

Agenda Item# 7.2



Annual General Meeting - Motion Dues Increase

Mover: Dr. Gerard MacDonald, Chair, Audit Committee
Secunder: Dr. Mike Wadden

Rationale:

Earlier this year the Board of Directors agreed that a dues increase would be needed for the association to become structurally balanced. Doctors Nova Scotia has not seen a dues increase since 2015, and before that, it was in 2010.

At that time it was determined that the increase would become effective September 1, 2020; however, with the onset of the pandemic, the Board revisited this decision in April 2020 and decided on a different approach that considers the current environment and financial impact it has had on physicians. The Board, with support from the Audit Committee, decided to defer the increase for a year. The Board is recommending a \$300 increase to full member dues that will take effect in September 2021.

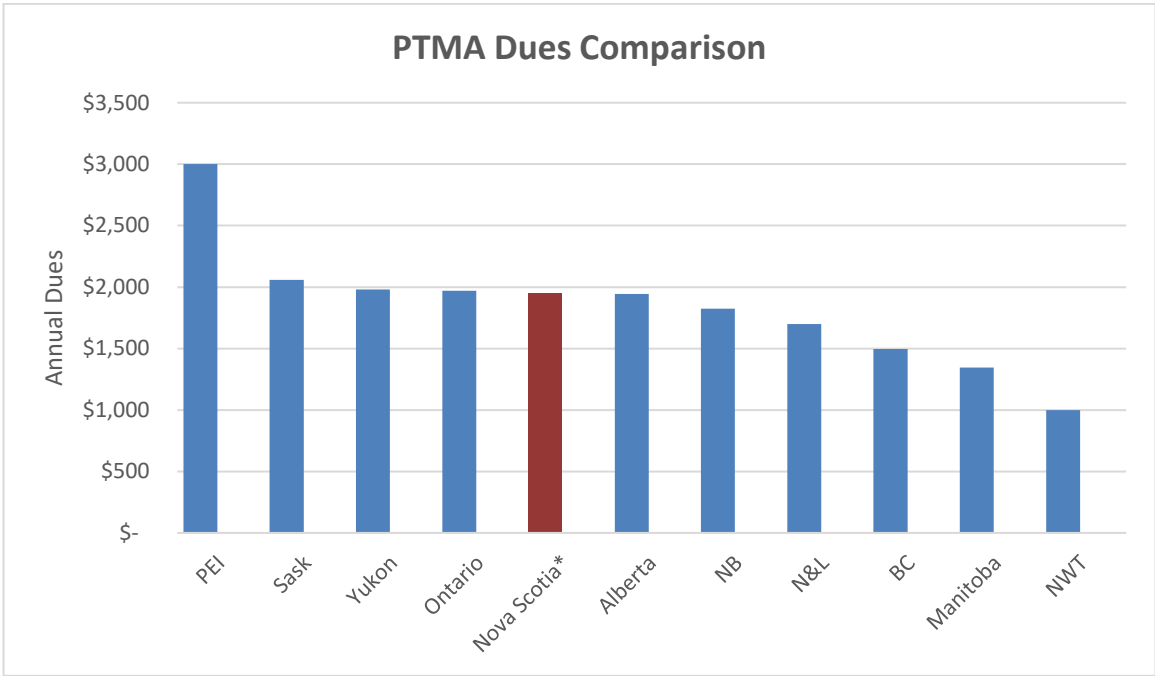
The increase will have DNS full member dues remain around mid-range compared to other Provincial & Territorial Medical Associations (PTMAs), as outlined in the attached chart, whereas other membership category dues are where they should be in comparison and will not require an increase at this time.

Since the last dues increase in 2015 inflation alone has increased by almost 11%. About 70% percent of the increase will cover the rate of inflation over the past six years, and the other 30% would fund operations and the work identified in the business plan. Implementing the dues increase in 2021 will allow the association to retain its net assets. Unless there are unforeseen circumstances, we expect to remain financially solvent until 2026-27 and would not expect to need another dues increase until that time.

DNS, and all PTMAs, will be receiving CMA affinity funding over the next four years to support the cost of several initiatives related to COVID, professional development, virtual care and physician wellness. This funding is short-term and must be directed to specific projects; it is not to fund operations.

The following motion will be presented:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Doctors Nova Scotia Annual General Meeting approves an increase to full member dues, from \$1,650 to \$1,950, effective September 1, 2021.



**This chart compares the DNS 2021 rate to the 2020 rates of the other PTMAs as they haven't set their 2021 rates yet. It's expected that some PTMAs will increase dues in the coming year, moving Nova Scotia closer to the lower end of the scale.*