



Office of the Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia  
GOVERNMENT HOUSE  
HALIFAX

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Activity Report  
2018-19





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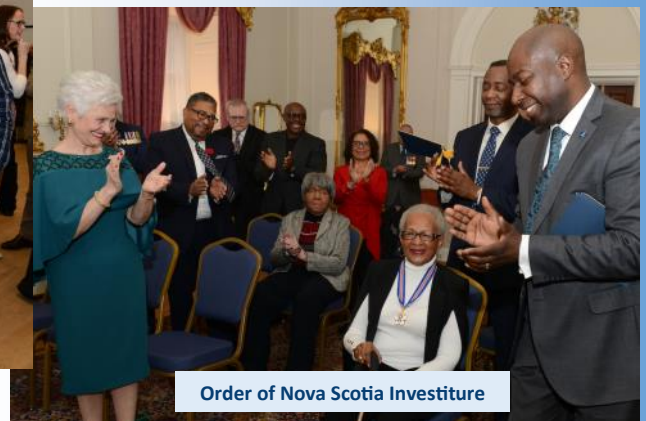
Scottish Country Dancing at Government House



Arms of  
The Honourable Arthur J. LeBlanc



Lieutenant Governor's Education Medal Ceremonies



Order of Nova Scotia Investiture

# Foreword



## GOVERNMENT HOUSE

Dear Friends,

As Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia, I am pleased to provide this annual accounting of my official activities for 2018-2019 fiscal year. Over the past year, Her Honour and I had the privilege of participating in more than 260 events at Government House and throughout the province.

As the ceremonial home of all Nova Scotians, I am delighted to note that more than 14,000 visitors came to the historic residence for tours or to attend events. In particular, I was honored to host Mi'kmaq leaders at the first ever meeting of the Grand Council, which took place here at Government House, shortly after Treaty Day in October 2018.

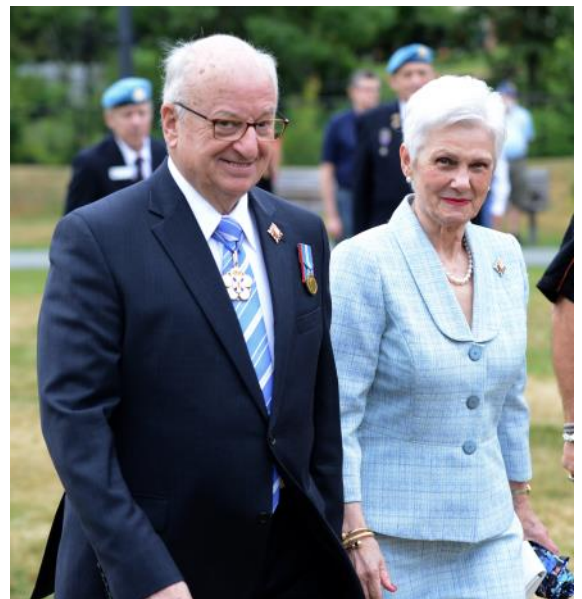
As I enter the third year of my mandate as your Lieutenant Governor, I remain invigorated by the warmth and civic mindedness of the thousands of Nova Scotians who I have had the privilege of meeting and helping to recognize with a variety of honours and awards.

At Government House, we held 111 events, including diplomatic courtesy calls with Commonwealth and foreign representatives, investitures, awards ceremonies, volunteer recognition receptions, a dinner in honour of outgoing Chief Justice J. Michael Macdonald and a meeting of the LGBTQ2+ provincial employees council, amongst other events. Her Honour and I also had the pleasure of attending 164 events throughout the province over the course of the 2018-19 fiscal year.

Interacting with members of the Canadian Armed Forces and various protective services also continues to be an important aspect of my role as The Queen's representative in our province. Be it formal departure or arrival ceremonies for Her Majesty's Canadian Ships which are involved in a variety of international deployments, or recognizing police, fire, corrections, peace officers and emergency medical services personnel, I remain inspired by the sense of service and dedication that so many of these men and women demonstrate towards their fellow citizens.

