



How To File a Human Rights Complaint: Nova Scotia



Nova Scotia Human Rights Commission:
<https://humanrights.novascotia.ca/>

Empowering Community and Removal of Barriers (ECRoB) Project

Navigating the intricacies of the Nova Scotia Human Rights Commission's complaint process can seem daunting, especially if you feel your rights have been violated. This guide offers an overview of how to file a Human Rights claim in Nova Scotia, detailing the steps of the process from determining eligibility to the possibility of a judicial review. Whether you're looking to educate yourself or actively seeking justice, the information provided here can serve as a valuable roadmap in your pursuit of equity and justice in Nova Scotia.

Please note: *This guide is for informational purposes only and does not constitute legal advice or representation. Always consult with a legal professional regarding your specific situation.*

Overview

The Nova Scotia Human Rights Commission stands as a pivotal institution in the province of Nova Scotia. Established as an independent government body, the NSHRC oversees the enforcement and promotion of the Nova Scotia Human Rights Act. This Act, initiated in 1969, was most recently updated in November 2012.

The Commission's roles are twofold:

1. **Dispute Resolution:** The Nova Scotia Human Rights Commission offers a structured avenue to address both individual and systemic discrimination claims.
2. **Proactive Initiatives:** Committed to building an inclusive society, the Commission engages in educational programs, public engagement, and policy formulation, all aimed at eliminating barriers and preventing discrimination.

Steps to Filing a Claim:

1. **Gather Documentation:** Compile all pertinent records, such as medical documents, correspondence, or evidence of discrimination.
2. **Know Your Rights:** Familiarize yourself with the provisions of the Nova Scotia Human Rights Act and understand how it pertains to Multiple Chemical Sensitivity (MCS) and disability discrimination.
3. **Contact the Nova Scotia Human Rights Commission:** Before formally lodging a complaint, discuss your situation with the Nova Scotia Human Rights Commission to ascertain if it falls under the Act.
4. **File a Complaint:** If your claim is valid, detail your experiences on the necessary forms. Remember, complaint forms prepared externally are not entertained.
5. **Evaluation & Mediation:** The Commission assesses your grievance, potentially suggesting mediation to address the issue.



6. **Investigation:** The Nova Scotia Human Rights Commission may delve deeper, soliciting more details from all parties involved.
7. **Legal Representation:** Given the intricacies of the process, consider legal representation.
8. **Formal Hearing:** Unresolved cases with substantial evidence might culminate in a formal hearing.
9. **Resolution & Appeal:** Post hearing, the Commission's verdict might include reparations or policy modifications. If unsatisfactory, an appeal can be lodged.

You may complete an [inquiry Form Online](#), that will put you into contact with the Nova Scotia Human Rights Commission. A guide on how to fill the inquiry form is [here](#). or directly contact the Nova Scotia Human Rights Commission.

Toll-free in Nova Scotia: 1-877-269-7699

Local in Halifax: 902-424-4111

Fax: 902-424-0596

TTY services available via 711

Email: hrcinquiries@novascotia.ca (Include your name, contact number, and preferred contact times.)

Offices:

Halifax: 5657 Spring Garden Road, Park Lane Terrace, Suite 305. Mail: PO Box 2221, Halifax, NS, B3J 3C4

Sydney: Provincial Building, 360 Prince Street, Sydney, NS, B1P 5L1. Phone: 1-877-269-7699, Fax: 902-563-5613

Digby: 84 Warwick St. Mail: PO Box 1029, Digby, NS, B0V 1A0. Phone: 902-245-4791.