4-H Nova Scotia

2025-2026 Resolutions Booklet to be presented at Leadership Forum May 10, 2026

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1. **BE IT RESOLVED THAT**, the Class sections in the 4-H NS Computer project be updated.

From: Life Skills Committee (2026-02-24)
Project Group: Computer

WHEREAS, there has been significant changes in Personal Computing since the 4-H NS Computer project was developed;

WHEREAS, there have been minimal changes to the sections since that time;

WHEREAS, youth are significantly more exposed to personal computing and technologies than in the past;

WHEREAS, the entries at County and Provincial levels have been evolving with technology;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Class sections in the 4-H NS Computer project be updated to the following:

Section 1:	Databases and Spreadsheets – showing formulas and finished result, source code and resulting reports etc.
Section 2:	Application and Program Design – must include copy of source code
Section 3:	Webpage Design and Development - must include a copy of source code
Section 4:	Computer Build, rebuild, and parts display – must include photo story for computer build & rebuild only.
Section 5:	Posters or Reports – related to any computer-related topic
Section 6:	Graphic Design
Section 7:	Animation, Video Production Editing
Section 8:	3D Printed Projects – must include a photo story
Section 9:	Robotics and Electromechanical devices – must include photo story and source code where applicable
Section 10:	Specialty item – any other item not listed above.

2. **BE IT RESOLVED THAT,** the 4-H NS First Aid Project subject matter be divided into five levels (as outlined in Appendix A): Levels 1 and 2 covering everything needed to obtain the Basic First Aid certificate; Levels 3 and 4 covering topics needed to obtain the Intermediate First Aid certificate and; Level 5 Topic Review and Expansion for additional and continued learning.

From: Richmond (2026-02-28)
Project Group: First Aid

WHEREAS, lessons learned in First Aid can be used throughout your life when you least expect it, so the lessons taught in the 4-H Nova Scotia First Aid Project should be thorough, with time given for members to learn, understand and be ready to act. It should be a project where members want to return to year after year, to improve skills and knowledge;

WHEREAS, the 4-H NS First Aid Project is offered to members as young as 9 years old, who may need more time to learn the subject matter but might feel defeated if told to repeat a level year after year;

WHEREAS, the current topics that are suggested for each level in the 4-H NS First Aid Newsletter can make leaders believe that they need to rush through their lessons in the first two levels, but then does not provide leaders enough suggestion/guidance for Levels 3 and 4;

WHEREAS, the St. John Ambulance Mental Health First Aid – Basic course description, which the current Level 4 is based upon, states it is "intended for adults interacting with adults (18 years and older)." 4-H members as young as twelve may reach Level 4 and expect to take it, leaving leaders to try to adapt the difficult subject matter;

WHEREAS, mental health awareness should be taught at all levels of first aid, and not left until Level 4;
WHEREAS, 4-H Nova Scotia should encourage members to return to each project, year after year and not stop learning at four levels;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the 4-H NS First Aid Project ~~be~~ subject matter be divided into five levels (as outlined in Appendix A): Levels 1 and 2 covering everything needed to obtain the Basic First Aid certificate; Levels 3 and 4 covering topics needed to obtain the Intermediate First Aid certificate and; Level 5 Topic Review and Expansion for additional and continued learning.
FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT, members may complete multiple levels in a single year if they are able to show a thorough understanding of the earlier level, or repeat levels until they feel they are able to show thorough understanding.

3. **BE IT RESOLVED THAT,** the words "using yeast" be removed from Section 12: Specialty Bread in the Foods Project Newsletter.

From: 4-H Nova Scotia Staff (2026-02-27)
Project Group: Foods

WHEREAS, the Foods project currently has two sections for bread with yeast; Section 2: Yeast Bread, Section 12: Specialty Bread (using yeast);

WHEREAS, there is an increase in the popularity of sourdough bread and it does not fit in a current bread section;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the words "using yeast" be removed from Section 12: Specialty Bread in the Foods Project Newsletter.

