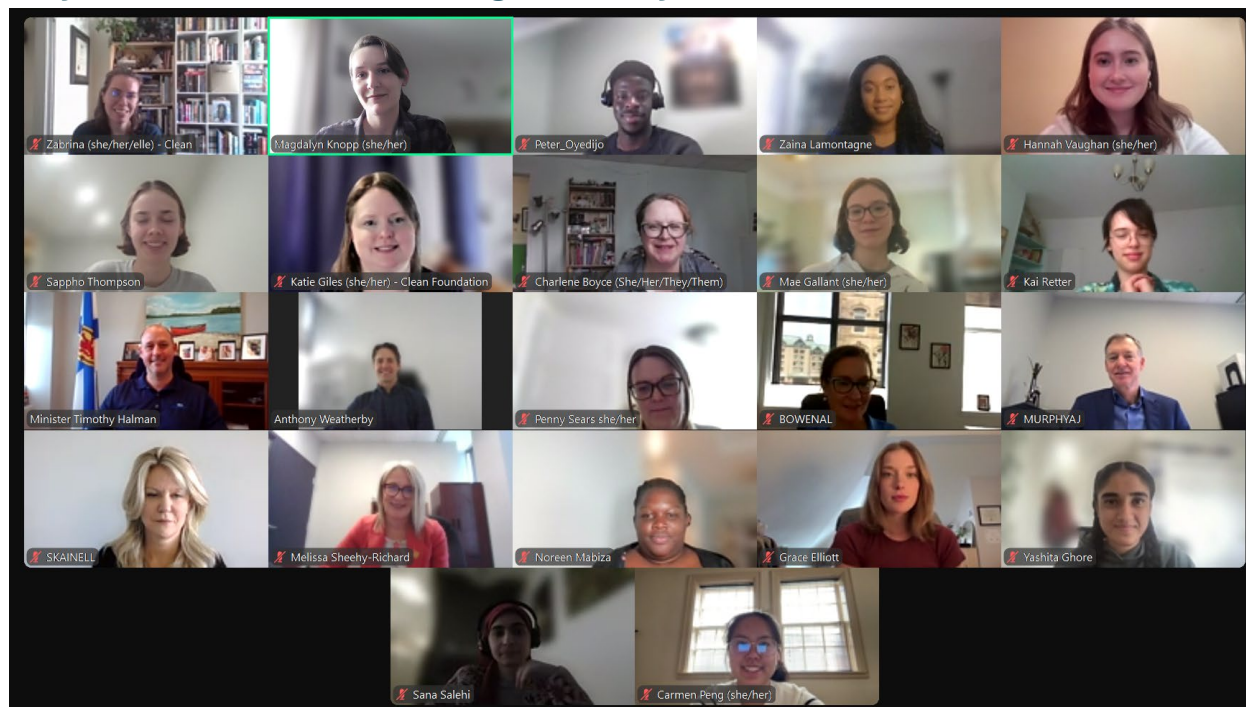


May 6, 2025 – Official meeting summary: Minister Halman and NSYCC



On May 6, members of the Nova Scotia Youth Climate Council (YCC) met with Nova Scotia’s Minister of Environment and Climate Change, Tim Halman, to discuss youth perspectives on the questions of:

“How can the Government ensure that the transition from coal supports youth from underrepresented and underserved communities particularly as it relates to access to affordable and reliable energy?”

And

“What measures should the Government prioritize to ensure a reliable and resilient grid?”

During the meeting, the Council members:

- Highlighted the importance of continuing to ensure education opportunities and job creation for youth, particularly in underrepresented communities, through funding, training, and support for both employees and employers.
- Reiterated the need to consult with Indigenous and Black and African Nova Scotian Communities so that transitions away from coal are done respectfully and meaningfully in the ways that best support these communities. Council emphasized the need to maintain a two-way relationship in these consultations.

- Expressed a need to support renters by ensuring that provincial programs incentivize energy upgrades and efficiency retrofits of rental properties.
- Discussed opportunities for increasing the diversity of energy sources and ensuring storage capacity. Recommendations were made to continue exploring the development of infrastructure that can provide reliable energy during period of intermittency, as well as joint systems with other provinces.
- Encouraged the continued exploration of creative opportunities within the renewable energy transition, including community energy projects (such as expansion of the Community Solar Program) and collaboration between energy sectors and provinces.
- Stated the need to continue forecasting and adapting to increased power usage due to electrification to ensure that the energy grid has the capacity for this shift.
- Recommended that due to the increased use of certain technologies such as EVs and E-Bikes, driver training programs be adapted to support the unique needs of EVs.
- Highlighted a need to ensure a resilient and reliable workforce that uses education and training amongst young Nova Scotians to prepare them for future careers in the clean economy. The Council also recognized a need to support existing workers with upskilling and training, as well as harnessing the talents and expertise of new Canadians.

Thank you, Minister Halman and your team for this meeting. The Council is grateful to have the space to bring forward their advice and ideas to Nova Scotia's elected officials!