



CCPA Nova Scotia

Spring 2006

OUTLOOK

The Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives - Nova Scotia
Raising debate • Creating policy alternatives

CCPA Nova Scotia - Annual General Meeting, Saturday, April 29, 2006 **1:30 pm - Community YMCA, 2269 Gottingen Street, Halifax**

All members of CCPA-NS are encouraged to attend the upcoming Annual General Meeting. It's a great opportunity to meet the Steering Committee members responsible for CCPA activities in Nova Scotia, ask questions, exercise your rights of membership and find out how you can become involved. We will be reviewing activities since our last AGM in Halifax, including our response to a number of public policy issues and our progress on the development of organizational policy and revenue.

THEME: WOMEN IN POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION

Immediately following the business section of the AGM, there will be a dynamic discussion about the current situation of women in post-secondary education in Nova Scotia. We hope to have students, academics, community and labour leaders join us in the exploration of this theme. Non-members are very welcome to attend. For any of you who can't attend, watch for updates about the AGM

and the panel which will be posted on the CCPA website: www.policyalternatives.ca Just follow the links to the Nova Scotia Office page.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Are you, or an organization you belong to, a member of CCPA Nova Scotia? If so, and if you would like to be more actively involved, please consider joining the Steering Committee. The Nominating Committee is welcoming interested

parties. Please contact Mary MacLeod at mary.macleod@acadiu.ca or 902-585-1734 to indicate your interest or to get further information. The Steering Committee meets in person every other month and by teleconference in the interim months. The terms of both some individual and some organizational members expire as of this AGM. New members are needed.

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CCPA-NS Steering Committee members (from left to right) Barbara Cottrell, Jim Sacouman and Barb Moore taking a break from a planning session where the initiative to hold a joint meeting of Research Associates and Steering Committee members was hatched. The meeting was held in late November and proved to be a great success.

Future of CCPA - N.S. in danger

By Pauline Raven, Chair CCPA-NS Steering Committee

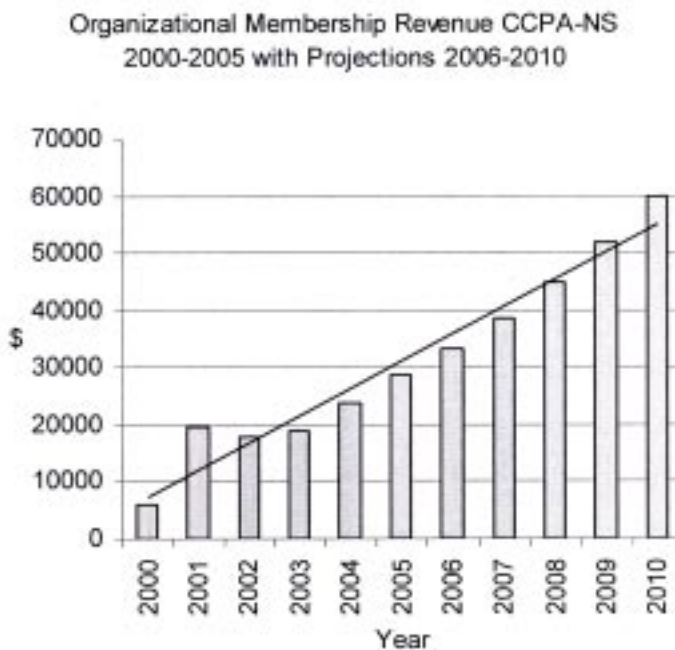
In late January 2006, the CCPA Nova Scotia received devastating news from the National Executive. We had expected that the National Office would allow a permissible deficit for the 2006 budget while we continue efforts to find sufficient funds to sustain CCPA-NS.

Since all revenue from individual memberships (bar \$5,000) remains in the National budget, CCPA-NS's efforts are directed toward increased support from organizations. The good news is that past revenues show that organizational revenues are increasing. Unfortunately, the current rate of growth indicates that its unlikely self-sufficiency will be achieved before several additional years pass.

Our budget is based on the full time employment of a provincial director and fair employment practices that set salary and benefits based on a blended formula of administrative and research positions at the National Office Level. The Steering Committee believes that stable, full time, full year employment is absolutely

necessary to the ongoing success of CCPA in Nova Scotia. This year's projected budget shows that about 81 percent (\$65,692.27) of all expenses (\$70,992.27) at CCPA-NS relate to our full-time employee.

While we continue to



meet with key sponsors to encourage increased support, we are also continuing a debate with the National Board. We are arguing that an annual cost of \$15,000 per year can be viewed as a modest outlay for a National organization hopeful of establishing a permanent presence for a very productive provincial office.