4. **BE IT RESOLVED THAT,** the following rule be added to the Poster Competition Guidelines: "AI generated posters are not allowed."

From: 4-H Nova Scotia Staff (2026-02-27)
Project Group: Poster Competition

WHEREAS, the poster competition gives an opportunity for members to show their creativity and artistic skills both with hand drawn and digital categories;

WHEREAS, artificial intelligence has become easily accessible in recent years for everyone with computer access;

WHEREAS, "Computer Generated" is defined as "produced by a computer program."

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the following rule be added to the Poster Competition Guidelines: "AI generated posters are not allowed."

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT, Computer Generated in the poster competition categories be renamed to Digital Posters.

5. **BE IT RESOLVED THAT,** The Market Turkey project remove the language that "all Market Turkeys must be hens (female)" and allow male (toms) to be shown and auctioned off as well.

From: Colchester (2026-01-15)
Project Group: Market Turkey

WHEREAS, the Market Turkey project newsletter currently states that "all Market Turkeys must be hens (female);

WHEREAS, members are only able to purchase turkey poults as "straight run" (male and females) from feed stores. They cannot request all female turkeys;

WHEREAS, members, in theory, may end up with all male or all female turkey poults. In the case of all males the members may not be able to purchase females in time to complete their project;

WHEREAS, this could be very disappointing and discouraging to members resulting in fewer members signing up for this wonderful project;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Market Turkey project remove the language that "all Market Turkeys must be hens (female)" and allow male (toms) to be shown and auctioned off as well.

6. **BE IT RESOLVED THAT,** microphones may be made available as an option for 4-H Nova Scotia demonstrations and speeches, particularly at club-level events, to enhance accessibility and audience experience.

From: Halifax East Hants (2026-02-11)
Project Group: Communications

WHEREAS, 4-H Nova Scotia demonstrations and speeches are intended to build members' communication skills, confidence, and public speaking ability in a supportive learning environment;

WHEREAS, accessibility and audience engagement are important to ensuring positive experiences for participants, families, judges, and community members;

WHEREAS, the availability of microphones can help improve audibility in a variety of venues and serve as a confidence-building tool for participants, particularly at the club level;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, microphones may be made available as an option for 4-H Nova Scotia demonstrations and speeches, particularly at club-level events, to enhance accessibility and audience experience.
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the use of a microphone shall be optional and not mandatory, and participants shall not be advantaged or disadvantaged based on their choice to use or not use a microphone.
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, judges shall assess demonstrations and speeches based on established evaluation criteria and shall not penalize participants for microphone use.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, reasonable accommodations, including microphones or other assistive technologies, shall continue to be supported at all levels of 4-H Nova Scotia programming.

7. **BE IT RESOLVED THAT,** the wording for animal requirements in the 4-H NS Goat Clipping Competition Guidelines, (Animal Requirements, #11) be replaced with: "The animals will not have been born or bred in the previous twelve (12) months as no doelings or does in milk are permitted."

From: Goat Committee (2026-02-20)
Project Group: Goat

WHEREAS, the rules for the 4-H Nova Scotia Goat Clipping Competition requires teams to provide a goat for random draw that are dry yearlings, not yet have been bred, with three weeks of hair regrowth prior to the event;

WHEREAS, these requirements limit the availability of goats for the competition, and may cause the same goat to be used at both county and provincial competitions;

WHEREAS, reusing animals between events does not always give time for adequate hair growth for the provincial level;

WHEREAS, allowing for Dry Does to be added to the event will increase the availability of animals and may allow more counties to compete;

WHEREAS, during clipping competition showmanship, judges are asked to look at the conformation as enhanced by the clipping that was done. Size of udder (yearling vs. dry doe) should not be considered;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the wording for animal requirements in the 4-H NS Goat Clipping Competition Guidelines, (Animal Requirements, #11) be replaced with: "The animals will not have been born or bred in the previous twelve (12) months as no doelings or does in milk are permitted."

