enterprise software
- Financial technology
- Data analytics and artificial intelligence
- Advanced technologies

Nova Scotia is a leading data analytics hub in Canada, supported by both globally competitive companies and world-renowned academic institutions.

Specialty degrees:

Nova Scotia offers degrees that relate directly to industry needs including: graphics, gaming and media, artificial intelligence and intelligent systems, communications technologies, SAP software expertise, and cyber security.

Nova Scotia has 81 Canada Research Chairs. This includes one Tier 1 and three Tier 2 related to tech.



Technology

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Cognizant, Avanade, Samsung, IBM, Salesforce, CGI, NTT, Lockheed Martin, Thales, and Tesla chose Nova Scotia to access the most competitive operating costs in North America.

Vibrant eco-system:

The Nova Scotia tech industry is over 1,500 establishments strong and was recently ranked fifth in North America's up-and-coming tech talent markets. The province's emerging advanced technology sector recently saw the addition of the Microelectronics Innovation, Design and Integration (MINDI) Hub at Dalhousie University. The MINDI Hub enables collaboration between researchers and industry in key sectors—including ocean sensing, biomedicine, autonomous devices and IoT.

- The tech sector accounts for more than 25% of all private sector R&D spending in Nova Scotia.
- IBM chose Nova Scotia for their first Canadian Customer Innovation Centre.
- EY launched their Global Centre of Excellence on Robotic Process Automation in Nova Scotia.



Technology

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- Nova Scotia hosts several strategic research and technology partnerships between post-secondary institutions and the private sector, including DeepSense (ocean analytics), the Nova Scotia Health Innovation Hub, and the MINDI Hub. These collaborations drive innovation in data analytics, artificial intelligence, and microelectronic innovation.
- Atlantic Canada is a Top 10 global blue economy startup ecosystem, ranking 10th worldwide in Startup Genome's Global Startup Ecosystem Report – Blue Economy Edition. Halifax stands out for its strengths in ocean technology, clean tech, and deep tech, and has been named among the Top Five Ecosystems to Watch.

A thriving innovation district - Halifax offers one of the most cost competitive climates for tech companies.

- Volta is Atlantic Canada's leading startup hub, dedicated to empowering early-stage tech companies by providing the resources and support they need to scale.



Technology

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With a dynamic blend of top-tier post-secondary institutions, established global companies, and a buzzing startup scene, Nova Scotia is a connected, international hub for growth and collaboration.

Infrastructure:

In addition to world-class tech-talent, Nova Scotia has leading tech infrastructure.

- A world-class fibre optic network with gigabit connections available across the province, a digital communications system, and a self-generating power grid.
- Competitive operating costs for companies working in the digital services industry in North America.
- Collaborative environment that brings together industry, government, and education.

- The EXA Express transatlantic cable is the lowest latency and highest bandwidth connection available between London and New York. Nova Scotia is the central connecting hub of this network, uniquely positioning the province to take advantage of the world's best internet connections on both sides of the Atlantic Ocean.

You'll be in good company:





Seafood

Seafood

investnovascotia.ca/seafood

Canada's #1 Seafood Exporter

Nova Scotia fish harvesters and processors offer the highest quality fish and shellfish, pulled responsibly and sustainably from the icy waters of the North Atlantic.

In 2024, Nova Scotia exported \$2.4 billion in fish and seafood products to over 70 countries. Nova Scotia represents 29% of Canada's total seafood exports as of 2024.

Nova Scotia seafood is sustainable – almost 90% of the industry is certified by the Marine Stewardship Council.

In 2024, Nova Scotia's seafood exports saw significant global reach, with \$842 million destined for the Indo-Pacific region and \$241 million headed to the EU.

Always fresh:

It's easy to export large quantities of fresh products with ice-free year-round ports, convenient road, rail, and air connections and daily air service operates to Asia, Europe, and North America.

Reliable and efficient:

The province's seafood industry benefits from reliable, efficient supply chains that support everything from harvest to processing to distribution.

Seafood

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Home to a wide range of species:

Nova Scotia's seafood industry includes 210 processing companies that provide year round access to more than 52 species of premium quality fish and seafood, including:

- Canadian lobster
- Snow crab
- Sea scallop
- Oysters
- Coldwater shrimp
- Tuna
- Swordfish
- Haddock
- Atlantic halibut
- Herring
- Silver hake
- Atlantic sea cucumber

Our seafood industry operates within modern regulatory environments, with processing facilities registered to meet international quality standards.

