



**Halifax Chamber's Response to
The Elimination and Restructuring of NS Crown Corporations**

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Yesterday, the province of Nova Scotia announced the consolidation of 5 crown corporations into 2. In general, we are in favour of less bureaucracy, greater efficiency, improved speed of decision making and less duplication among government organizations. With that said, it remains unclear how these efficiencies will be achieved through the changes announced.

We are also not in favour of less oversight of these organizations. We have yet to see the rationale for less governance of these and the other organizations which have been consolidated with no oversight by a Board of Directors.

Yesterday's announcement continued the trend which started with the elimination of the NSHA board, the Tourism Nova Scotia Board, and now the Boards for Innovacorp, NSBI and Develop Nova Scotia.

The Boards yesterday included 16 men and 13 women who volunteered to provide guidance and governance to these organizations at virtually zero cost. Terminating these boards with a future promise of an advisory board and placing the responsibility with an individual seems to be putting the cart before the horse.

A Board should assess an organization's effectiveness using specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and time-constrained goals. Without a board in place, who will do the assessment of these organizations, and after 11 months, who is doing this for the NSHA?