

HALIFAX ECONOMIC GROWTH PLAN 2016-21 CHECKLIST

Year 1 Key Indicators				
All indicators are measured for the Halifax Census Metropolitan Area unless indicated otherwise				
Goal	Measurement	Baseline	2016	Progress Report*
Promote & Maximize Growth	Grow Halifax's GDP to \$22.5 Billion Source: Conference Board of Canada - Winter Publications	\$18,300 million	\$18,579 million	Progressing
	• Increase average annual income growth Source: Conference Board of Canada - Winter Publications	1.2%	1.5%	Unchanged
	• Increase the total number of jobs Source: Statistics Canada - Cansim Table: 282 - 0129	224,100	226,000	Improving
	• Increase the share of full-time work Source: Statistics Canada - Cansim Table: 282 - 0129	83%	82%	Worsening
	• Increase the share of businesses that consider Halifax an above-average place to do business Source: HP Business Confidence Survey	15.0%	23.0%	Improving
	• Reduce commercial vacancy rates in the downtown Source: Cushman & Wakefield Atlantic	14.3%	15.1%	Worsening
	• Increase the commercial property tax base Source: HRM Taxation and Fiscal Policy	\$7.8 billion	\$8.2 billion	Improving
Attract & Retain Talent	Grow Halifax's Labour Force to 271,000 Source: Statistics Canada - Cansim Table: 282 - 0129	239,100	240,700	Progressing
	• Increase Halifax's overall population growth Source: Statistics Canada - Cansim Table: 051 - 0056	1.0%	2.0%	Improving
	• Increase net interprovincial migration of youth ages 20-29 to Nova Scotia Source: Statistics Canada - Cansim Table 051 - 0057	-1,300	-1,001	Improving
	• Grow the international student body... Source: Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission	5,832	6,045	Improving
	- ...and the gross share that transition into permanent residency Source: Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission	3.4%	5.8%	Improving
	• Increase net international immigration to Halifax Source: Statistics Canada - Cansim Table 051 - 0057	2,085	6,150	Improving
Make Halifax a Better Place to Live & Work	Grow Halifax's Population to 470,000 Source: Statistics Canada - Cansim Table: 051 - 0056	417,847	425,871	On Track
	• Increase the share of Nova Scotians who have a strong or somewhat strong sense of belonging to their community Source: City Matters Survey 2017	73.8%	76.4%	Improving
	• Raise the mean score on quality of life indicators Source: City Matters Survey	7.7	7.2	Worsening
	- Good place to raise a family Source: City Matters Survey	7.7	7.8	Unchanged
	- Outdoor recreational facilities Source: City Matters Survey	7.3	6.8	Worsening
	- Indoor recreational facilities Source: City Matters Survey	7.2	6.8	Worsening
	- Housing affordability Source: City Matters Survey	6.1	5.7	Worsening
	- Arts and cultural events Source: City Matters Survey	7.4	6.8	Worsening
	- City is easy to get around Source: City Matters Survey	6.6	5.9	Worsening
	- % who feel mostly safe Source: City Matters Survey	61.0%	80.0%	Improving
	• Increase library programming attendance... Source: Halifax Regional Library	209,772	213,576	Unchanged
-...and in-person visits Source: Halifax Regional Library	3,595,902	3,613,986	Unchanged	

*Growth Plan metrics with a specific numerical target for the year 2021—GDP, Labour Force and Population Growth—are categorized as “On Track” if the current growth path would lead to the target being reached or exceeded, “Progressing” if there is substantial positive growth, albeit not enough to reach the target, or “Not Progressing” if there is negligible or negative growth. All other items are assessed in terms of annual growth, but without specific targets. The status of “Improving” denotes substantial improvement, while “Unchanged” indicates that the most recent data are not considered to be substantially changed from the prior year, and “Worsening” means there has been non-negligible deterioration.