

## Bill Affordability

Where income-qualified households receive a **50% discount** on their bills to create an affordable bill-to-income ratio and prevent future unaffordable bills.



## Arrearage Management

Where arrears forgiveness is matched to reduced bill payments that households can realistically afford.

**The cost component should be shared by energy providers in exchange for the business benefits generated by the program as a whole.**

### Estimated program cost:

**70% High Participation**  
\$46,300,800

**45% Medium Participation**  
\$29,811,600

**20% Low Participation**  
\$16,901,220

By: Roger Colton

Prepared for the NS Energy Poverty Task Force



# A Way Forward: A MADE-IN-NOVA SCOTIA HOME ENERGY AFFORDABILITY PROGRAM

2024

**Continue to expand targeted energy efficiency and electrification supports for low- and moderate-income households.**

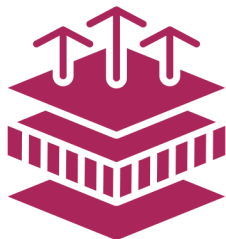
Programs could prioritize the highest energy users, and where additional prioritization is necessary, those with the highest arrears, to advance the resolution of payment troubles, improve affordability, and reduce consumption.

Low-income households can become especially financially insecure in the face of emergencies (e.g. illness, injury, or loss of work).

This program should be provided on a limited-time basis, available year-round, and **equal in total cost to 10% of the total Bill Affordability assistance.** This fund gives local administrators flexibility to provide crisis funding on an as-needed basis, rather than be bound by income thresholds.

## Energy Efficiency

## & Electrification



## Crisis

## Intervention Fund



# A 4-part integrated policy program to alleviate Nova Scotia's energy poverty crisis.

The EPTF is comprised of the Affordable Energy Coalition, Ecology Action Centre, Nova Scotia Power, Efficiency Nova Scotia, the Town of Bridgewater, Clean Foundation, the Consumer Advocate, Kate Ervine (SMU), Dept. of Natural Resources & Renewables, Dept. of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Dept. of Community Services, Nova Scotia Oil Heat Association and The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul.

For further inquiries, please contact: [gifford.brian@outlook.com](mailto:gifford.brian@outlook.com) OR [katharine.turner@ecologyaction.ca](mailto:katharine.turner@ecologyaction.ca)