

## **Nova Scotia Directory of Legal Services and Information for Survivors of Family Violence**

**If you are in immediate danger, call 911.**

Please note, this directory primarily contains resources in Nova Scotia where you can get legal information or advice, or information about local shelters and transition houses. There are additional supports and resources in Nova Scotia that are not captured here. To find support near you, call, text or visit Nova Scotia 211, available 24/7 ([www.ns.211.ca](http://www.ns.211.ca)).

The Family Law Nova Scotia website also has a useful [directory](#) of Community Agencies & Family Justice Services in Nova Scotia.

For further help or information about domestic abuse, you can also call the provincial, 24-hour, toll-free number at 1-855-225-0220

For information about online safety, see [here](#).

### **Intimate Partner Violence Resources/Information**

#### **Government of Nova Scotia – Intimate Partner Violence Resources**

[https://novascotia.ca/just/victim\\_services/family\\_violence.asp](https://novascotia.ca/just/victim_services/family_violence.asp)

#### **NS Domestic Violence Resource Centre**

[www.nsdomesticviolence.ca](http://www.nsdomesticviolence.ca)

CRA - Getting benefits and credits when in an abusive or violent situation

<https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/child-family-benefits/benefits-credits-abusive-violent-situation.html>

#### **December 6th Fund**

<https://www.ywcahalifax.com/programs/violence-against-women/>

Non-interest bearing microloans for housing costs for female identifying people 18+ or older, living in Nova Scotia, who are currently fleeing, or have recently fled, abuse or violence.

#### **Domestic Violence Court Program**

[www.courts.ns.ca/Provincial\\_Court/NSPC\\_domestic\\_violence\\_court.htm](http://www.courts.ns.ca/Provincial_Court/NSPC_domestic_violence_court.htm)

Sydney: 902-563-3510

Halifax: 902-424-7404 or [HfxDVCP@novascotia.ca](mailto:HfxDVCP@novascotia.ca)

#### **Early Lease Termination for Tenants Facing Domestic Violence**

Call Victim Services at: 1-888-470-0773

[https://novascotia.ca/just/victim\\_Services/tenant\\_facing\\_domestic.asp](https://novascotia.ca/just/victim_Services/tenant_facing_domestic.asp)

## **Emergency Protection Orders – Justice of the Peace Centre**

1-866-816-6555 toll-free or 902-424-8888

Learn more here: [https://novascotia.ca/just/victim\\_services/docs/DVIA\\_Brochure\\_EN.pdf](https://novascotia.ca/just/victim_services/docs/DVIA_Brochure_EN.pdf)

## **Intimate Images and Cyber Protection - CyberScan**

902-424-6990 in Halifax or 1-855-702-8324 toll-free

[www.novascotia.ca/cyberscan/](http://www.novascotia.ca/cyberscan/)

## **Leave from Work – Domestic Violence**

Domestic Violence Leave NS:

<https://novascotia.ca/lae/employmentrights/leaves.asp#domestic-violence>

Includes a free 20-minute public education course

## **Making Changes**

[https://women.novascotia.ca/sites/default/files/MC10\\_2022/MakingChanges\\_2022\\_July19\\_Digital\\_FINAL.pdf](https://women.novascotia.ca/sites/default/files/MC10_2022/MakingChanges_2022_July19_Digital_FINAL.pdf)

Making Changes is a book for women experiencing intimate partner abuse and contains information such as understanding abuse, safety planning, legal matters and more.

## **Shelter movers**

<https://www.sheltermovers.com/nova-scotia/>

Provides free moving and storage services to women and children fleeing abuse. Clients are referred by a person of authority (social worker, doctor, police, crisis counselor, teacher, etc.) or public agency (shelter, hospital, school, workplace, place of worship, sexual assault centre, etc.).

