



A Truly Valued Nova

New Corporation Will Handle Property Assessments

A new not-for-profit corporation takes on the responsibility of property assessments in Nova Scotia today, Tuesday, April 1.

Headquartered in Dartmouth, with offices across the province, the Property Valuation Services Corporation (PVSC) is owned by Nova Scotia's 55 municipalities and managed by a board of 10 directors.

Our vision is that the PVSC will be recognized by our clients as the best provider of market valuation and other property related services. As a corporation, we will be capable of delivering improved services and developing new ones for a wider target market, said board chairman Lloyd Hines.

The Property Valuation Services Corporation will continue to work closely with property owners and municipal leaders, as we have in the past, said chief executive officer Kathy Gillis.

Given that most of the corporation's staff transferred from the province with decades of experience, the PVSC is starting from a position of strength.

Property owners are confident in our work, added Ms. Gillis. They provide very positive feedback through client satisfaction surveys that we conduct every year.

While the provincial government is no longer in the property assessment business, it retains responsibility for the Assessment Act. The PVSC will comply with the Act by determining property values every year and delivering an annual assessment roll to each municipality.

While building on its strengths, the corporation knows there are still opportunities for improvement and growth.

Our new structure will encourage a more collaborative relationship, resulting in products and services that will serve municipalities and property owners even better, said Mr. Hines.

The Property Valuation Services Corporation has offices in Dartmouth, Bridgewater, Kentville, Port Hawkesbury, Sydney, Truro and Yarmouth, and it employs 165 staff.

FOR BROADCAST USE:

The province of Nova Scotia is out of the property assessment business.

Effective today, April 1, the Property Valuation Services Corporation, a not-for-profit corporation that is owned by Nova Scotia's 55 municipalities, will be responsible for

assessments.

The corporation is headquartered in Dartmouth, with offices across the province, and 165 staff.

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Property Valuation Services Corporation Board of Directors

The Property Valuation Services Corporation (PVSC) is governed by a Board of Directors comprised mainly of municipal representatives, who are appointed by the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities (UNSM). This allows the PVSC to maintain a close relationship with its primary clients, the province's 55 municipalities, while maintaining the autonomy necessary to ensure a standardization of practice.

As of April 1, 2008 the Board includes:

Darren Bruckschwaiger, councillor, Cape Breton Regional Municipality

Mervyn Hartlen, councillor, Region of Queens Municipality

Lloyd Hines, PVSC board chair; warden, District of Guysborough;
vice-president and secretary-treasurer, UNSM

Greg Keefe CMA, deputy minister, Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations (non-voting member)

Debbie Kampen, chief administrative officer, Town of Trenton

Trudy LeBlanc, deputy chief administrative officer, District of Yarmouth; past-president of the Association of Municipal Administrators

Bob McNeil, director of technology, Cape Breton Regional Municipality

Carroll Publicover, mayor, Town of Bridgewater

Ken Simpson, executive director, UNSM

Russell Walker, PVSC vice-chair, councillor, Halifax Regional Municipality; immediate past president, UNSM