Highest standards:

Nova Scotia's sustainable fishing industry is driven by a commitment to quality at every step along the value chain. Our partners include governments, industry associations, harvesters, processors, and supply chain service providers. Together, we work hard to deliver the highest quality fish and shellfish.



You'll be in good company:





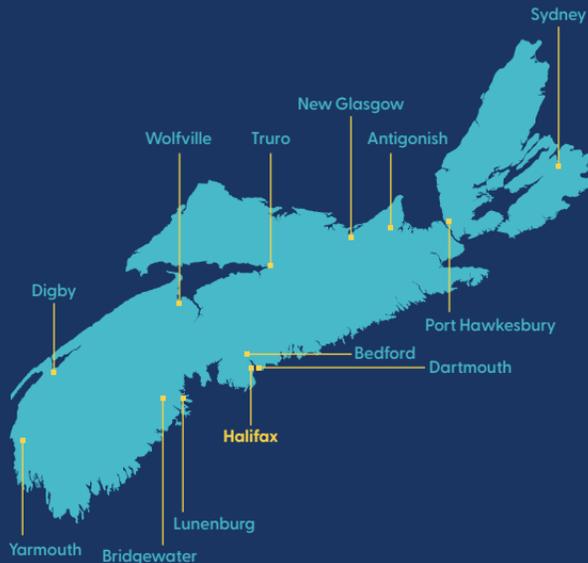
Welcome to Nova Scotia

Population:
1,079,627

GDP:
\$45.6 Billion

Capital City:
Halifax

Language:
English





Agri-Food and Beverage

Agri-food and Beverage

investnovascotia.ca/agrifood

With a temperate climate, affordable land, and an innovative community—Nova Scotia has the perfect ingredients for a thriving industry.

Beverage:

- A flourishing beverage industry exporting wines, spirits, beers (including craft beers and ales), juices, ciders, and bottled water.
- Our wine industry consists of 19 wineries producing 1.9 million litres of wine annually and supporting approximately 1,100 jobs.

Tidal Bay

Officially launched in June 2012, Tidal Bay is the first wine appellation for Nova Scotia. A crisp, aromatic white wine, it displays the unique characteristics of our cool climate region and pairs perfectly with the local seafood we're known for.

Known for our premium exports, award-winning wines, and a booming craft beverage sector, we provide a dynamic ecosystem for businesses in these industries.

Food:

- Nova Scotia produces one of Canada's most popular exports—maple syrup— and also harvests strawberries, cranberries, field vegetables, and apples.
- Oxford Frozen Foods is a global supplier of wild blueberries and one of North America's largest producers of premium frozen carrots.

Natural health:

- The first process to extract omega-3 fish oils was developed here. We are home to the largest supplier of OMEGA-3 EPA/DHA to the global food and beverage industry.
- Our agricultural innovations are transforming high-antioxidant crops like wild blueberries and haskap berries into value-added health products, while pioneering circular economy approaches that reduce food waste by converting imperfect produce into premium products.

Agri-food and Beverage

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In 2023, Nova Scotia exported \$507 million of agri-food products to more than 100 countries around the world.

Climate advantage:

- Our sparkling wines get worldwide attention and comparisons to Champagne in terms of quality. Some of our winemakers have grown up or studied in Champagne but what makes Nova Scotian bubbles truly sparkle is the mouth-watering acidity created naturally in our cool climate. Nova Scotia wines have been awarded nationally and internationally more than 200 times.
- Almost completely surrounded by water, Nova Scotia enjoys a moderate climate and a growing season that can stretch well into November.

Research and investment:

- Nova Scotia's notable research facilities nurture success in the agri-food and beverage industries.
- Perennia supports agri-food innovation with services in food safety, product development,

and crop management, providing a state-of-the-art Food Development and Innovation Centre for new product development.

Quality:

Daily delivery of fresh and frozen products is made easy thanks to excellent cold chain logistics, with fresh and frozen controlled atmosphere storage, bulk shipping, and convenient international access via air, water, rail, and road.

Industry support:

Nova Scotia's agri-business has strong support from industry organizations and government regulators in the production and marketing of food and beverages.

You'll be in good company:





Clean Technology

Clean Technology

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Energy Storage:

Nova Scotia is quickly becoming a hub for energy storage. We are home to North America's leading lead-acid battery producer and Canada's only remaining independent battery manufacturer, Surrette Battery.

Adding to this momentum, the Canadian Battery Innovation Centre (CBIC), the country's first university-based battery prototyping and testing facility.

