



4-H NS Programming Suspension FAQs

April 19, 2020

These FAQs reflect what we know today, April 19, 2020. It is important to understand there is much that remains uncertain and as we receive updates some answers may need to be adjusted to reflect the new information.

Please continue to send your questions and requests for clarification to 4H Nova Scotia. We will host Facebook Live Sessions on a regular basis. The next one will be held May 3, 2020.

- **Can Leaders still meet with members?**
 - 4-H Nova Scotia is pausing any live interactions in a virtual environment related to programming until 4-H NS receives 4-H CANADA'S GUIDELINES FOR ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS AND MEETINGS. We appreciate your patience and we expect to receive these guidelines within the next 7-10 days.

- **Where can members go for mental health support?**
 - 4-H Canada has partnered with Kids Help Phone to create mental health resources which are available at <https://4-h-canada.ca/healthyliving/mentalhealth>
 - Members seeking help may contact <https://kidshelpphone.ca/>

- **What is the status of 4H Members who are in their last year of the program? Will they be able to return next year?**
 - Currently 4H Nova Scotia policy states that members age out at age 21. The Board takes the concerns expressed around this issue very seriously and is discussing how to address the issue with fairness to all involved and will communicate a strategy for consideration by the Membership as soon as possible.

- **Will 4-H Nova Scotia extend the age limits for Intermediate Campers in 2021?**
 - 4-H Nova Scotia is exploring all legal options and will update as information becomes available.

- **What do we do with chocolate bars, money, and ballots?**
 - Please ensure unsold chocolate is stored in a cool, dark, and dry place where quality will be maintained.
 - Plans are being developed for such things as when and where chocolates, money, and ballots will be collected in each county and alternative strategies for sales.
 - General Leaders should coordinate to have money dropped off (mailbox or designated location) or e-transferred so one payment can be returned to 4-H Nova Scotia per club.
 - Fundraising payments from clubs who chose not to sell chocolate should be forwarded to 4-H Nova Scotia, if possible, at this time. We understand some alternative fundraisers may have been postponed.

- **Camp/Conference Fees?**
 - For those of you who have paid a registration fee for a specific event, such as Camp Rankin, Atlantic Members Conference, 4-H Weekend, etc., 4-H Nova Scotia staff are in the process of generating these refunds.

- **Will 4H Nova Scotia refund any portion of 2019/20 registration fees?**
 - No. Our fixed costs remain the same. The office continues to operate and is delivering support to the 4H community in new and innovative ways. Insurance will continue under new guidelines. The Board continues to do its work.

- **Will 2020/2021 registration fees change?**
 - This is decided at the Annual General Meeting in November.

- **National Awards status?**
 - National award recipients will receive communication from 4-H Canada on the rescheduling of national award events.

- **Can I use my Scholarship for Atlantic Conference in 2021?**
 - Members who received a Scholarship in 2020 will be given first right of refusal to attend and use the scholarship at the 2021 conference.

- **What can members do if they have already purchased an animal for a market or livestock project?**
 - Each individual family must make their own assessment for the future of these animals.

- **Does 4-H Nova Scotia intend to send Royal Winter Fair teams or competitors to the Young Speakers for Agriculture Competition?**
 - No.

- **Will Photography and Cake Decorating members move up a level next year?**
 - Members will be evaluated at their current level before advancing.

- **Will the foods category change next year?**
 - The foods topic will change for next year. Members will have explored this year's topic and be ready for a new challenge.

- **Can we use a Lifeskills project we did this year for next year?**
 - Yes, we recognize that members have spent significant time and money on projects and would like to have them displayed and evaluated. The number of items to be submitted at Achievement Day next year will remain the same as outlined in the project newsletter, and members can select their items from projects completed in this 4-H year or next year.

- **Can we participate in petting farms, displays and information days?**
 - No. At this time, 4-H Nova Scotia does not permit participation in these events. Updates will be provided on the 4-H Nova Scotia website. <https://4hnovascotia.ca/covid-19-updates/>

- **Can we compete in exhibitions?**
 - There will be no 4-H competitions held at exhibitions in 2020. If exhibitions resume, you can register to participate in open classes. 4-H insurance will not cover members or leaders participating in these events.

- **Can we use our speeches and demonstrations again next year?**
 - Members are encouraged to prepare new speeches and demonstrations in 2021.

- **Will we get a certificate?**
 - Yes, 4-H Nova Scotia will be issuing a generic certificate of completion to members currently enrolled in a project to acknowledge their participation in the 4-H program in 2019-2020.

- **Can I still receive a Grade 10 Credit?**
 - 4-H Nova Scotia will work with the NS Department of Education to clarify the completion requirements for graduating students. Students in grades ten and eleven will have time to complete the requirements in coming years.

- **Are scholarships still available?**
 - Scholarship deadlines have been updated, please check the 4-H Nova Scotia website. <https://4hnovascotia.ca/opportunities-events/scholarships/> Applications will be accepted by email or mail.

- **When Government restrictions/guidelines have been lifted, can clubs resume normal activities for 2020/2021?**
 - As government restrictions are lifted, 4-H Nova Scotia will provide revised direction.

- **Are Leaders expected to continue with Commit 2 Kids Training and when will it become mandatory?**
 - Yes, Leaders and Adult Volunteers will be required to complete Commit 2 Kids training no later than August 31, 2020 in order to be prepared to start the 2020/2021 4-H year.

- **Is Transition still moving forward?**
 - 4-H Nova Scotia will continue to work with NSDA staff. Transition updates will resume on our website when the committee has the opportunity to meet again. <https://4hnovascotia.ca/transition-planning/>