I am also delighted to note the addition of a number of new and impressive pieces to the Government House Crown Collection. Over the decade since the restoration and renovation of Government House was completed, this collection has grown in its size and diversity of holdings.

Arthur J. LeBlanc, ONS, QC  
Lieutenant Governor



## MISSION STATEMENT

*To serve, support and maintain with excellence,  
the Office of the Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia.*

## MANDATE

*To support the constitutional and symbolic role of the Lieutenant Governor as  
The Queen of Canada's representative in Nova Scotia,  
and to maintain and enrich the traditions and heritage of Government House Halifax  
as the centre of official hospitality for the province and its people.*

### Corporate Objectives

*The corporate objectives of the Office of the Lieutenant Governor reflect six goals central to the mandate of the Lieutenant Governor:*

- *Constitutional/Legal*
- *Crown-Indigenous Relations*
- *Ceremonial*
- *Community Engagement*
- *Promoting Nova Scotia*
- *Preserving Government House*



# Introduction



The Office of the Lieutenant Governor/ Government House supports the Lieutenant Governor in fulfilling his constitutional, state and ceremonial responsibilities. The *Constitution Act 1867*, provides that there must be a Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia who is appointed in the name of the Sovereign by the Governor General on advice of the Prime Minister. As the representative of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, Queen of Canada, who is Head of State, the Lieutenant Governor, His Honour the Honourable Arthur J. LeBlanc, is authorized and required to execute all matters that pertain to his office according to law and constitutional convention.

The Office of the Lieutenant Governor/ Government House provides administrative and logistical support enabling the Lieutenant Governor to exercise the constitutional powers and responsibilities of the Office and to undertake representational, ceremonial and civic duties. The autonomous nature of the Office is consistent with the Lieutenant Governor's role to function with political neutrality. The Office also supports the Administrator of the Province who acts in the place of the Lieutenant Governor when the Lieutenant Governor is unavailable.

Additionally, the Office is also responsible for planning and implementing the Lieutenant Governor's programme, awards, patronages and the many other activities undertaken with, and on behalf of, Nova Scotians in communities across the province.



To help Nova Scotians and visitors understand the role and responsibilities of the Lieutenant Governor, the Office offers a "general tour" programme along with a "talk & tour" program at the Lieutenant Governor's official residence, Government House in Halifax.

The administrative element of the Office of the Lieutenant Governor/Government House reports through the Department of Intergovernmental Affairs and receives its funding from an annual appropriation as part of the same department. As part of the Department of Intergovernmental Affairs, the Office of the Lieutenant Governor/ Government House is committed to accounting for activities and expenditures. Support for the structure and infrastructure of Government House is provided through the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal.

The Office works closely with the provincial departments, Government of Canada, Mi'kmaq leaders, Canadian Armed Forces, Royal Canadian Mounted Police, Halifax Regional Police Service, Cape Breton Regional Police Service, Department of Canadian Heritage and numerous non-governmental organizations over which the Lieutenant Governor presides as Patron or Honorary Patron.

By enabling the Lieutenant Governor to exercise his constitutional powers and responsibilities and to undertake duties as the representative of the Head of State, the Office of the Lieutenant Governor directly contributes to maintaining a stable and effective government.

# Roles and Duties of the Lieutenant Governor

## Constitutional/Legal

The Lieutenant Governor granted Royal Assent to 44 bills, presided over two Royal Assent ceremonies, one Speech from the Throne Ceremony/Opening of the Legislature. In addition to these duties, the Lieutenant Governor and Administrator signed 361 Orders-in-Council. The Lieutenant Governor also signed and had sealed 219 documents for authentication and 137 notary public appointment commissions for the Department of Justice.

The Lieutenant Governor presided over one swearing in ceremony of the Executive Council, organized by Government House in co-operation with the Executive Council Office.



