



ASSOCIATION OF
NOVA SCOTIA
MUSEUMS

Opting Out of the Museum Evaluation Program

Participation in the Museum Evaluation Program (MEP) is a significant undertaking and this is clearly understood and appreciated by all those involved in the program. The time and effort spent on this work demonstrate an organization's commitment to serving the public and following established professional standards of practice. There are a number of considerations for the Board of Directors to review if they are considering leaving the MEP. Before opting out, ANSM strongly urges museums to consider the following:

1. Funding Eligibility
 - a. Government of Nova Scotia's [Community Museum Assistance Program \(CMAP\)](#) – participation in the MEP is a requirement.
 - b. Halifax Regional Municipality's [Interim Community Museums Grant Program](#) – participation in the MEP enables museums to apply for Tier 1 funding.
2. Planning
 - a. The Documentation Review and Site Evaluation forms provide a roadmap in professional standards of practice and can be used as training and work planning tools.
 - b. Evaluation Reports provide the organization with an analysis of its operations which is very valuable to the strategic planning process.
3. Operational Review
 - a. The MEP provides the museum with an opportunity to conduct an internal review of its facilities, operations, policies, procedures, and impact.
 - b. The MEP provides the museum with an opportunity for museological experts to review and provide feedback and suggestions on its facilities, operations, policies, procedures, and impact.
4. Opting Back In to the Museum Evaluation Program
 - a. If the museum opts out of the MEP but later wishes to opt back in, it must submit a written request to ANSM. As participation is capped at 33 museums per year, it is possible that the museum will need to be put on a wait list for several years.