Nova Scotia is a leader in energy storage innovation, with research focused on advanced battery technologies and grid integration.

Tesla

In 2015, Tesla established an exclusive partnership with renowned battery scientist Dr. Jeff Dahn at Dalhousie University, marking the company's first-ever university collaboration. This partnership was renewed and expanded in 2020, adding new research chairs to advance next-generation lithium-ion battery technology. The Dahn Research Group, recognized globally for its breakthroughs in battery longevity, efficiency, and sustainability, continues to play a key role in Tesla's efforts to develop high-performance, cost-effective, and durable battery solutions for electric vehicles and energy storage systems.

- Dr. Jeff Dahn has been awarded the Herzberg Gold Medal, Canada's most prestigious science prize, in recognition of his long and impressive track record in the field of battery research.

Clean Technology

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Nova Scotia's bioeconomy is constantly innovating to find novel and sustainable uses for by-products.

Bioeconomy:

- We work with a variety of waste streams. From hot processed water to agricultural, marine, and woody biomass, Nova Scotia is a primary location for value-added bioproducts.
- The Verschuren Centre in Cape Breton runs one of three 1000L bioreactors in Canada, along with downstream processing facilities, and is expanding to a 10,000L first-of-its-kind facility.
- Nova Scotia is home to experts in algal conversion. NRC Ketch Harbour is a federal research facility exploring potential commercial applications of microalgae, including aquaculture feeds, protein concentrates, anti-microbial compounds and anti-oxidants.
- The BDO Zone Initiative has issued a BDO Zone 'A' rating for Southwest Nova Scotia for 550,000 green metric tons per year of sawmill residuals and by-product wood fibre from the forest sector.



Clean Technology

investnovascotia.ca/cleantech

Green energy:

- Significant offshore wind resource potential, including large areas suitable for existing fixed-bottom technologies and additional space for emerging floating technologies.
- Three major ongoing green hydrogen projects with ammonia, sustainable aviation fuel and methanol.
- The Scotian Shelf has a large technical potential for offshore wind: 127 Gigawatts (GW) fixed bottom and 667 GW floating. The total technical potential for Nova Scotia is even higher, including portions of the Gulf of St. Lawrence.
- Nova Scotia is exploring the potential of offshore wind (OSW) and intends to unlock an initial 5 GW of offshore wind capacity through seabed rights issuances starting this year. With this timeline, Nova Scotia could see its first commercial-scale OSW project delivered shortly after 2030.

Nova Scotia is home to one of the world's most competitive untapped offshore wind resources, with ample capacity to serve both local and export markets.

Research and innovation:

As Canada's University Capital, we are home to 10 universities and 14 community college campuses—many of which conduct industry-leading research. Research labs throughout the province including:

- The Dalhousie Clean Technology Research Institute
- The Verschuren Centre for Sustainability in Energy and the Environment
- Nova Scotia Community College Applied Research



You'll be in good company:



BLUEGRID



NOVONIX





Life Sciences

Life Sciences

investnovascotia.ca/lifesciences

We are home to innovative medical device manufacturers specializing in diagnostic tools, surgical instruments, and wearable health technology, improving patient care and medical outcomes.

Industry Innovation:

Our life sciences community has corporate and research expertise in a number of areas, including:

- Bioproducts and biotechnology
- Pharmaceuticals and vaccines
- Medical technologies
- Digital health
- Natural health products and functional foods

R&D Incentives

Canada offers some of the world's best R&D incentives with Nova Scotia offering R&D top-ups and support.

MedTech:

Nova Scotia researchers use advanced analytics in areas such as bioinformatics, drug discovery for orphan diseases, human-computer interaction, and advanced AI-assisted healthcare.

Research and Development:

Nova Scotia has a critical mass of students and scientists undertaking R&D in many of our post-secondary institutions, research hospitals, and research centres including:

- The Labs at Invest Nova Scotia
- Life Sciences Research Institute
- National Research Council (NRC)
- Genome Atlantic
- Nova Scotia Health Authority

Life Sciences

investnovascotia.ca/lifesciences

Life Sciences in Nova Scotia is advancing biotechnology around the globe, producing innovative products, and giving scientists the best facilities to conduct their research.

