

Internet for Nova Scotia Initiative Update

In July 2018 the government of Nova Scotia made Develop Nova Scotia, a Crown Corporation, responsible for developing and implementing a strategy to improve Internet access for Nova Scotians without reliable high-speed Internet. The government also set aside significant funding to invest in better Internet. The goal: high-speed Internet (25mbps wireless–50mbps for wired) reaching a minimum of 95% of Nova Scotians. While we can't reach 100% of the province, we're committed to getting to as many homes and businesses as is feasible. It's a big goal, but we're working hard to make Nova Scotia more connected.

WHAT NEEDS TO HAPPEN TO GET INTERNET TO MY HOME OR BUSINESS?

In many communities, a lot needs to happen before high-speed Internet is available at your doorstep. We are currently working on a strategy that will help Internet Service Providers (ISPs) and other organizations set up networks and equipment in underserved communities across Nova Scotia and then get that Internet to individual homes and businesses.

WHEN WILL I SEE HIGH-SPEED INTERNET IN MY COMMUNITY?

Connecting at least 95% of Nova Scotians is a big project and these projects can typically take 2–5 years. The timing of your access depends on what already exists in your community and how quickly providers can upgrade existing technology or install new technology. Develop Nova Scotia is working to make sure this happens as quickly as possible.

WHAT IS HAPPENING NOW?

We went out to ISPs and other organizations in mid-December 2018 to gauge their ability and interest in providing high-speed Internet services. Those that pass our rigorous requirements will be asked to propose solutions to deliver those services in Nova Scotia. From there, we will sign iron-clad contracts with these providers, holding them accountable to provide competitively-priced, quality high-speed Internet now and in the future.

DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THE CHALLENGES IN MY COMMUNITY?

Yes. We have all of the data required to understand exactly where the gaps are that prevent each home or business from meeting our speed targets. As connections improve, no region will be overlooked.

For more information, or if you have comments or questions, contact Develop Nova Scotia at:
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