



Business Plan

2025-2026

Message from the Chair and Director

We are pleased to present the Nova Scotia Crop and Livestock Insurance Commission's ("Commission") business plan for the 2025–26 fiscal year on behalf of the Board of Directors and staff.

As we embark on another year, the Commission's commitment to providing insurance plans that meet the growing needs of Nova Scotia farmers remains strong. In 2025-2026, we will review our plans to ensure they provide the risk mitigation that our clients need when crop or livestock production does not go according to plan.

Through our existing partnerships with industry, the Commission and staff will work together with our stakeholders as part of an overall review of the business risk management suite of programs. Together, we will work to build upon the success of the last 56 years of offering production insurance and ensure that the AgriInsurance program in Nova Scotia is prepared, as best as possible, to support farmers through the challenges of the future.

We also remain dedicated to continuing several program delivery initiatives in 2025-2026, including enhancing our digital systems and capacity, expanding program outreach and marketing opportunities and supporting process improvement work, all of which will provide increased client service and capacity to deliver our programs to Nova Scotia farmers.

We wish to take this opportunity to thank the Commission staff, whose hard work and dedication promise to help us continue to deliver on the Commission's mandate and goals.

On behalf of the Commission and staff, we wish you a successful harvest in 2025-26.

(original signed by)

John Vissers

Chair

(original signed by)

Nicholas Bell, CPA

Director, Business Risk Management

About the Nova Scotia Crop and Livestock Insurance Commission

The Commission has delivered business risk management solutions for agriculture in Nova Scotia for more than 56 years under the *Crop and Livestock Insurance Act*.

The Commission offers production based, individualized insurance coverage for 16 crop categories, as well as for dairy and poultry. Through crop insurance, producers are compensated when their yields fall below their guaranteed production level due to natural perils beyond their control. Key program features are coverage for losses caused by drought, frost, hail, wind, excessive moisture, insect infestation, plant disease, wildlife, winter injury, unavoidable pollination failure, and off-crop due to adverse weather conditions. Coverage is based on clients' individual records with premiums varying according to crop type, coverage level and value of the crop. Producers can pick coverage from 70 to 90 per cent of their historical yield, and for most plans, producers can pick between a high, low, or medium price level.

Also administered by the Commission, the Wildlife Compensation Program provides financial support to Nova Scotia registered farms who suffer losses to specified crops or livestock as a direct result of the activities of specified wildlife.

The Commission administers these programs as part of a suite of business risk management programs available to the agriculture industry in Nova Scotia under the framework established via the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership.

Key Areas of Focus for 2025 – 2026

The Commission is committed to the following areas of focus for fiscal year 2025–26:

1. Review & Expansion

- Consult with industry associations and producers to review the existing insurance plans, policies, program delivery and processes with the aim of making improvements to meet client's changing needs within the AgrilInsurance framework.
- Ensure that AgrilInsurance is part of an effective suite of business risk management tools that meet the risk mitigation needs of Nova Scotia farmers, and are predictable and timely.
- Continue work on developing a premium rate methodology to recognize farming practices that reduce production risks and are beneficial to the environment.
- Deliver and review the results of a pilot program for livestock price insurance in partnership with New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island..
- Continue to engage with industry to consider new insurance products for the beef and bee industries.

2. Delivery and Outreach

- Support program outreach and client communications through new marketing resources with a cohesive look and feel, such as further refining the web presence.
- Promote AgrilInsurance as a key business risk management program for agricultural producers in Nova Scotia through proactive communication with producers and networking with industry associations and those that support producer's businesses.
- Focus on consistent client service excellence through continuous improvement initiatives and staff development.

3. Administration and Systems

- Implement a new geographic information system (GIS) to support underwriting and claim adjudication efficiencies.
- Continue to explore modernization to the Commission's information technology infrastructure.
- Recruit new Board members to complement existing member's industry expertise and knowledge.

Financials

The Commission budget is included in the budget estimates of the Department of Agriculture. The Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership provides for reimbursement of 60 per cent of the administrative costs (including staffing costs) related to AgrilInsurance and Wildlife Compensation. Insurance premiums are cost-shared by producers (~40 per cent), the federal government (~36 per cent), and the provincial government (~24 per cent) and are administered directly by the Commission. The Province provided producers with an additional 10 per cent premium reduction in fiscal years 2021-22 to 2024-25, effectively changing the cost share for producers to ~36 per cent and Province to ~28 per cent. Only the provincial premium contributions are included in the Department of Agriculture budget figures.

(see next page for Table 1: Estimate of Income and Fund Balances)

Table 1: Estimate of Income and Fund Balances

	Budget 2024- 2025 (\$ 000)	Forecast * 2024- 2025 (\$ 000)	Budget * 2025- 2026 (\$ 000)
Revenues			
Insurance Premiums paid by Clients	1,540	2,085	1,540
Insurance Premiums Contributed - Federal	1,386	1,830	1,386
Wildlife Compensation Payments - Federal	60	114	90
Insurance Premiums - Provincial	924	1,220	924
Wildlife Compensation Payments - Provincial	40	76	60
Interest Income	394	394	438
Total Revenues	4,344	5,719	4,438
Expenses			
Indemnity Claims	4,000	1,650	4,000
Wildlife Compensation Payments	100	190	150
Reinsurance Premiums	-	-	-
Bad Debt Expense	5	5	5
Total Expenses	4,105	1,845	4,155
Net Income from Insurance Activities	239	3,874	283
Reinsurance Advances			
Federal	-	-	-
Provincial	-	-	-
Total Reinsurance Advances	-	-	-
Net Income (Loss)	239	3,874	283
Crop and Livestock Insurance Fund Balance			
Beginning of Year	7,627	9,520	13,394
End of Year	7,866	13,394	13,677
Total Administrative Expenses			
Federal Contributions	660	922	665
Provincial Contributions	440	615	444
Total Administrative Expenses	1,100	1,537	1,109
Net Government Expenditures			
Federal (Premium + Administration)	2,106	2,866	2,141
Provincial (Premium + Administration)	1,404	1,911	1,428
Total Program Expenditures	3,510	4,777	3,569

* as of December 31, 2024