8. **BE IT RESOLVED THAT,** an addition to the wording for animal requirements in the 4-H NS Goat Clipping Competition Guidelines, (Animal Requirements, #11) be made: "must meet criteria for Class 33 Dairy Goat, Section 2 Dry Yearling Doe, or Section 3 Dry Doe.

From: Goat Committee (2026-02-20)
Project Group: Goat

WHEREAS, the 2025 4-H Nova Scotia Provincial Show introduced a new class into the Goat Project – Class 34: Meat Goats;

WHEREAS, clipping of a meat goat and a dairy goat are very different practices, similar to the difference between beef and dairy cattle;

WHEREAS, the current guidelines for the 4-H NS Goat Clipping Competition currently allows for any breed of goat to be brought for competition which could potentially allow for any breed of meat, dairy or fibre goats (i.e. angora goats);

WHEREAS, in the past when members brought boer goats (meat breed), the boer has been excluded by the judge and the alternate goat used;

WHEREAS, in confirmation classes, crossbred goats may go in either Class 33: Dairy Goat or Class 34: Meat Goat, depending on how they best fit conformation;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, an addition to the wording for animal requirements in the 4-H NS Goat Clipping Competition Guidelines, (Animal Requirements, #11) be made: "must meet criteria for Class 33 Dairy Goat, Section 2 Dry Yearling Doe, or Section 3 Dry Doe.

9. **BE IT RESOLVED THAT,** that the Champion Ewe award be removed from the 4-H Nova Scotia Provincial Show Class List.

From: Sheep Committee (2026-02-25)
Project Group: Sheep

WHEREAS, the 4-H Nova Scotia Sheep Project has five (5) sections for ewes of various breeds but only one (1) section for rams, no matter the breed;

WHEREAS, in 2025, of the ninety-four (94) lambs registered for the 4-H Sheep Project across, only seventeen (17) members registered to show a ram with ten (10) of those advancing to Provincial Show, showing that there is currently not enough registration to expand the Ram section into various breeds;

WHEREAS, the top two ewes from Sections 1 to 5 are currently invited to return to the ring for a Champion Ewe Class and then those same ewes return again to the ring along with the top two rams for the Champion Overall Lamb. Champion prizes are given for both categories, potentially creating duplicity in award distribution;

WHEREAS, scheduling time in the ring at the Provincial Show is often difficult;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, that the Champion Ewe award be removed from the 4-H Nova Scotia Provincial Show Class List.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the remaining award, which invites the top two lambs from all sections in Class 32: Sheep, be renamed Champion Sheep.

10. **BE IT RESOLVED THAT,** in the Dog project members be permitted to complete two years in each of Pre-Novice and Novice with the same dog;

From: 4-H Nova Scotia Staff (2026-02-24)
Project Group: Dog

WHEREAS, the intent of 4-H in Nova Scotia is learn to do by doing;

WHEREAS, there are five obedience levels of progressive difficulty in the 4-H NS Dog Project;

WHEREAS, many members have been spending more than the recommended number of years at the Pre-Novice level thus not being true to the 4-H Motto,

WHEREAS, there are no longer requirements for off leash activities with multiple dogs in the ring,

WHEREAS, Graduate, Intermediate, and Open Obedience levels are not suited for all dogs;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, in the Dog project members be permitted to complete two years in each of Pre-Novice and Novice with the same dog;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT, if a member gets a new dog, they may spend only one additional year in each of Pre-Novice and Novice.

11. **BE IT RESOLVED THAT,** Dog members be provided with a one page Breed Standard Guide with the Judging Class at 4-H NS Provincial Show, and County Judging Competitions.