Immunity Innovation:

- Home to the Canadian Centre for Vaccinology (CCfV), an interdisciplinary vaccine research group, that brings together world-class expertise in vaccine discovery, clinical trials, and vaccine evaluation. CCfV leads groundbreaking first-in-human trials, including for H1N1, Ebola, and COVID-19 vaccines, and collaborates with Dalhousie University on influenza symptom research.
- Companies in Nova Scotia pioneer novel immunotherapies and anti-infectives, including cutting-edge treatments for multidrug-resistant bacteria and advanced cancer therapies.
- Dalhousie University researchers and DeNovaMed Inc. have developed a groundbreaking new family of antibiotics—one of the first new classes in over 30 years—offering a powerful tool against antibiotic-resistant superbugs.
- CAR-T cell therapy, a revolutionary personalized cancer treatment, is being pioneered by Dalhousie researchers, successfully treating patients by reprogramming their immune cells to fight cancer.
- Nova Scotia is advancing cancer care and treatment through a \$175 million, 10-year partnership between Nova Scotia Health and Varian (a Siemens Healthineers company), integrating AI-driven imaging, early detection programs, and enhanced survivorship care.

Life Sciences

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The province's R&D expertise is the driving force behind our globally recognized life sciences sector.

Clinical Trials and Pilots:

- Nova Scotia has a unified health authority that grants approvals for clinical trials across the province. At any given time, there are about 400 clinical trials underway at Nova Scotia Health.
- The Nova Scotia Health Innovation Hub addresses the need for rapidly advancing and incorporating health innovation. The Innovation Launchpad is a transformational approach for clinicians and companies looking to test, try, and de-risk solutions.

- Initiated by Nova Scotia Health, the Atlantic Clinical Trials Network (ACTN) launched in 2022. ACTN more than doubles the patient population accessible for clinical trials in the region and creates a single point of entry for researchers, partners, and patients.



You'll be in good company:





Interactive Media

Interactive Media

investnovascotia.ca/interactivemedia

Over the last decade, Nova Scotia has become one of Canada's prominent interactive media and animation clusters.

Diverse fields:

- Console video games
- Mobile games (iOS & Android)
- VR & AR interactive experiences
- VR cinematography
- Military simulations
- Animated movies and TV shows

Partnerships and associations:

Nova Scotia's video game industry employs more than 1,200 people in about 30 studios, and the Interactive Society of Nova Scotia plays a major part in its growth. Not only do they advocate for video game development and foster collaboration within the industry, they hire graduates from local universities and colleges, and promote high standards of relevant education.

Specialty degrees:

- **Nova Scotia College of Art and Design (NSCAD):** Animation program providing industry-focused training with state-of-the-art facilities and instruction from experienced professionals.
- **Dalhousie University:** With a specialized degree in graphics, gaming, and media, Dalhousie University introduces students to the critical study of video games and gaming culture, with an emphasis on how video games combine interactive gameplay, world making, and storytelling.
- **Acadia University:** Offers a BSc with a specialization in game development applying the latest techniques in artificial intelligence, computer graphics, and human computer interaction.

Interactive Media

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- **Nova Scotia Community College (NSCC):**
Offers a Diploma in Game Development to blend the creative disciplines of graphic design, video, photography, animation, type and sound, with technical and problem-solving skills required for game development.
- Offers specialized digital animation and visual effects education through NSCC's Screen Arts program.

Cost competitive:

Halifax offers one of the most competitive climates for studios compared to other cities across North America with low business costs and generous incentives.

Halifax offers one of the most competitive climates for studios compared to other cities across North America, with low business costs and generous incentives.

Digital Media Tax Credit

Qualifying companies can claim the lesser of 50% of the qualifying expenditures or 25% of total expenditures.

Qualifying expenditures could include:

- 100% of eligible salaries in Nova Scotia
- 65% of third-party labour remuneration
- up to \$100,000 in marketing and distribution expenditures

Digital Animation Tax Credit (DATC):

Provides an incentive of up to 60% on labour associated with the project, and a labour bonus of 17.5% on animation-specific activities. The labour bonus is in addition to the base credit available.

You'll be in good company:

 **HOTHEAD**





Financial Services

Financial Services

investnovascotia.ca/financialservices

The financial capital of Atlantic Canada, Nova Scotia is a premiere global destination for shared services, middle/back office operations in banking, fund administration, insurance, and reinsurance.

Competitive business cost:

Nova Scotia offers the third lowest operating cost in Canada for fund administration centres, according to fDi Benchmark, a service from the Financial Times Ltd.

History of growth:

Two of Canada's largest banks were founded in Halifax dating back to the early 1800s: Bank of Nova Scotia and Royal Bank of Canada. Today, we are home to an established and talented workforce in finance, insurance, and technology.

