

Government Reform



INTRODUCTION:

This set of policies lays out what elected members of Nova Scotians United (NSU) will work towards and how NSU would run our administration along with the House of Assembly once elected with a majority government.

OBJECTIVES:

1. Pass legislation and amendments, where necessary, that make new requirements for the House of Assembly and Members of the legislative Assembly (MLA)
 - a. Legislation will require the House of Assembly to hold a session no less than once per month.
 - b. Set a procedure allowing a collective of three or more MLAs to request a session be held in the House of Assembly. Session will be scheduled by the premier for no less than 10 days from the time of request.
 - c. Legislation will make allowance for any member of the public to submit a petition to the house of assembly removing the necessity cooperation from an MLA
2. Legislation will be written to make allowance should any civilian present a petition in person to Elections Nova Scotia for the recall and removal of any MLA.
 - a. When assessing a recall petition, Elections Nova Scotia will use the same verification and requirements for the signatures as they do when they register new parties.
 - b. To initiate a petition, you need at least +10 additional signatures than the number of votes the MLA originally received during the election. If the petition is successfully submitted and confirmed, Elections Nova Scotia will then give direction to the premier to call a by-election for that district to take place within a six-month time frame.
 - c. An MLA who is recalled will automatically lose any pension, benefits, or privileges they have earned or accumulated.
3. A temporary public civilian committee will be formed to come up with operating parameters for a new town hall system in each respective electoral district.
 - a. Legislation will make allowances for libraries, fire halls, schools, or any provincially owned building suitable for town hall meetings be made available free of charge.
 - b. Legislation will require sessions to be held no less than once per month and as much as necessary.

- c. Legislation will require the attendance of each MLA at the town hall meeting in their respective district. MLAs must take questions from any member of the public under the penalty of perjury.
 - d. Legislation will require a procedure to be written that allows the town hall or its committees the authority to summon any taxpayer funded public servant for questioning i.e. town councillors, mayors, police, doctors, teachers etc. to take questions under the penalty of perjury.
4. Create a provincial criminal code related to perjury penalties.
 5. Gradually reduce the size of our House of Assembly and the number of MLAs down to twenty-five.

Closing Statement:

Nova Scotians delegates the responsibility to our elected officials to manage and distribute our resources and to write sensible laws and to keep our communities safe. When these officials become complacent and/or fail to achieve their promises or worse there is no recourse other than to wait until their term runs out.

Not only will NSU create a platform that opens transparent channels of communication between the public and government and/or other bureaucracy under the penalty of perjury, we will create the means necessary to hold our officials accountable and responsible for their actions and the promises they make.