## **Finding Help and Support/Crisis Lines**

### **211**

<https://ns.211.ca/search/>

### **Avalon Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Program**

SANE 24-Hour Response Line: 902-425-0122

### **Neighbour Friends and Family toll free line**

[1-855-225-0220 \(24/7\)](tel:1-855-225-0220)

Call or text to speak to someone confidentially if you think a neighbour, friend or family may be in a situation of violence

**Mi'kmaq Crisis Line**

[1-855-379-2099 \(24/7\)](tel:1-855-379-2099)

**Mental Health Mobile Crisis**

[902-429-8167](tel:902-429-8167) or [1-888-429-8167 \(24/7\)](tel:1-888-429-8167)

**Canadian Human Trafficking Hotline**

1-833-900-1010 (24/7)

[www.canadianhumantraffickinghotline.ca](http://www.canadianhumantraffickinghotline.ca)

Support is available in over 200 languages for victims of human trafficking. A chat function is available on the website

**Legal Support, Information and Advice**

**Accès Justice Access**

902-433-2085 or 1-844-250-8471 (English or French)

[www.ajefne.ns.ca](http://www.ajefne.ns.ca)

Bilingual legal information centre providing confidential services in Nova Scotia

**Avalon Sexual Assault Center**

(902) 422-4240

[www.avaloncentre.ca](http://www.avaloncentre.ca)

Support for survivors of sexual assault/abuse. Website has many resources, including ones on law and the legal system.

**Coverdale Courtwork Society**

902-422-6417

[www.coverdale.ca](http://www.coverdale.ca)

Supports women, girls and gender-diverse individuals involved in the criminal justice system

**Dalhousie Legal Aid**

902-423-8105

[www.dal.ca/faculty/law/dlas.html](http://www.dal.ca/faculty/law/dlas.html)

Tenants' Rights information, advice, representation

## **Elizabeth Fry Society**

Mainland Nova Scotia

902-454-5041

[www.efrymns.ca](http://www.efrymns.ca)

Cape Breton

Sydney 902-539-6165

<https://www.efrycb.com/home.html>

Support for women and girls involved in the criminal justice system

## **Nova Scotia Legal Aid**

[www.nslegalaid.ca](http://www.nslegalaid.ca)

Amherst: 902-667-7544 or toll-free at 1-866-999-7544

Annapolis Royal: 902-532-2311 or toll-free at 1-866-532-2311

Antigonish: 902-863-3350 or toll-free at 1-866-439-1544

Bridgewater: 902-543-4658 or toll-free at 1-866-543-4658

Liverpool Sub-Office: 902-354-3215 or toll-free at 1-866-543-4658

Dartmouth (family): 902-420-7921 or toll-free at 1-855-420-7921

Dartmouth (family – child protection): 902-420-8897 or toll-free at 1-855-420-7921

Dartmouth (criminal): 902-420-8815 or toll-free at 1-877-420-8818

Halifax (family): 902-420-3450 or toll-free at 1-866-420-3450

Halifax (adult criminal): 902-420-6583 or toll-free at 1-877-777-6583

Halifax (HRM youth): 902-420-6569

Halifax (social justice): 902-420-3464 or toll-free at 1-844-956-0955

Kentville: 902-679-6110 or toll-free at 1-866-679-6110

New Glasgow: (902) 755-7020 or toll-free at 1-877-755-7020

Port Hawkesbury: 902-625-4047 or toll-free at 1-888-817-0116

Sydney: 902-563-2295 or toll-free at 1-877-563-2295

Truro, Colchester County: 902-893-5920 or toll-free at 1-877-777-5920

Windsor: 902-798-8397 or toll-free at 1-866-798-8397

Yarmouth: 902-742-7827 or toll-free at 1-866-742-3300

HRM Duty Counsel: 902-420-7800

Sydney Duty Counsel: 902-539-7026

Legal information, advice and representation for criminal, family or social justice issues in Nova Scotia

## **Family Law Information Program Centres (FLIP Centres)**

Halifax: [902-424-5232](tel:902-424-5232)

Sydney: [902-563-5761](tel:902-563-5761)

Legal information, help with finding a lawyer or legal advice, referrals to community agencies, information about court programs and services. FLIP centres may be able to provide some court documents or computer access.

## **Family Law Nova Scotia**

[www.nsfamilylaw.ca](http://www.nsfamilylaw.ca)

Information about the family law process in Nova Scotia, including access to guides, resources and court forms.

## **Halifax Refugee Clinic**

902-422-6736

[www.halifaxrefugeeclinic.org](http://www.halifaxrefugeeclinic.org)

Free legal and settlement services to those who cannot afford legal counsel and are claiming refugee status in Nova Scotia.

## **Legal Advice for Sexual Assault Survivors**

To register: Call 211

[www.novascotia.ca/sexualassaultlegaladvice/](http://www.novascotia.ca/sexualassaultlegaladvice/)

Up to 4 hours of free, independent legal advice for sexual assault survivors aged 16 or older. You do not have to report to police or take legal action if you use this service.