In good company:

Five of the world's top hedge fund administration companies are here - MUFG, Citco Fund Services, SS&C, Opus Fund Services, and Maitland.

Large Diverse Workforce

There are approximately 57,000 people employed in tech and Financial Service industries in our province.



Financial Services

investnovascotia.ca/financialservices

Since our strategic time zone ensures seamless global connectivity, this an ideal location for financial services operations and R&D.

Reliable infrastructure:

Nova Scotia serves as a pivotal landing point for EXA Express. Project Express is built with state-of-the-art submarine network technology, designed for the financial community stretching from North America to Europe. EXA Express offers the lowest latency route from New York to London with 58.55ms round trip delay.

Educated workforce:

Nova Scotia's universities and colleges continue to partner with our global financial services firms to ensure program curriculum delivers on the needs of their industry. 71.5% of Nova Scotians 25-64 have a post-secondary education.

Environment, quality of life, and governance:

Halifax is ranked 88th out of 1,000 global cities surveyed in the Oxford Economics Global Cities Index, scoring highly in areas such as environment, quality of life, and governance. This ranking highlights Halifax's strong positioning as a competitive and livable city on the world stage.

You'll be in good company:





Aerospace and Defence

Aerospace and Defence

investnovascotia.ca/defence

Expertise:

Nova Scotia has the highest concentration of military assets in Canada.

Home to the East Coast Navy and the largest air force base in Eastern Canada.

Over 30% of Canada's top defence companies are located in Nova Scotia.

Combat Vessels

Irving Shipbuilding's Halifax Shipyard Assembly and Ultra Hall facility is the largest single building for constructing ships in North America - and it's also where Canada's next generation of combat vessels are being built. A contract valued at over \$70 billion over the next 30 years.

Nova Scotia attracts globally recognized companies working in shipbuilding, sonar and sensing, in-service support, cyber security, and training and simulation.

Research and commercialization:

Defence R&D Canada (DRDC) offers world-leading expertise in a range of areas including:

- Sonar and sensing
- Anti-submarine
- Mine and torpedo defence
- Modelling and simulation of ship and combat systems



Aerospace and Defence

investnovascotia.ca/defence

Nova Scotia's high performing clusters:

Nova Scotia is home to five of Canada's top 10 defence companies, highlighting its strategic importance in the national defence industry.

Shipbuilding:

Our marine industry, rooted in 17th century shipbuilding, leads in fields such as:

- Acoustic hull design
- System electronics
- Sonar technologies
- Computer-aided manufacturing

Sonar and sensing:

Nova Scotia specializes in the area of acoustics, sensors, and instrumentation. This subsector develops and deploys surveillance equipment that collects and processes data for a variety of marine-related applications.

Cyber security:

Nova Scotia's vibrant tech sector has a talented

Nova Scotia was chosen by NATO for the DIANA regional office and accelerator.

labour force supported by respected academic institutions.

In-service support:

An established hub for in-service support (ISS), including maintenance, repair, and overhaul. Three of the four largest Canadian ISS procurement contracts are being completed here.

Training and simulation:

Nova Scotia hosts world-leading training and simulation companies, and is well equipped to support integrated training solutions including:

- Training needs analysis
- Instructional design
- Content development
- Integrated learning environments
- Training simulation products

You'll be in good company:



LOCKHEED MARTIN

Pratt & Whitney
PRATT.COM

STELIA



Advanced Manufacturing

Advanced Manufacturing

investnovascotia.ca/manufacturing

Advanced manufacturing represents the largest output of any goods-producing sector in Nova Scotia.

Advanced Manufacturing

Global companies in defence, shipbuilding, ocean technology, forestry, agri-food, energy storage and seafood industries choose to grow in Nova Scotia.

Michelin celebrated 50 years in the province and has produced more than 260 million tires in Nova Scotia since 1971.

Nova Scotia's manufacturing infrastructure, connectivity and logistics facilities make it the ideal choice to service Europe and North America.

Nova Scotia's academic community collaborates with industry, providing unique solutions to problems faced by manufacturing businesses.

- Dalhousie University's Advanced Manufacturing Hub houses infrastructure supports leading researchers in developing sustainable industrial processes for manufacturing advanced materials.
- Nova Scotia Community College's Design & Innovation Centre is a prototyping operation for R&D that allows researchers, engineers and students to design and build tailored prototypes and automated processes.

You'll be in good company:



Get in touch

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