Historic meeting with the Grand Council of the Mi'kmaq at Government House

## Crown-Indigenous Relations

The Lieutenant Governor participated in all the main events held on Treaty Day, in addition to hosting a ceremonial flag raising of the Mi'kmaq flag at Government House. The Lieutenant Governor also attended three Powwows in different parts of the province.

In October, for the first time in history, the Mi'kmaq Grand Council held a meeting at Government House, which was co-hosted by Grand Keptin Andrew Denny and Lieutenant Governor LeBlanc. This meeting sought to reaffirm the special relationship between the Crown and the Mi'kmaq. The Lieutenant Governor also attended the opening of the new courthouse in Wagmatcook First Nation.

## Ceremonial

At Government House, the Lieutenant Governor hosted 111 in-house events. The Lieutenant Governor presided over 11 investitures for various Canadian honours (Order of St. John, Meritorious Service Medal, Sovereign's Medal for Volunteers, RCMP Long Service Medal, Police Exemplary Service Medal, Coast Guard Exemplary Service Medal, Corrections Exemplary Service Medal, Peace Officer Exemplary Service Medal, Emergency Medical Services Exemplary Service Medal, Corps of Commissionaires Long Service Medal) and the Order of Nova Scotia. A total of 127 citizens were invested with national and provincial honours over the course of the year, and 554 guests accompanied them.

Each year the Lieutenant Governor presides over several citizenship swearing-in ceremonies where

new Canadians take their citizenship oath. These are held at Government House and a number of other locations including Province House and Pier 21 Canadian Immigration Museum.

By the end of March 2019, the Lieutenant Governor and Mrs. LeBlanc had consented to become Patron or Honorary Patron of 45 organizations throughout Nova Scotia.

June 2018 saw the Lieutenant Governor officially welcome Her Excellency the Governor General to Nova Scotia on her first official visit since being sworn into office. The Governor General was in residence at Government House throughout the visit, and the overall programme was coordinated by the Office of the Secretary to the Governor General, Office of the Lieutenant Governor, Canadian Armed Forces and the Provincial Protocol Office.



Duke of Edinburgh Award Ceremony



Remembrance Day Halifax



Centennial of most women attaining the right to vote



African Heritage Month Launch at North End Library

## Community Engagement

In addition to internal Government House events, the Lieutenant Governor presided over three investitures outside of Government House; one in partnership with the Protocol Office for the Order of Nova Scotia and two other external investitures in cooperation with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and Bridgewater Fire Department respectively. The Lieutenant Governor undertook 164 external events over the course of the fiscal year and delivered 145 speeches.



## Overall Activity Level

The various activities undertaken by the Lieutenant Governor are divided into five separate categories, along with speeches which are delivered at many events. Constitutional Duties consist of such events as the Speech from the Throne, meetings with the Premier, Executive Council Officials and signing orders-in-council, statutory and non-statutory instruments. In-House Events, consists of receptions, dinners, investitures, performances, presentations, meetings, and ceremonies held at Government House and presided over by the Lieutenant Governor. External Events Hosted by Government House, consists of events presided over by the Lieutenant Governor which are organized and arranged by the Office of the Lieutenant Governor but which are held at an outside venue such as the presentation of the Lieutenant Governor's Education Medal and the Lieutenant Governor's Respectful Citizenship Award. External Events Organized by Government House but not attended by the Lieutenant Governor, relates to tours and related events.

Table 1.1. Overall Activity Level

| Event Type  | 1 April - 31 March<br>2018-19 | 1 April - 31 March<br>2017-18* |
|---|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Constitutional Duties   | 81                            | 73                             |
| In-House Events   | 111                           | 78                             |
| External Events Hosted by Government House  | 5                             | 2                              |
| External Events   | 164                           | 134                            |
| External Events organized by Government House but not attended by the Lieutenant Governor | 45                            | 21                             |
| <b>TOTAL EVENTS</b>   | <b>406</b>                    | <b>308</b>                     |

\*Only includes activities undertaken by Lieutenant Governor LeBlanc since being sworn into office on 28 June 2017.



