



## Recreation Nova Scotia Call for Nominations 2025/2026

Members of Recreation Nova Scotia (RNS) are encouraged to submit nominations for directors & officers to the attention of the *Chairperson of the Nominations Committee* by **Friday, October 3, 2025**. The proposed slate is circulated to members 14 days before the RNS Annual General Meeting (AGM) via email. Nominations will be accepted from the floor during the AGM taking place on **October 23, 2025, at the Holiday Inn in Sydney, Cape Breton**.

We, the undersigned, wish to nominate (print)

Laura Jacobs

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for the Position of:

President-Elect

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Nominee Contact Information:

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Mailing Address:

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City

Province:

Postal Code:

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Email

Phone:

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Please provide a brief biographical sketch of the nominee, which illustrates the relevant talents, skills, and abilities that the individual will bring to the position for which they are nominated.

Laura Jacobs has been a crucial member of the Recreation Nova Scotia board for the last 3 years. She has a deep understanding of the work required to be successful in this role. Her strong sense of direction, work ethic and passion for the organization is admirable and I believe that the board will be stronger under her leadership. I would be excited to work alongside Laura and believe that she is the best possible candidate for role of President-Elect.

Signature of Member

*Clare Steele*

Signature of Member

Print Name

*Clare Steele*

Print Name

Phone

*902-759-5267*

Phone

Email

*clare.steele@munpict.ca*

Email

**Nominee Acceptance Form**

- I accept this nomination and agree to stand as a candidate for election to the RNS Board of Directors for the position specified in the RNS By-Laws.
  
- I agree to the terms of the By-Laws, which state that RNS Board members must be members of RNS in good standing.

Signature of Nominee:



## Nomination Process

1. Application to be sent for review to the RNS Nominations Committee by **Friday October 3, 2025**.
2. An application must include four components:
  - The Board Application Form (available on the website)
  - The Call for Nomination Form (this document)
  - At least one Reference Letter supporting the candidate's application and
  - A Resume/Curriculum Vitae.
3. The Nomination Committee will review applications, check membership status, screen and interview nominees and make recommendations.
4. Additionally, the usual process of nominations from the floor of the Annual General Meeting will be followed. The AGM will take place on **October 23, 2025, at the Holiday Inn in Sydney, Cape Breton**.
5. If there is more than one nominee, each candidate will be given up to two minutes to address the membership if desired. If a nominee is not present, another member can read the prepared speech of the absent nominee.
6. The President-Elect nominee(s) will be given up to three minutes to address the membership.
7. In case of nominations from the floor, if elected, the candidate must pass the RNS Board Screening policy before assuming office.

### Available Board Positions:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. President-Elect (1-year term, 4-year commitment) | 5. Director at Large (1 year)                               |
| 2. VP of Finance (2 years)                          | 6. Director at Large (1 year) *Current Director reoffering  |
| 3. Recording Officer (1 year)                       | 7. Director at Large (2 years) *Current Director reoffering |
| 4. Student Director (1 year)                        |   |

**Note:** The Recreation Nova Scotia website contains detailed [job descriptions](#).

**Return the nomination form by October 3, 2025, to:**  
**Recreation Nova Scotia Attention: Nominations Committee Chair**  
**Email: [gmounsey@recreationns.ns.ca](mailto:gmounsey@recreationns.ns.ca)**



## RECREATION NOVA SCOTIA

# BOARD APPLICATION FORM 2025/2026

Date of Application (Print)

Oct 6, 2025

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Name

Laura Jacobs

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Mailing Address:

8775 Hwy 221

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City

Province- Nova Scotia

Postal Code B0P1H0

Canning

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Email

Phone 902-599-0293

ljacobs@kentville.ca

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**Please tell us about the relevant talents and abilities which you will bring to the Recreation Nova Scotia Board of Directors.**

Over the past three years as a member of the Recreation Nova Scotia Board, I have had the opportunity to contribute to strategic discussions and initiatives that strengthen recreation across the province. This experience has deepened my understanding of the sector's challenges and opportunities, as well as the value of strong provincial leadership and collaboration.

In addition, I have served as the President of Valley Recreation for the past four years, leading a diverse board of recreation professionals and working closely with municipal and community partners to enhance access to quality recreation opportunities. Through this role, I have developed strong leadership, facilitation, and governance skills, along with the ability to foster consensus, guide vision, and support organizational growth.

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I bring to the Board a balanced perspective that combines hands-on community experience with strategic leadership, a deep commitment to the board and a passion for advancing the recreation movement in Nova Scotia.

**What do you personally hope to achieve by volunteering on the Board?**

By volunteering on the Recreation Nova Scotia Board, I hope to continue contributing to the advancement of recreation as a vital component of community well-being and development across the province. I am motivated to help strengthen the connections between provincial leadership and local practitioners, ensuring that the sector’s collective voice continues to grow stronger and more unified.

Personally, I aim to support the organization’s work in fostering leadership development and capacity building and collaboration within the recreation field. I hope to use my experience to mentor emerging leaders, advocate for equitable access to recreation, and help guide strategic initiatives that position Recreation Nova Scotia as a trusted and progressive leader in the sector.

<p>Are you willing to travel within Nova Scotia to Board meetings up to 4 to 5 times per year? Meetings are typically full days (10am-3pm) in length with 1-2 overnights required. (all expenses are paid):</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p>Do you have a criminal record involving theft, fraud, abuse or harassment, for which no pardon has been granted?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p>Under the laws of Canada and its provinces are you legally competent to conduct business and enter into contracts?</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p>Will you participate in the RNS Board screening process and orientation before serving on the Board?</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes</p>



**RECREATION**  
NOVA SCOTIA

No

Do you consent to the disclosure of the information provided for the purpose of putting forward your candidacy?

