

**Nova Scotia Association for Sexual Health**  
**Office Profile: Pictou County Centre for Sexual Health**

**Year founded:**

- Established in 1986 as Planned Parenthood Pictou County

**Clients seen in 2000 and 2005:**

- 2000: data unavailable
- 2005: 13,120 clients plus 28 presentations to 686 people

**Staff complement:**

- Full time: 1; part-time: 0; volunteers: 0; volunteer board members: 9

**Total annual office budget in 2005:**

- \$53,793.00

**Most urgent sexual health issues facing community today:**

- Access to affordable contraception
- Youth homelessness due to sexual orientation
- Access to pro-choice physicians

**Most urgent sexual health issues facing community 5-10 years from now:**

- Sexual health support for seniors and people living with disabilities
- Access to pro-choice physicians

**Areas where office excels in serving community today:**

- Working with the community to build capacity to address issues such as youth homelessness
- Delivering school programs and workshops

**Areas office is currently unable to adequately serve community today:**

- Reaching outlying and rural areas
- Limited human resources mean we cannot meet many community requests
- Lack of resources limits our ability to offer programs in response to our changing community

**Critical facts about office that are misunderstood or unknown locally that need clarification, correction or reinforcement locally:**

- Our services address the full range of sexual health issues that we face across our life spans
- We serve everyone regardless of age, gender, sexual orientation or socio-economic status
- We support organizations in establishing sexual health and sexual behaviour policies

**Office claims to fame**

- Instrumental in the establishment of two youth health centres
- Developed *Gabbin' With the Girls* – a self-esteem and media awareness program for young girls
- Developed *Keepin' It Real* – a self-esteem and media awareness program for young boys
- The only community partner involved in the youth health centres in Pictou County
- Part of our mandate is community development, we provide not only direct service and education but we are also actively working to effect positive change in the climate of our community

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