## Speeches

Over the course of the year the Lieutenant Governor delivered 145 speeches and in addition to this 15 press releases were issued and 63 special statements were published on the Lieutenant Governor's Website and other social media platforms.

**Table 1.2 Speeches delivered**

| Event Type         | 1 April - 31 March<br>2018-19 | 1 April - 31 March<br>2017-18* |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Speeches delivered | 145                           | 103                            |



## Certificate Programme

The Lieutenant Governor's Commemorative Certificate Programme which recognizes milestone birthdays, wedding anniversaries and military retirements resulted in 785 certificates being produced and mailed.

**Table 1.3 Certificate Programme**

| Event Commemorated    | 1 April - 31 March<br>2018-19 | 1 April - 31 March<br>2017-18 |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Milestone Birthdays   | 379                           | 490                           |
| Wedding Anniversaries | 265                           | 345                           |
| Military Retirement   | 141                           | 131                           |
| <b>TOTAL</b>          | 785                           | 966                           |

## Continuing Public Access

For the eighth year, in addition to periodic tours booked by members of the general public, Government House was open during the summer months of July and August for half-hourly guided tours of the main floor state rooms. The program runs every Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday. A total of 3,794 visitors from Nova Scotia, every province in Canada and 37 different countries toured Government House as part of the summer tour programme. Tour guides are shared with Province House, as part of a cost sharing arrangement.

Throughout the July/August summer tour programme, the Canadian Armed Forces's 5th Canadian Division provided sentries who paraded during each tour day, as part of the Sentry Programme, which was inaugurated in 2012. The sentries, drawn from CAF reserve units from throughout the province, provides a changing of the guard every hour during the day.

**Table 1.4 Summer Tour Programme Visitors**

|                 | Summer 2018 | Summer 2017 | Summer 2016 | Summer 2015 | Summer 2014 |
|-----------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| <b>Visitors</b> | 3,794       | 3,569       | 2,992       | 2,967       | 2,274       |

Outside of the summer months, Government House was open for tours booked by school groups, civic organizations (Scouts, Guides and Cadets) and seniors' organizations.

The Lieutenant Governor's *Evenings @ Government House* continued with 11 presentations on topics ranging from the centennial of Women's Suffrage in Nova Scotia to a presentation and exhibit by the Nova Scotia Potters Guild.



Annual meeting with Provincial Deputy Ministers



Presentation of the 2018 Killam Prizes

Overall, including events such as Doors Open, Nocturne, the annual Garden Party, New Year's Day Levee and other events hosted by the Lieutenant Governor at Government House, approximately 14,000 people visited the historic residence.

Outside of the Halifax Regional Municipality, the Lieutenant Governor made official visits to; Antigonish, Bridgetown, Englishtown, Liverpool, Lunenburg, Membertou First Nation, Port Hawkesbury, Port William, Petit-de-Grat, Pictou Landing, Sydney and Wagmatcook.



## Volunteer Service

The cadre of 29 Honorary Aides de Camp, comprised of members of the Royal Canadian Navy, Canadian Army, Royal Canadian Air Force, Royal Canadian Mounted Police, Halifax Regional Police, Cape Breton Regional Police and New Glasgow Police, volunteered 1639 hours aiding the Lieutenant Governor in discharging his duties throughout the province. This is the equivalent of 2 FTEs.



## Promoting Nova Scotia

Aside from national and provincial honours, the Lieutenant Governor recognizes excellence in a diverse array of fields through the various Lieutenant Governor's Awards.

