

It's your right:

Legal information for youth in NS



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Before we start

Everyone has rights, but not everyone knows what they are.

It is important to know what rights the law gives you. It's also good to know what responsibilities you have, because that can keep you out of trouble.

This book aims to help Nova Scotians between the ages of 16 and 25 understand your rights and responsibilities under the law. Some of this information is also useful for youth in other Canadian provinces, but most of the laws affecting youth are slightly different in each province.

You should also know about local rules.

Towns, villages, and cities have their own rules, called by-laws. These don't give you rights, but they explain responsibilities, especially if you live on your own: noise by-laws, recycling and garbage by-laws, and by-laws about where you can ride your bike or skateboard, and these are just a sample. We don't talk about by-laws in this book. But your town or city website will have the information.

First Nations band councils can also make some of the rules for their communities. They can make rules about policing, schools, and child welfare services. You can find information about rules, events, and services in your community on your band council's website.

CONTACTS YOU SHOULD KNOW

At the end of each chapter of the book, we give you some resources. However, some resources help everywhere.

▶ **911**

Call 911 if you're in danger now. Don't text.
Call 911 to report online harassment and abuse. Don't text.

▶ **211**

Call or text 211 for help finding services in your area.

▶ ns.211.ca

▶ 211 (text)

▶ 711 (Bell Relay Service)

▶ 1-855-466-4994 (toll-free)

Kids Help Phone

▶ Call 1-800-668-6868

▶ Text 686868

Legal Information Society of Nova Scotia (LISNS) services

- ▶ www.legalinfo.org

LISNS Youth Text Line

- ▶ Text: 1-902-510-5646

NS Human Rights Commission

- ▶ <https://humanrights.novascotia.ca/contact-us>

Nova Scotia Legal Aid

Halifax Region (Youth Justice Office)

- ▶ (902) 420-7800
Email: hfxyouth@nslegalaid.ca
In person: Suite 401, 5475 Spring Garden Road, Halifax

Outside Halifax Region

- ▶ [Local Nova Scotia Legal Aid Offices](#)

Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq Crisis and Referral Line

- ▶ 1-855-379-2099 (toll-free)

Centre d'Information Juridique

Services gratuits offert aux résidents de la Nouvelle-Écosse sur rendez-vous seulement.
de 8 h à 15 h, du lundi au vendredi

- ▶ 902-433-2085 / 1-844-250-8471: Veuillez laisser un message.