



FARMWORKS

***SUPPORTING HEALTHY
FARMS AND HEALTHY FOOD
FOR OUR FUTURE***

FarmWorks was founded in May 2011 to provide a mechanism for citizens to invest in farms and food production through a Community Economic Development Investment Fund.

Food Production in Nova Scotia

Over 60 years production of non-fishery food in NS has decreased from approximately 60% sufficiency to about 15% (8% supply managed, 3% crops, 2% livestock) and exports have declined

Farms have decreased from 12,518 to 3,905

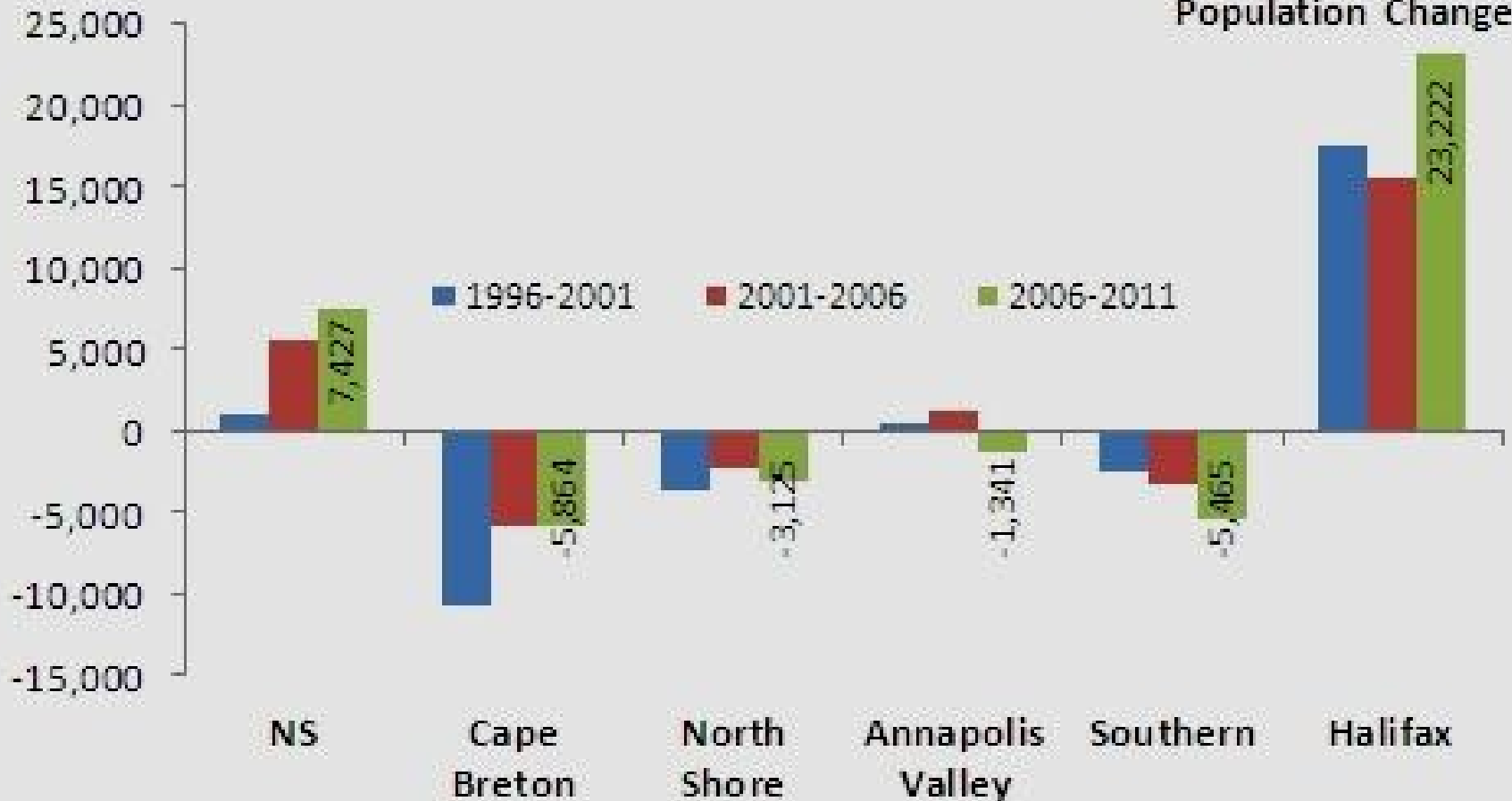
Farm population decreased from 58,000 to 8,000

Loss to communities, food security, economy

Strategies are needed to help reverse the trend

Food is A Key to Reversing Decline in Rural NS Population

Economic Regions, Nova Scotia
Population Change



Nova Scotia 2011

- **921,727 population (up 0.9% from 2006)**
 - 600,003 (65.1%) urban
 - 321,724 (34.9%) rural
- **52,939 square km – total area**
 - 403,000 ha – total farm area
 - 138,000 ha – currently in crops or pasture
 - **1,200,000 ha – with potential for crops and pasture**
- **\$524 M – total farm income (up \$24 M from 2010)**
- **\$45 M – net farm income (up \$21 M from 2010)**
- **Significant potential for food production – investment needed to regain food infrastructure lost over time**

FarmWorks CEDIF

January and February 22 public meetings across NS

Resulted in \$223,500 invested by 102 shareholders
(loans to food producers - see FarmWorks.ca website)

Ongoing mentoring and support

Implemented *Food Grows Here*
strategy to raise public awareness



Continuing to help build awareness of the positive
impact of food-related businesses on NS economy

Second Offer – new money available April 2013



Farmers & Food Producers & Everyone! **Meet the "Gentle Dragons"**

Three Entrepreneurs' Showcases:

Blockhouse School, November 9th, 12 pm

Masonic Hall, Baddeck, November 14th, 6 pm

Wolfville Farmers' Market, November 17th, 6 pm

EVERYONE INTERESTED IN EATING LOCAL FOOD, AND SUPPORTING FOOD PRODUCTION, IS INVITED TO ATTEND

Contribution \$5 – Includes tea, coffee, juice, local food

Local Food Entrepreneurs will present their plans and the "Gentle Dragons" and the audience will ask questions and make suggestions.

"Gentle Dragons"

Av Singh, Paul Eyking, Debra Moore, Jo Ann Fewer, Ross Piercey,
Jonathan McClelland, Alison Scott Butler, Gary Morton, Kris Keddy

Food Entrepreneurs Wanted!

There are still several openings at each location

Applications are invited from Nova Scotian Farmers and Food Producers seeking funding from **FarmWorks Investment Co-operative**, but you're also welcome to present if you're not looking for funding and would like to hear the Dragon's suggestions and promote your business. Each presenter will have five minutes and, if desired, up to 10 slides, followed by Q&A and comments from the "Gentle Dragons" and the audience. The objectives of the Showcase are to increase awareness of local businesses, to encourage people to invest in local food-related businesses and to buy more local food.

Please contact Linda Best lbest@ns.sympatico.ca for an application form, and return it as soon as possible!



Showcase for current and potential food producers:

- introduces FarmWorks to the businesses
- provides feedback
- gains interest of potential investors



FarmWorks CEDIF has demonstrated that there is potential to help reverse outward flows of investment dollars and help bring about crucial investment in farms and food production.