



NOVA SCOTIANS FOR EQUALIZATION FAIRNESS

Equalization

“Parliament and the government of Canada are committed to the principle of making equalization payments to ensure that provincial governments have sufficient revenues to provide reasonably comparable levels of public services at reasonably comparable levels of taxation.” – Canadian Constitution Act Section 36.2

Municipal	Indicators - Profile	HRM	CBRM	Differential	%
2.2.1	2007 Average Household Income	66,339.00	49,665.00	16,674.00	HRM + 33.58%
2.2.2	RTB/AHI	2.16	1.78	.38	HRM + 21.4%
1.1.3	Residential Tax burden (Average Residential Taxes)	1410.00	884.00	526.00	HRM + 59.5%
1.2.2	Average Delivery of Services Per Household: Expenditure Per Household	3,740.00	2,260.00	1480.00	HRM + 65.5%
1.1.4	Uniform Assessment for dwelling	141,153	65,269	+ 75,884	HRM +216.2%

Rate Per \$100 Assessment	Residential				Commercial			
	CBRM	HRM*	Differential	Discount	CBRM	HRM*	Differential	Discount
Dominion (Suburban)	1.99	1.20	+ 67.0%	-40%	4.31	3.683	+ 17%	-14.5%
Glace Bay (Urban)	2.01	1.30	+ 55.0%	-35%	4.31	3.713	+ 16.1%	-14%
Louisbourg (Suburban)	1.94	1.20	+ 62.0%	-38%	4.31	3.683	+ 17%	-14.5%
New Waterford (Urban)	2.00	1.30	+ 54.0%	-35%	4.31	3.713	+ 16.1%	-14%
North Sydney (Urban)	2.03	1.30	+ 56.0%	-36%	4.31	3.713	+ 16.1%	-14%
Sydney Mines (Urban)	1.91	1.30	+ 47.0%	-31.7%	4.31	3.713	+ 16.1%	-14%
Sydney (Urban)	2.19	1.30	+ 69.0%	-40.5%	4.89	3.713	+ 32.7%	-24.6%
CBRM (Rural)	1.37	1.15	+ 19.0%	-16%	3.94	3.187	+ 23.6%	-19%

*Equalization increased by \$94,000,000 in 2006-2007 and a further 79,000,000 in 2007-2008. With no increases for municipal

14% is the approximate dollar delivery of service to Nova Scotians by Municipalities.

\$32,050,000 Provincial Equalization Grants is made up of \$16,000,000 from NS Power Corporation taxes in lieu of. The other \$16,000,000 comes from Federal Equalization Grant which in 2008-2009 amounted to \$1,465,000,000. The \$16,000,000 is approximately 1.1% of this huge transfer.

On August 5, 2008 the NS Department of Finance announced a surplus of \$419 million, \$301 million higher than budgeted.

The cost to right the equalization for all Nova Scotians is \$205,099,996 an additional \$173,049,996 over current distribution.

Making a very broad based assumption that Cape Bretoners who earn \$16,674.00 less per household are willing to pay the same tax per \$100 of assessment as those in HRM, the home owners would save approximately 12.5 million dollars and the businesses or commercial tax payers would save 5.5 million dollars.

Rural Assessments	Rate	Average Income
CBRM	1.37	49,665
Richmond	.68	48,789
Victoria	1.22 + .12 (Baddeck)	51,187
Inverness	.99	53,279
HRM	1.15	66,339