**Table 1.5 Lieutenant Governor's Awards Conferred**

| Award   | Partner   | No. Bestowed 2018-19 | No. Bestowed 2017-18 |
|---|---|----------------------|----------------------|
| LG's Education Medal                                      | Department of Education                               | 166                  | 154                  |
| LG's Award for Excellence in Public Administration        | Institute of Public Administration Canada             | 3                    | 3                    |
| LG's Award for Design in Architecture                     | Nova Scotia Association of Architects                 | 8                    | 7                    |
| LG's Award for Excellence in Engineering                  | Association of Professional Engineers of Nova Scotia  | 4                    | 4                    |
| LG Award for Conservation                                 | Nova Scotia Salmon Trust                              | 1                    | 1                    |
| LG's Nova Scotia Talent Trust Award                       | Nova Scotia Talent Trust                              | 8                    | 8                    |
| LG's Greenwing Award                                      | Ducks Unlimited                                       | 1                    | 1                    |
| LG's Prêt à écrire! Award                                 | Canadian Parents for French                           | 1                    | 1                    |
| LG's Masterworks Arts Award                               | Arts Award Foundation                                 | 6                    | 6                    |
| LG's Community Spirit Award                               | Department of Community, Culture and Heritage         | 4                    | 4                    |
| LG's Person with Disabilities Employer Partnership Awards | Collaborative Partnership Network                     | 6                    | 7                    |
| LG's Award for Excellence in Nova Scotia Wines            | Wine Association of Nova Scotia, Taste of Nova Scotia | 4                    | 3                    |
| LG's Respectful Citizenship Award                         | Department of Education                               | 93                   | *                    |

*\*Not presented in 2017*

A policy of serving Nova Scotian produce, fish and meat (when seasonally available), was instituted at Government House in 2011 and continues to be in place. Since 2009, all wine served at Government House has been Nova Scotian in origin. Winning wines that have received the Lieutenant Governor's Award for Excellence in Nova Scotia Wines are served at many events.



In cooperation with the Department of Communities, Culture and Heritage, in 2018 the Lieutenant Governor presented the Lieutenant Governor's Community Spirit Award to four communities (Prospect, North Mountain, Glooscap and Cole Harbour). During May and June, the Lieutenant Governor presented the Lieutenant Governor's Education Medals at three ceremonies; one at Government House for CSAP Schools, one organized by Government House at the Halifax Central Library for Nova Scotia's mainland schools and the final ceremony was held in Port Hawkesbury for the Cape Breton Schools.

## Milestone Events for 2018-19

The Lieutenant Governor undertook ten courtesy calls or meetings with Commonwealth and foreign representatives. The Lieutenant Governor also co-hosted the G7 Speaker's Conference Opening Reception in partnership with the Speaker of the House of Commons.

As The Queen's representative and on behalf of all Nova Scotians, the Lieutenant Governor was also present at 280 events hosted by a wide range of cultural, sporting, civic, heritage, military and volunteer communities. Some of the highlights included:

- Official Visit of Her Excellency the Governor General
- Centennial of Women being granted the vote
- Dinner in honour of outgoing Chief Justice J. Michael Macdonald
- Christmas Tree decorating by members of the l'Arche community
- Commonwealth Judicial Education Institute Reception
- Meeting of the Grand Council of the Mi'kmaq
- Prince's Charities Operation Entrepreneur
- Cape Breton Garden Party
- Bicentennial of Province House
- Fête nationale de l'Acadie, Flag Raising
- Presentation of the Killam Prizes
- Two Citizenship Swearing in Ceremonies
- Treaty Day
- Celtic Colours Festival
- Remembrance Day, Centennial of the end of the First World War



## Preserving Government House

The Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal has been overseeing repairs to the stone façade of Government House along with routine maintenance and repairs to the building and Carriage House.

The Government House Crown Collection saw three major pieces donated:

- 1) a portrait of former Lieutenant Governor Alan R. Abraham, CM, ONS, CD; gift of the Abraham family and Larry Gibson;
- 2) an early 20<sup>th</sup> century Persian rug, 12 ft x 14 ft rug; gift of Janet Morris; and,
- 3) a side table by 19<sup>th</sup> century Nova Scotian cabinet maker John Tuller, c. 1815; gift of the estate of Reider David Olsen.

