

# Finance

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## Executive Offices

See also:

[Ms. Vicki Harnish](#), deputy minister

[Ms. Elizabeth Cody](#), assistant deputy minister

[Mr. Byron Rafuse](#), controller



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## The Honourable Jamie Muir

Minister of Finance



Nova Scotia Premier Rodney MacDonald appointed Jamie Muir as finance minister on March 10, 2009. In addition to this role, his current responsibilities include:

Minister of [Aboriginal Affairs](#)

Minister responsible for Part I of the Gaming Control Act

Minister responsible for the Utility and Review Board

Minister responsible for the Securities Act

Minister responsible for the Insurance Act

Minister responsible for the Retail Business Uniform Day Closing Act

Minister responsible for the Credit Union Act

First elected to Legislative Assembly in March 1998; re-elected July 1999, August 2001 and June 2006, his cabinet duties have included:

Minister of Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations;

Chair of the Treasury and Policy Board;

Attorney General;

Minister of Justice;

Minister of Health;

Minister of Education;

Minister responsible for the Residential Tenancies Act;

Minister responsible for the Emergency Measures Act;

Minister responsible for the Human Rights Act;

Minister of the Regulations Act; and

Minister responsible for Part II of the Workers' Compensation Act and the Youth Secretariat Act.

Mr. Muir holds a Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Education, Dalhousie University; Master's and Doctorate degrees in education, University of Virginia.

He is a former Frontier College instructor; high school teacher in Truro; director of inspection services at the Nova Scotia Department of Education; inspector of schools in Cumberland, Colchester and East Hants; lecturer at University of Prince Edward Island; assistant professor at Memorial University of Newfoundland; senior research associate at the Atlantic Institute of Education; principal of the Nova Scotia Teachers College; and faculty member in education department at St. Francis Xavier University.

Mr. Muir has been married since 1964 to Mary Jean Muir; they have four children.

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## Vicki Harnish

Deputy Minister of Finance



Vicki Harnish joined the Department of Finance in January 2004 as deputy minister.

Vicki has extensive government experience, with more than 25 years spent working for the Province of Nova Scotia, mainly in the fields of policy and planning.

She started with the Department of Mines and Energy, where she spent several years as the director of energy economics. She then moved to the Department of Natural Resources as the director of the planning secretariat.

In January 2001, she served as executive officer of the Treasury and Policy Board, the central agency responsible for advising the Nova Scotia cabinet and its subcommittees on both policy and budget issues.

In June 2002, Vicki was appointed the new public service commissioner and also took on the role of Secretary to the Executive Council. In August 2003, she was appointed deputy minister of Treasury and Policy Board in addition to her duties as public service commissioner.

Vicki holds a bachelor of economics and mathematics degree from Mount Saint Vincent University and a master's degree in public administration from Dalhousie University. Most recently, she received the certified director certification from the Institute of Corporate Directors.

Vicki and her husband, Lorne, live in Hubbards and have raised two daughters.

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**Elizabeth (Liz) Cody** Assistant Deputy Minister of Finance



Elizabeth Cody was appointed assistant deputy minister of the Department of Finance in May 2002.

She started with the Department of Finance in 1980 as an economist in the federal provincial taxation and fiscal policy division. She later became director of the division for six years.

In April 1996, she was appointed to executive director for the fiscal and economic policy branch. In September 2002, she was appointed acting assistant deputy minister.

Liz holds a bachelor of business administration degree from Saint Vincent University and a master's degree in public administration from Dalhousie University.

Liz and her husband, Paul, live in Dartmouth and have three children.

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**Byron Rafuse** Controller



Byron Rafuse joined the Department of Finance in September 2004 as controller.

Byron has extensive government experience, with 25 years spent working for the Province of Nova Scotia.

Prior to joining the controller's office in 2004, Byron spent several years in various senior financial and program positions at the Department of Solicitor General, the Department of Justice and the Department of Finance. He was also appointed to the position of chief financial officer with the Department of Health.

Byron participates in the annual development of Nova Scotia's provincial budget and is a member of the corporate financial system implementation team.

He serves on the board for the Nova Scotia chapter of the Society of Management Accountants of Canada.

Byron holds a bachelor of commerce degree from St. Mary's University, and holds his Certified Management Accountant designation.

He and his wife live in Halifax and have one child.

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