

January 6, 2017

To Nova Scotia Municipal Officials

HEATING ASSISTANCE REBATE PROGRAM 2016-17

Winter is upon us once again, which also means paying to heat your home. Unfortunately, many low-income Nova Scotians struggle to pay their home heating bill.

The Heating Assistance Rebate Program (HARP) helps with the cost of home heating bills for low-income Nova Scotians who pay for their own heat. Rebates range from \$100 to \$200 depending on their income.

To help ensure as many eligible Nova Scotians know about HARP and receive the rebate, we would appreciate it if you could reach out to individuals in your community that you feel could benefit from HARP.

Should you have any comments, questions or concerns regarding the program, please do not hesitate to contact me at heyg.nazaryan@novascotia.ca or 902-424-5713.

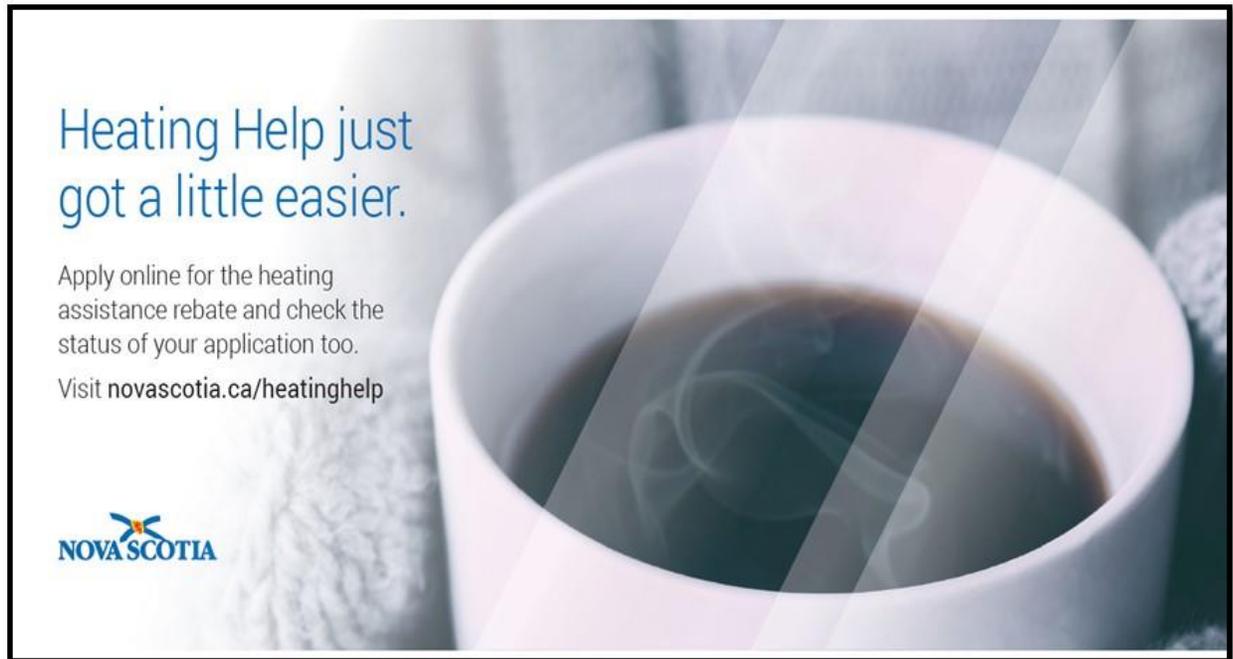
For more information and to apply online, visit our website at: www.novascotia.ca/heatinghelp.

Sincerely,



Heyg Nazaryan
Manager
Consumer Protection

Attachments



Heating Assistance Rebate Program (HARP) is now available online. Please note the new program changes below which will make it easier and faster for Nova Scotians to apply and receive their rebates:

- The 2016-17 HARP program began accepting applications on **Monday, October 31st** using the new online application system and direct deposit option.
- Nova Scotians who apply for HARP, both online and in paper form, will be able to check the status of their applications online in real time. Those registered for direct deposit with Canada Revenue Agency, can also receive their rebates directly into their bank account.
- Applicants can still pick up paper application forms at Access Nova Scotia Centres, Community Service Offices, MLA Offices or through more than 70 community groups across the province or print an application form online.
- For more information and to apply online, please visit www.novascotia.ca/heatinghelp

Heating Assistance Rebate Program

The Heating Assistance Rebate Program (HARP) provides help to low and modest income Nova Scotians to heat their homes in the winter.

What help will I receive from HARP?

If you are single and earn **\$27,000 or less** (after tax), or if your family has a combined income of **\$42,000 or less** (after tax) and you pay to heat your home, you can apply to receive up to a \$200 rebate, per heating season.

How can I get a HARP application?

If you received the rebate last year, you will automatically receive an application by mail. You may only apply once in a heating season. If you did not apply last year, you can:

- Apply Online at www.novascotia.ca/heatinghelp
- Call 1-800-670-4357
- Visit an Access Nova Scotia Centre; or
- Print an application from our website: www.novascotia.ca/heatinghelp

Do I have to report the rebate as part of my income if I receive Income Assistance?

No. HARP does not affect any assistance you receive through the Department of Community Services' Income Assistance program.

Is there a deadline to apply for the HARP?

Yes, the deadline to apply for HARP is Friday, March 31, 2017.