## Provincial Budget

The budget voted by the House of Assembly, as a line in the budget of the Department of Intergovernmental Affairs. This budget covers the operation of the Lieutenant Governor's programme, salaries for the Household staff, security services and the operational expenses associated with the Office of the Lieutenant Governor. The salaries and benefits portion cover the salaries for the 9.5 FTE staff, while the cost for security services (a Commissionaire on duty 24 hours a day 7 days a week, 365 days a year) is covered under the Supplies and Services Category.

**Table 1.5 Provincial Budget Expenditures**

|   | <b>2018-19</b> | <b>2017-18</b> |
|---|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Salaries &amp; Benefits</b>            | 653,614        | 667,063        |
| <b>Supplies and Services</b>              | 289,167        | 221,610        |
| <b>Other</b>                              | 24,573         | 13,472         |
| <b>Recoverable from other departments</b> | (1,484)        | (9,632)        |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                              | <b>971,755</b> | <b>894,555</b> |

## Federal Budget

Since 1867, the salary of the Lieutenant Governor has been covered by the Federal Government. In addition to this, since 1951, the Federal Government has granted funds to help cover certain costs incurred by the Office of the Lieutenant Governor in the discharging of the Lieutenant Governor's official duties. These funds are granted through a lump sum payment known as a named grant to the Lieutenant Governor. The funds are administered on the Lieutenant Governor's behalf by the Private Secretary/Executive Director. Since the 2004-2005 year, the Department of Canadian Heritage has provided \$64,199 annually in funding towards supporting the role of the Crown in the province. This amount has remained constant and is not indexed or linked to the CPI or annual inflation rate. These funds are used to cover certain expenses that are not covered by funding granted by the province. Expenditures are divided into three categories; Travel/Accommodation, Hospitality and Operational/Administrative Expenses.

The travel category is used to cover expenses related to the Lieutenant Governor's official travel outside of Halifax to attend events; this includes the Lieutenant Governor's attendance at the annual conference of the Governor General, Lieutenant Governors and Territorial Commissioners. This category is also used to cover travel and accommodation expenses incurred by the driver and the Honorary Aide-de-Camp who accompanies the Lieutenant Governor to official events.



The hospitality category covers funds spent on foodstuffs and beverages served at official functions held by the Lieutenant Governor – either at Government House or at other venues where an official event is being hosted by the Lieutenant Governor. Operational/Administrative category covers expenses such as official gifts, musicians for events, hourly stipends for casual stewards who work formal dinners and other high-level functions.



2018 Order of Nova Scotia Investiture



Official visit by Her Excellency the Governor General



Courtesy Call by the Latvian Ambassador His Excellency Kārlis Eihenbaums



Lieutenant Governor's Award for Excellence in Nova Scotia Wines

**Table 1.6 Federal Named Grant Expenditures**

|                            | 2018-19          | 2017-18          |
|----------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Travel/Accommodation       | 11,847.13        | 23,897.87*       |
| Hospitality                | 27,268.32        | 22,738.52        |
| Operational/Administrative | 25,083.55        | 17,562.61        |
| <b>TOTAL</b>               | <b>64,199.00</b> | <b>64,199.00</b> |

\*the fiscal year 2017/18 included the travel and accommodation for the Lieutenant Governor, his wife and Private Secretary to visit the United Kingdom for an audience with Her Majesty The Queen and His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales.



Christmas tree decorating with members of the L'Arche Community



Fête nationale de l'Acadie



Lieutenant Governor's Annual Garden Party



Courtesy call with MGen G. Chapdelain, Chaplain General of the CAF



Table by John Tulles, donated to Crown Collection

**VISIT US**

<https://lt.gov.ns.ca>



This report has been prepared by the Private Secretary to the Lieutenant Governor, Christopher McCreery, MVO, with the assistance of the Communications Advisor, Craig Walkington, MSM, CD.

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