## **Legal Information Society of Nova Scotia**

902-455-3135 or 1-800-665-9779 (toll-free)

[www.legalinfo.org](http://www.legalinfo.org)

Free information on all legal issues, and ways to find a lawyer, including a lawyer referral service

## **Mi'kmaw Legal Support Network**

902-379-2042 or toll-free at 1-877-379-2042

Legal and victim services to Indigenous persons in Nova Scotia

## **ReachAbility**

902-429-5878 or 1-866-429-5878

[www.reachability.org](http://www.reachability.org)

Serves Nova Scotians who face barriers to inclusion and community participation. Services include a legal referral service for a free one-hour consultation for legal advice.

### **Summary Advice Counsel**

Amherst: 902-667-2256  
Annapolis: 902-742-0500  
Antigonish: 902-863-7312  
Bridgewater: 902-543-4679  
Halifax: 902-424-5616  
Kentville: 902-679-6075  
Pictou: 902-485-7350  
Port Hawkesbury: 902-625-2665  
Sydney: 902-563-2085  
Truro: 902-893-5840  
Windsor: (902) 679-6075  
Yarmouth: (902) 742-0500

Free, brief family law legal advice and information if you do not have a lawyer. This is a court-based service provided by Nova Scotia Legal Aid Summary Advice Counsel. You can make an appointment by calling the court in your area.

### **Victim Services**

#### **Department of Justice Victim Services**

[www.novascotia.ca/just/victim\\_Services/](http://www.novascotia.ca/just/victim_Services/)

Head Office (Halifax): 902-424-3309 or toll-free at 1-888-470-0773

Dartmouth (serves Halifax, Dartmouth & Halifax County): 902-424-3307 or toll-free at 1-833-424-3307

Kentville (serves Annapolis, Kings, Hants, Lunenburg, Queens, Shelburne and Yarmouth & Digby counties): 902-679-6201 or toll-free at 1-800-565-1805

Pictou (serves East Hants, Colchester, Cumberland, Pictou & Antigonish Counties): 902-485-3580 or toll-free at 1-800-565-7912

Sydney (serves Guysborough, Cape Breton, Richmond, Inverness & Victoria Counties): 902-563-3655 or toll-free at 1-800-565-0071

**Halifax Regional Police Victim Services Unit**

902-490-5300

Text: 902-497-4709

<https://www.halifax.ca/fire-police/police/programs-services/victim-services-halifax>

Support for victims of crime, in particular domestic violence and sexual violence. Includes a peace bond navigator program.

**Mi'kmaw Native Friendship Centre – Victim Support Navigator**

902-420-1576

<https://mymnfc.com/>

**Family Courts****Amherst Justice Centre**

16 Church Street, 3rd floor

Amherst, NS, B4H 3A6

Phone: 902-667-2256

[AMHFC@courts.ns.ca](mailto:AMHFC@courts.ns.ca)

**Antigonish Justice Centre**

11 James Street

Antigonish, NS, B2G 1R6

Phone: 902-863-7312

[AntigonishFamilyCourt@courts.ns.ca](mailto:AntigonishFamilyCourt@courts.ns.ca)

**Bridgewater Justice Centre**

141 High Street

Bridgewater, NS, B4V 1W2

Phone: 902-543-4679

[BJC.Family.Court@courts.ns.ca](mailto:BJC.Family.Court@courts.ns.ca)

**Digby/Annapolis Justice Centre**

119 Queen Street

P.O. Box 1089

Digby, NS, B0V 1A0

Phone: (902) 245-4567

[scfamilydig@courts.ns.ca](mailto:scfamilydig@courts.ns.ca)

**Halifax Family Division**

3380 Devonshire Avenue

Halifax, NS, B3K 5R5

Phone: 902-424-3990

[scfamilyhfx@courts.ns.ca](mailto:scfamilyhfx@courts.ns.ca)

**Kentville Justice Centre**

87 Cornwallis Street  
Kentville, NS, B4N 2E5  
Phone: (902) 679-6075  
[Kjc-family@courts.ns.ca](mailto:Kjc-family@courts.ns.ca)

**Pictou Justice Centre**

PO Box 1750, 69 Water Street  
Pictou, NS, B0K 1H0  
Phone: 902-485-7350  
[Pictoufamily@courts.ns.ca](mailto:Pictoufamily@courts.ns.ca)