Each Steering Committee Member wants to see deficits related to the Nova Scotia end as soon as possible. There is no

thought on any member's part that the financial commitment of the CCPA National does not exact a toll on other potential projects and areas of growth. We look forward to a time when revenues generated in Nova Scotia will cover all costs related to Nova Scotia activities.

A thorough discussion of our current financial circumstances will be lead at this year's Annual General Meeting. Key to this will be assessing the feasibility of moving forward with reduced staffing for the Nova Scotia Office.

We need full participation from individual and organizational members in Nova Scotia and are urging everyone to attend this year's AGM. Broad participation by the membership is needed to forward this discussion. Your input could be crucial to the future of the Nova Scotia Office.

**MARK YOUR
CALENDAR NOW!
CCPA-NS - AGM on
Saturday, April 29, 2006,
1:30 pm, Community
YMCA, 2269 Gottingen
Street, Halifax**

Refreshments will be served.

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CCPA-NS STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Below is an alphabetical listing of Current Steering Committee members. The list is categorized by when terms end. It also shows those with ex-officio status and those serving by special appointment. Current officers of CCPA-NS are listed at the end.

TERMS ENDING AGM 2006

Nova Scotia Public Interest Research Group (Vacant) represents organizational members.

Pauline Raven represents individual members.

Katherine Reed represents individual members.

Jim Sacouman represents individual members.

Canadian Federation of Students (Danielle Sampson)

TERMS ENDING AGM 2007

Barbara Cottrell represents individual members.

Fred Furlong represents individual members.

Mary MacLeod represents individual members.

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

Canadian Union of Public Employees (Barb Moore)
Nova Scotia Teachers' Union (Vacant)

Nova Scotia Federation of Labour (Joan Wark)

Larry Haiven is an ex-officio member representing the CCPA-NS Research Advisory

Committee. Larry also sits on the CCPA-NS board as an appointee of the National Board.

SPECIAL APPOINTMENT

Clarence Batan

Darlene Lawrence

Robert Pitter

HONORARY CHAIR

Ian Johnson is a life member.

CURRENT OFFICERS

Pauline Raven, Chair;

Barb Moore, Vice-Chair;

Barbara Cottrell, Secretary;

Joan Wark, Treasurer

Recent publications

Our Winters of Discontent by Larry Hughes, March 20, 2006

This report presents a strategy for home-heating that is focused on long term energy security. Hughes offers a succinct critique of current approaches by governments. This report is a careful examination of home heating in Nova Scotia and some startling statistics are presented.

Fairness in Education for Single Parents in Nova Scotia, by Katherine Reed, December 14, 2005

This report is the first detailed examination of income and expenses for single parent-university students in Nova

Scotia. The budgets of several hypothetical single parent families are presented in light of various programs and student loans. In Nova Scotia students cannot receive social assistance while attending university.

Nova Scotia Child Poverty Report Card: 1989-2003 by Pauline Raven & Lesley Frank, November 29, 2005

This report shows that child poverty in Nova Scotia has increased for the fourth year running reaching a high by 2003 of 20.7 percent. It also shows that Nova Scotia continues to make less progress in reducing the rate of child poverty than any other province in the region.

Columns from the Halifax Herald by John Jacobs...

Will Nova Scotia Greens be Up to Green Challenge? - March 21, 2006

Conservative Child Care Plan Comes at High Price - February 21, 2006

Electoral Turnout and Turnoff - January 27, 2006

Liberal Plan Runs Counter to Productivity - November 29, 2006

Coming Very Soon April 2006...Alternative Provincial Budget 2006-2007!

Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives – Nova Scotia

Tel: 902-477-1252; Fax: 902-484-6344

E-mail: ccpans@policyalternatives.ca

Website: www.policyalternatives.ca



Organizational memberships are also available. For more information, please call CCPA - NS Provincial Director John Jacobs at 902-477-1252.

Become a member of the CCPA - NS or renew today!

Please complete and return this form to: Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives Nova Scotia Office, P.O. Box 8355, Halifax, N.S., B3K 5M1. You can also join online: www.policyalternatives.ca

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Renewal New Membership

Please choose membership type:

\$300 Sponsor - you will receive the CCPA Monitor and a \$265 tax receipt

\$100 Supporting Member - you will receive the CCPA Monitor and a \$75 tax receipt

\$35 Basic Income Membership - you will receive the CCPA Monitor

\$_____ Choose an amount that suits your budget, you will receive a tax receipt for balance over \$35

Choose payment option: Visa or Mastercard # _____

Expiry Date: (month)_____ (year)_____ Cheque

Yearly - we will charge your credit card for the full amount of your membership.

For \$100, \$200 or \$300 memberships, we can charge your credit card each month (\$100 membership = \$8.35/month, \$200 membership = \$16.70/month, \$300 membership = \$25/month)

Signature: _____

Date: _____

You may have already received a renewal notice from the national office of the CCPA, if so, we hope you renew.