



Executive Director, Children and Family Services

Nova Scotia Department of Community Services
Halifax, Nova Scotia

Designated leadership opportunity to support the wellbeing of Nova Scotian children, youth, and families.

The Department of Community Services works collaboratively with community, social enterprises, and not-for-profits to support self-reliant people, strong families, and inclusive communities. The Department works with many stakeholders to ensure vulnerable children, families, and individuals receive the supports they need to live safe, healthy, and productive lives. Recognizing that systematic change is necessary, the Department and the Division of Children, Youth and Families, in particular, is strengthening how adoption, foster care, early intervention, children in care, community residential services, and the child abuse registry are managed with a focus on proactive and people-centric supports. Given the importance of leadership reflecting a diverse community of needs, including Indigenous, African Nova Scotians, other racially visible groups, and persons with disabilities, this is a designated role.

Reporting to the Deputy Minister, the Executive Director for Children and Family leads positive change that impacts the lives of children, youth, and families. The Executive Director provides corporate leadership and change management expertise in the development and implementation of innovative and transformative strategies, policies, and programs that promote and support the independence, self-reliance, and protection of children and families across the province. Leading a senior team of skilled professionals, the Executive Director leads a division that guides, develops, and creates programs and legislation that is implemented across the Department, requiring a high degree of collaboration and consultation with other colleagues to successfully deliver programs. This level of collaboration extends to other government departments and agencies and outside of the public sector to various agencies, community, organizations, and partners. The Executive Director serves as a catalyst in advocating for the adoption of culturally appropriate, evidence-based, outcome-oriented approaches that further the development of sustainable social service programs.

The successful candidate has 7-10 years of management experience, ideally in a social services or community context, a university or college degree or relevant lived experience. The Executive Director has led teams and is a champion for people, diversity, and culture. A progressive and experienced leader, the Executive Director has a passion for community and supporting children, youth, and families. The successful candidate has demonstrated experience in creative, innovative, and collaborative systems change. They have demonstrated an ability to execute and deliver actions in the short-term, along with experience in developing and implementing a vision with a longer-term outlook. A natural and strong communicator and relationship builder, the Executive Director is comfortable in collaborative, candid, and open discussions, both with internal and external stakeholders. They have an ability to take in new information and quickly synthesize it to provide excellent advice, rooted in good judgement and expertise. They are well-organized, capable of prioritizing work, and are flexible and open to changing course if new information or a changing environment presents itself.



To learn more about The Nova Scotia Department of Community Services please visit: [Nova Scotia Department of Community Services](#)

This role is designated for candidates that identify as Indigenous, African Nova Scotian, other racially visible groups, or persons with disabilities. As a member of one of these under-represented groups, we invite you to self-identify on your cover letter or resume.

Please submit your resume and interest online by clicking "[Apply](#)." For further information about this opportunity, please contact Kim West, Greg Dickie, or Ellen Snook in confidence at 902-422-2099.

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