**Port Hawkesbury Justice Centre**

15 Kennedy Street  
Port Hawkesbury, NS, B9A 2Y1  
Family Division: 902-625-2665  
[porthawkesburyfamily@courts.ns.ca](mailto:porthawkesburyfamily@courts.ns.ca)

**Sydney Justice Centre**

136 Charlotte Street, Suites #1 & 2  
Sydney, NS, B1P 1C3  
Family Division: 902-563-2200  
[sydneyfamilydivision@courts.ns.ca](mailto:sydneyfamilydivision@courts.ns.ca)

**Truro Justice Centre**

540 Prince Street  
Truro, NS, B2N 1G1  
Phone: 902-893-4272  
[truofamilycourt@courts.ns.ca](mailto:truofamilycourt@courts.ns.ca)

**Yarmouth Justice Centre**

164 Main Street  
Yarmouth, NS, B5A 1C2  
Phone: 902-742-0550  
[yarmouthfamilycourt@courts.ns.ca](mailto:yarmouthfamilycourt@courts.ns.ca)

**Transition Houses, Shelters and Women's Centres**

**Women's Centres Connect**

(902) 755-4647  
[coordinator@womenconnect.ca](mailto:coordinator@womenconnect.ca)  
[www.womenconnect.ca](http://www.womenconnect.ca)



Find a women's centre in Nova Scotia

**Transition House Association of Nova Scotia**

General inquiries: 902-429-7287

Provincial toll-free line: 1-855-225-0220 (24/7)

[www.thans.ca](http://www.thans.ca)

TRANSITION HOUSES

**Bryony House** (Transition House Association of Halifax)

Distress line: 902-422-7650

Text: 902-422-7650

Shelter main number: 902-423-7183

[www.bryonyhouse.ca](http://www.bryonyhouse.ca)

[staff@bryonyhouse.ca](mailto:staff@bryonyhouse.ca)

**Autumn House (Amherst)**

24 Hour Crisis Line: 902-667-1200

Business phone: 902-667-1344

[www.autumnhouse.ca](http://www.autumnhouse.ca)

[info@autumnhouse.ca](mailto:info@autumnhouse.ca)

Autumn House serves Cumberland County

**Cape Breton Transition House (Sydney)**

24 Hour Help Line: 902-539-2945; Toll Free: 1-800-563-2945

Outreach phone: 902-562-3045

Childcare Counsellor phone: 902-562-1336

Education/Fundraising: 902-562-4190

[www.transitionhousefoundation.com](http://www.transitionhousefoundation.com)

[cbtranshouse@ns.aliantzinc.ca](mailto:cbtranshouse@ns.aliantzinc.ca)

Cape Breton Transition House serves CBRM and Victoria County

**Chrysalis House (Kentville)**

24 Hour Help Line: 902-679-1922; Toll-free: 1-800-264-8682

Administration phone: (902) 679-6544

[www.chrysalishouseassociation.org](http://www.chrysalishouseassociation.org)

[ed@chrysalishouseassociation.org](mailto:ed@chrysalishouseassociation.org)

Chrysalis House serves West Hants, Kings, and Annapolis Counties

**Harbour House (Bridgewater)**

24 Hour Help Line: 902-543-3999; Toll-free: 1-888-543-3999

Administration phone: 902-543-3665

Childcare Counsellor: 902-543-9970

Outreach phone: 902-543-9970

[www.harbour-house.ca](http://www.harbour-house.ca)

[ed@harbour-house.ca](mailto:ed@harbour-house.ca)

Harbour House serves Lunenburg and Queens Counties

**Juniper House (Yarmouth)**

24 Hour Help Line: 902-742-8689; Toll-free: 1-800-266-4087

Administration phone: 902-742-4473

[www.juniperhouse.ca](http://www.juniperhouse.ca)

[juniperhouse@juniperhouse.ca](mailto:juniperhouse@juniperhouse.ca)

Outreach

Yarmouth Outreach: 902-742-0231

Digby Outreach: 902-245- 4789

Shelburne Outreach: 902-749- 7170

[info@juniperhouse.ca](mailto:info@juniperhouse.ca)

Juniper House serves Yarmouth, Digby and Shelburne Counties

**Leeside Transition House (Port Hawkesbury)**

24 Hour Help Line: 902-625-2444; Toll Free: 1-800-565-3390

Phone: 902-625-1990

[director@leesidesociety.ca](mailto:director@leesidesociety.ca)

Leeside Transition House serves Richmond and Inverness Counties and the Town of Port Hawkesbury.

