



The Union  
of Nova Scotia  
Municipalities

**OUR MISSION**  
The UNSM is the collective voice  
of municipal government  
in Nova Scotia

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## NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Nova Scotia Municipalities Studying Effectiveness of Property Tax System to Identify Opportunities for Improvement**

**Halifax, February 18, 2014:** The Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities (UNSM), Association of Municipal Administrators (AMA) and Property Valuation Services Corporation (PVSC) are co-sponsoring a study that will look at the property tax system in Nova Scotia.

“Property taxation is the primary revenue source for the municipalities therefore it is critical we follow good tax policy and this study will explore that,” said David Corkum, President of the UNSM.

The study will focus on assessing the effectiveness of the property tax system and will identify opportunities for improvement. The study is being conducted by two experts in the area of municipal tax policy – Enid Slack and Harry Kitchen.

“A well rounded study can only be accomplished with the right expertise and a successful consultation process,” said Corkum.

The study involves two rounds of consultations with stakeholder groups that include: businesses, taxpayer associations, Provincial departments, research and policy groups, and municipalities.

“The UNSM is pleased to have the support of Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations throughout this process,” said Corkum.

The study is scheduled to be completed this spring and a report will be shared publically upon completion.

*The UNSM is a non-profit organization that has represented the Provincial interests of municipal governments across Nova Scotia since 1906. Total membership is 411 elected officials representing all 54 municipalities.*