



Giving Hope Today

2023 HEAT Fund open for applications

Tri-partnership continues long history of support

Halifax, NS, January 16, 2023 – Low-income individuals and families in Nova Scotia in urgent need of help with home heating costs can now apply for financial assistance. Applications for the 2023 Home Energy Assistance Top-up (HEAT) Fund opened today, Monday, January 16.

The Province of Nova Scotia, through Service Nova Scotia and Internal Services, and Nova Scotia Power continue to work together with the Salvation Army to make the Fund possible for those who need emergency support to pay for home heating. The province contributes \$800,000 annually and Nova Scotia Power gives \$200,000 annually to the Fund. The Salvation Army administers the HEAT fund.

Household income thresholds for 2023 are set at \$29,000 for one-person households, \$47,703 for two to four person households, and \$67,937 for households of five or more individuals. The Fund is available on a first come, first served basis.

The HEAT Fund has been providing support to low-income Nova Scotians since 1997 with funding from Nova Scotia Power and the Province of Nova Scotia. The program is offered each year and individuals, or families with an urgent need for help can receive up to \$400 to help pay their heating bills.

“The funding for the HEAT Fund comes at a critical time for Nova Scotians,” says Major Keith Pike, Divisional Commander for The Salvation Army, Maritime Division. “We have more people asking for our help every day, and this generous support will make a life-changing impact for thousands of individuals and families.”

With a total of \$1 million available to help Nova Scotians in 2023, the HEAT Fund has the potential to assist more than 2,250 households throughout the year.

“Nova Scotia Power is proud to continue to support the HEAT Fund and those Nova Scotians who need it most,” says Peter Gregg, President and CEO of Nova Scotia Power. “Whatever the situation, everyone deserves a warm, comfortable place to call home, and the HEAT Fund is one of the ways we are working to help make that happen.”

When the pandemic began, new application criteria was introduced allowing those in need to apply every 12 months rather than every two years and the application deadline was extended until all funds were used.

“Contributing to the HEAT Fund and working with the Salvation Army is another step the province is taking to help more Nova Scotians to manage the rising costs of living,” said Service Nova Scotia and Internal Services Minister Colton LeBlanc. “If you qualify, I encourage you to apply to this program as soon as you can for help with your urgent home heating costs.”

There is also an opportunity for Nova Scotia Power customers to contribute directly to the HEAT Fund by signing up on the NS Power website to donate money via their power bills. Information on the program and how it works can be found at: [HEAT Fund | Nova Scotia Power](#).



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Information about the HEAT Fund and the online application form can be found at:

<https://salvationarmy.ca/maritime/heat/>.

HEAT Fund Client Testimonials:

[Linda's Story](#)

"It affects everything when you're cold; when your feet are cold, everything is cold. But with the money from the fund and being able to go up a few degrees...wow, what a difference!" Linda Kennedy, Halifax



[Cheryl's Story](#)

"I laughed and said to my sister maybe someone is bringing me free oil, wouldn't that be a miracle'."
Cheryl Bernier, Balls Creek, Cape Breton

Other Heating Assistance Programs available to Nova Scotians:

- Heating Assistance Rebate Program: www.novascotia.ca/heatinghelp
- [Seniors Care Grant Program: www.novascotia.ca/seniorscaregrant](http://www.novascotia.ca/seniorscaregrant)

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