**Millbrook Family Healing Centre (Truro)**

24 Hour Help Line: 902-893-8483; Toll-free: 1-800-565-4741

Phone: 902-893-8483

Program Supervisor Email: [brooke.paul@novascotia.ca](mailto:brooke.paul@novascotia.ca)

Manager Email: [beverly.walker@novascotia.ca](mailto:beverly.walker@novascotia.ca)

Millbrook Family Healing Centre serves all First Nations on mainland Nova Scotia except Paq'tnkek First Nation.

### **Naomi Society (Antigonish)**

Phone: 863-3807

[www.naomisociety.ca](http://www.naomisociety.ca)

[info@naomisociety.ca](mailto:info@naomisociety.ca)

Naomi Society offers second stage housing and services in Antigonish (Town & County) and Guysborough County

### **Tearman House (New Glasgow)**

24 Hour Help Line: 902-752-0132; Toll free: 1-888-831-0330

Administration phone: 902-928-0774

Shelter phone: 902-752-1633

Outreach phone: 902-752-2591

Childcare Counsellor phone: 902-755-6390

[www.tearmann.ca](http://www.tearmann.ca)

[tearmann@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:tearmann@ns.sympatico.ca)

Tearmann House serves New Glasgow, Pictou, Antigonish, and Guysborough Counties

### **Third Place (Truro)**

24 Hour Help Line: 902-893-3232; Toll free: 1-800-565-4878

Business Line: (902) 893-4844

Women's Outreach: (902) 895-9740

Children & Youth Outreach: (902) 893-3232

Outreach Email: [outreach@thirdplaceth.ca](mailto:outreach@thirdplaceth.ca)

Director Email: [director@thirdplaceth.ca](mailto:director@thirdplaceth.ca)

[www.thirdplaceth.ca](http://www.thirdplaceth.ca)

[support@thirdplaceth.ca](mailto:support@thirdplaceth.ca)

Third Place Transition House serves Colchester and East Hants Counties and Truro

### **Waycobah Family Healing Centre (Whycocomagh)**

24 Hour Help Line: 902-756-3440; Toll Free: 1-800-565-3440

Phone: (902) 756-3440

Manager Email: [beverly.walker@novascotia.ca](mailto:beverly.walker@novascotia.ca)

Waycobah Family Healing Centre serves all First Nations on Cape Breton Island and Paq'tnkek First Nation

## SHELTERS

### **Adsum House (Halifax)**

902-423-4443

[www.adsumforwomen.org](http://www.adsumforwomen.org)

adsum@adsumforwomen.org

Emergency shelter, housing, programs and services for women, youth, children and trans individuals who are experiencing homelessness.

### **Barry House (Halifax)**

[\(902\) 422-8324](tel:9024228324)

[www.shelternovascotia.com/shelter-services](http://www.shelternovascotia.com/shelter-services)

For women and gender diverse individuals who are experiencing homelessness.

## SECOND-STAGE HOUSING

### **Alice House**

902-466-8459

[www.alicehouse.ca](http://www.alicehouse.ca)

livesafe@alicehouse.ca

Second-stage housing and supportive counselling for women and children in Nova Scotia (HRM).

### **Naomi Society**

Phone: 863-3807

[www.naomisociety.ca](http://www.naomisociety.ca)

[info@naomisociety.ca](mailto:info@naomisociety.ca)

Naomi Society offers second stage housing and services in Antigonish (Town & County) and Guysborough County

### **Brenda's Place – Second Stage Housing**

Provided by: Tearmann Society for Abused Women

902-755-3123 or 902-752-0077

[secondstage@tearmann.ca](mailto:secondstage@tearmann.ca)

Coverage area: Pictou, Antigonish and Guysborough Counties

**Cape Breton Transition House**

Outreach Worker: 902-562-3045 ext. 208

[www.cbtha.com/](http://www.cbtha.com/)

Second stage housing units are in Glace Bay and Sydney

**Welkaqanik Next Step Shelter**

General Inquiries: 902-895-1523

Toll Free: 1-800-565-4372

[www.ncns.ca/welkaqnik-next-step-shelter](http://www.ncns.ca/welkaqnik-next-step-shelter)

[socialmanager@ncns.ca](mailto:socialmanager@ncns.ca)

A next step shelter providing Mi'kmaq/Aboriginal survivors of family violence a safe affordable shelter for a period of up to one year