Yes

No

Are you a current member of Recreation Nova Scotia?

Yes

No

**Available Board Positions:**

1. President-Elect (1-year term, 4-year commitment)
2. VP of Finance (2 years)
3. Recording Officer (1 year)
4. Student Director (1 year)
5. Director at Large (1 year)
6. Director at Large (1 year) \*Current Director Reoffering
7. Director at Large (2 years) \*Current Director Reoffering

Please indicate which positions you are applying for

President-Elect

Application Signature

Date

Oct. 6/2025

**Please return...**

- This application form
- "Call for Nomination" form
- Your resume/curriculum vitae
- One reference letter



**Return the nomination form by**

**October 3, 2025, to:**

**Recreation Nova Scotia**

**Attention:** Nominations Committee Chair

**Email:** [gmounsey@recreationns.ns.ca](mailto:gmounsey@recreationns.ns.ca)

Gord Tate  
2 Fox Point Front Road  
Hubbards, NS B0J 1T0  
902-277-2900

October 8, 2025

Graham Mounsey  
Recreation Nova Scotia  
6156 Quinpool Road  
Halifax, NS B3L1A3

Dear Chairperson of the Nominations Committee,

I write today to give my enthusiastic endorsement of Laura Jacobs for the position of President-Elect of Recreation Nova Scotia.

I'm delighted that Laura has put her name forward for this role. Near the end of my time as President of RNS, I gently nudged Laura to consider this path. In our time together on the Board, I was always impressed with the thoughtfulness she brought to our deliberations. While Laura is mindful of the past, she is always strategically focused on the future of the organization.

Since I left the Board, Laura and I occasionally see each other at various professional events. During these intervening years, I've noticed that Laura has quietly grown into an important and respected leader in the field. She leads collaboratively, but when her colleagues seek her council, she is quick to provide it.

Laura will bring a compassionate voice to the leadership of the Board – one that is strong, dedicated, and considerate of all members' needs and circumstances.

It's exciting that Laura is embracing her role as a leader in the sector and RNS will benefit from her commitment and wisdom for many years.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a series of overlapping horizontal and vertical strokes that form a stylized, somewhat abstract shape.

Gord Tate  
Recreation Facility and Open Space Lead, Municipality of Chester  
President, Canadian Parks and Recreation Association

## Laura Jacobs

8775 Hwy 221

Sheffield Mills, NS

902-300-9306 [laura.jacobs14@gmail.com](mailto:laura.jacobs14@gmail.com)

## Experience

February 2024 - present

### **Town of Kentville, NS – *Manager, Recreation Services***

- Provide strategic and operational leadership for recreation programs, services, and community initiatives.
- Oversee departmental budgets, resource allocation, and financial reporting.
- Supervise recreation staff, instructors, and seasonal employees; support professional development and performance management.
- Lead policy development, operational planning, and service delivery improvements.
- Plan, implement, and evaluate a variety of community recreation programs, events, and activities for diverse ages and interests.
- Foster relationships with community organizations, schools, businesses, and regional partners to strengthen recreation networks.
- Represent the Town at community and regional recreation meetings, committees, and public events.

November 2021 – February 2024

### **Village of New Minas, NS - *Active Living Coordinator***

- Develop Active Living Strategy for the Village of New Minas
- Use multiple platforms to increase awareness of physical activity benefits and opportunities
- Facilitate community collaboration and connecting with local partners to strengthen relationships
- Provide opportunities for training and/or skill building and leadership development

November 2017 - November 2021

### **Village of Port Williams, NS - *Recreation Director***

- Program administration - program development, schedule management, staff coordination
- Community events/activities coordination- fundraisers, workshops, community events, etc.
- Facility management- recreation facility booking, maintenance coordination • Program Facilitation - instructing yoga, kids programs, adult fitness, etc.

September 2016 - November 2017

### **Peak Performance Fitness Centre, Miramichi, NB - *Assistant Manager/ Project Coordinator***

- Daily front administration - membership intake, daily schedule management • Special projects coordination- fundraisers, workshops, kids programming, etc.

- Facility management- general cleaning, product/retail stock, etc.

## Education

September 1999 - May 2004

**Acadia University, Wolfville, NS** - *Bachelor of Kinesiology*

Graduated with Honours- Research Project- The Effects of a 12-month Training Program on the Functional Independence of Retired Adults

Specialization in Sport Rehabilitation

## Associations

**Recreation Nova Scotia** - Director at Large October 2022 - present

Recreation Nova Scotia is a provincial, not-for-profit organization established in 1998 resulting from a merger of the Recreation Association of Nova Scotia, the Recreation Council on Disability in Nova Scotia, and Volunteer Nova Scotia. In partnership with the volunteers and professional recreation community, Recreation Nova Scotia advocates on behalf of all Nova Scotians for recreation and leisure opportunities to promote the values and personal, social, economic, and environmental benefits of recreation and leisure.

**2023 RNS Conference**- Conference Chair

The RNS Conference is a gathering is dedicated to recreation and will have keynote speakers, sessions and round tables focusing on professional development and growth, and many social events to create opportunities for collaboration and networking. The Conference Chair is responsible for guiding the planning committee in facilitating all events and activities associated with the conference.

**Valley Recreation Committee**- President 2021- 2025

This advisory committee is composed of representatives from Recreation Departments throughout the Annapolis Valley (Hantsport to Digby) - we meet quarterly and operate to support recreation and community development.

## Certifications

First Aid/CPR - completed April 2021 - Braveheart First Aid

Mental Health First Aid Certification - completed December 2020 - Braveheart First Aid

Introduction to Project Management