

ENGAGE'S SDG PROJECT

WHAT IS IT?

Engage is coordinating a 3-year initiative to advance the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Nova Scotia. Our SDG-related work is focused on strengthening awareness of the SDGs locally and supporting Nova Scotians to be part of the global movement.

WHAT ARE THE SDGs?

The SDGs are 17 interconnected global goalposts set out by the United Nations that are based on: people, planet, prosperity, peace, and partnerships (the five Ps and pillars of sustainable development).

Engage's SDG project has three main threads of work. They are:

1

Engage all Nova Scotians to feel included in, informed about, and inspired by the SDGs

- Produce a pan-provincial resource that connects the NS QoL Survey results to the SDGs
- Establish and support a network of Nova Scotians working towards the SDGs
- Host a Quality of Life and 2030 Agenda Conference

2

Prototype approaches to work towards the SDGs at a community level

- Partner with and support the efforts of many communities (in the many ways we define community) to mobilize citizens, engage decision-makers, and prototype strategic approaches for sustainable development through pilot projects

3

Model a pan-jurisdictional approach to advancing a wellbeing and SDG agenda

- Capture learnings from our successes and failures through the evaluation of the program's first three objectives and share them with other SDG Partners

Throughout each of these threads, Engage is committed to advancing the SDGs in partnership with communities across Nova Scotia, including historically marginalized and underrepresented groups, in a way that strives to leave no one behind. What this looks like in practice is reaching out to individuals, organizations, and community groups to explore the opportunity of collaboratively working together to strengthen understanding of the SDGs and act on them - in whatever way feels most suitable to our partners.

WHAT'S THE CONNECTION BETWEEN THE SDGs AND THE NS QOLI?

The SDGs are closely aligned and significantly overlap with the purpose of the NS Quality of Life Initiative (QoL) and its eight domains of wellbeing. Both of these frameworks are data driven, strive towards action focused on more sustainable futures, and seek to ensure that no one is left behind as we move forward together. The advancement of the SDGs and across the eight domains is really about using complementary frameworks to advance quality of life and wellbeing.

THE POTENTIAL

- Increase awareness and understanding of the SDGs, which, in turn, will enable more people to use the framework to make decisions that benefit people and the planet, and support a sustainable future
- Enhance, connect, and contribute to existing SDG-related work across the province
- Showcase how people are working toward the SDGs in Nova Scotia so that people across Canada can learn from local actions
- Facilitate opportunities for creative, innovative, and evidence-based action on the SDGs
- Demonstrate how what we know from the NS QoL Survey about the SDGs and wellbeing can empower people and communities to make decisions that leave fewer people behind

HOW TO GET INVOLVED

Do you want to get involved in the provincewide SDG Network or have questions or ideas?

Email Blair Crawford, SDG Program Director:

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We support the Sustainable Development Goals.