A DISTINCT PEOPLE

African Nova Scotians / Indigenous Blacks are a distinct people who descend from free and enslaved Black Planters, Black Loyalists, Black Refugees, Maroons, and other Black people who inhabited the original 52 land-based Black communities in that part of Mi’kma’ki known as Nova Scotia.
AFRICAN NOVA SCOTIAN STRATEGY

Central to the need for an African Nova Scotian Strategy (the Strategy), and the foundation of the Strategy itself, is the understanding that African Nova Scotians are a distinct people. The Strategy, supported by the African Nova Scotian Strategy Advisory Council, sets out the need for a proactive approach to increasing support for African Nova Scotian students, staff, and faculty at Dalhousie.

The Strategy recommendations were developed based on the collective research, experience, expertise and wisdom of African Nova Scotian students, staff, faculty and other members of the African Nova Scotian community. If actioned, these recommendations will allow for the full and equitable participation of African Nova Scotians at Dalhousie.

AFRICAN NOVA SCOTIAN STRATEGY ADVISORY COUNCIL

The African Nova Scotian Advisory Council is composed of dedicated community leaders, some of whom are also Dalhousie students, staff, and faculty members. The role of the Advisory Council is to oversee the implementation of the Strategy recommendations and to build upon them at the university. The Working Group plays a supportive role in operationalizing the vision.

DIRECTOR OF AFRICAN NOVA SCOTIAN COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The Director plays an institutional leadership role in supporting the work to implement the Strategy recommendations, while actively supporting the access and success of prospective and current African Nova Scotian members of the Dalhousie community.

WHAT IS THE AFRICAN NOVA SCOTIAN STRATEGY VISION?

Our vision is the execution of a comprehensive, structured, and resourced strategy grounded in the understanding of African Nova Scotians as a distinct people and operationalized through engagement with African Nova Scotian communities.

We will achieve our vision through:

• Pathway programs for students
• Pathway programs for faculty and staff
• Student bursary and scholarship support
• Enhanced curriculum and research opportunities
• Community engagement on a local and global level
• Creating a hub for African Nova Scotian engagement on Dalhousie campus