

DARTMOUTH-COLE HARBOUR

Youth Retention

WHEREAS the Ivany Report does not include specific recommendations for encouraging youth retention in Nova Scotia; and

WHEREAS Nova Scotia's youth are the future of the province, comprising 40% of our province's total population; and

WHEREAS in 2013, youth aged 15-24 in Nova Scotia's labour force declined by 7.8%, while workers over 65 increased by 227.1%; and

WHEREAS in 2013, the unemployment rate for those aged 15-24 in Nova Scotia was 18.3%, the highest amongst Canadian provinces, and those aged 24-34 had an unemployment rate of 8.7%, the fourth highest amongst Canadian provinces;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Government of Nova Scotia work to develop a comprehensive youth strategy with all levels of government, local development organizations and employers to encourage youth employment and entrepreneurship; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED a working group including youth and youth advocates should be created to provide a public consultation component to the strategy.