From: Dog Committee (2026-02-24)
Project Group: Dog

WHEREAS, in 4-H Nova Scotia Beef, Dairy, Sheep, and Goat projects the specific standards are limited to Meat, Dairy, and Fibre categories, with limited variability;

WHEREAS, Rabbits are also in two categories, Showroom 4 and Showroom 6, with slightly more variability, though less than dog options;

WHEREAS, there are seven (7) Dog Breed Groups of significant variability, and 187 dog breeds recognized by the Canadian Kennel Club, it is extremely difficult to prepare members to be successful in a judging class that could come from any of these categories;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, Dog members be provided with a one page Breed Standard Guide the Judging Class at 4-H NS Provincial Show, and County Judging Competitions.

12. **BE IT RESOLVED THAT,** one Lumbersports coach be permitted to coach members from the sidelines during the skills competition events at Provincial Rally.

From: Antigonish (2026-02-27)
Project Group: Lumbersports

WHEREAS, 4-H members participating in Lumbersports Skills are between the 4-H ages of 9-15 years old, and are in various stages of learning proper Lumbersports skills and techniques;

WHEREAS, it is important that skills team members receive support while learning and applying the various techniques required in competition;

WHEREAS, coaching plays an essential role in fostering skill development, safety, and sportsmanship in all competitions;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, one Lumbersports coach be permitted to coach members from the sidelines during the skills competition events at Provincial Rally.

Appendix A: Proposed First Aid Changes

The purpose of this document is to explain in more detail how we wish to see the First Aid course laid out going forward, as a support for the 2026 Resolution:

***Therefore be it resolved** that the 4-H NS First Aid Project be subject matter be divided into five levels (as outlined in Appendix A): Levels 1 & 2 covering everything needed to obtain the Basic First Aid certificate; Levels 3 & 4 covering topics needed to obtain the Intermediate First Aid certificate and; Level 5 Topic Review and Expansion for additional and continued learning.*

***Therefore be it resolved** that members may complete multiple levels in a single year if they are able to show a thorough understanding of the earlier level, or repeat levels until they feel they are able to show this understanding.*

Levels 1 & 2 – Basic First Aid - CPR

Note: Levels 1 & 2 combined will cover all topics of the St. John Ambulance's *Emergency/Basic First Aid Workplace CPR C* Course. We encourage members to obtain their certification of this course upon completion of these levels, but do not require it.

Note: Members and Leaders may choose to complete Level 1 & Level 2 in a single year. On your record sheet, mark the higher level completed.

Level 1	Level 2
▪ Roles and Responsibilities ▪ Adult Resuscitation ▪ Child / Infant Resuscitation ▪ Severe Bleeding ▪ Dressings	▪ Review of topics covered in Level 1 ▪ 2-Rescuer CPR – Adult ▪ 2-Rescuer CPR – Child / Infant ▪ Burns ▪ Medical Conditions ▪ Mental Health Awareness

Project Requirements Level 1 & 2:

- First Aid Kit, adequately equipped to your level (see below).
- Poster of Display on anything learned this year.

Levels 3 & 4 – Intermediate First Aid

Note: Levels 3 & 4 combined will cover all topics of the St. John Ambulance's *Standard/Intermediate First Aid Workplace CPR C* Course. We encourage members to obtain their certification of this course upon completion of these levels, but do not require it.

Note: Members and Leaders may choose to complete Level 3 & Level 4 in a single year. On your record sheet, mark the higher level completed.

Level 3	Level 4
▪ Review of topics covered in Levels 1-2 ▪ Secondary Survey ▪ Head and Face Injuries ▪ Chest and Abdominal Injuries ▪ Environmental Illness and Injuries	▪ Review of topics covered in Levels 1-3 ▪ ESM – Trauma ▪ Bone and Joint Injuries ▪ Poisons ▪ Multiple Casualty Management

▪ Wound Care	▪ Moving and Transporting ▪ Mental Health Awareness

Project Requirements Level 3 & 4:

- First Aid Kit, adequately equipped to your level (see below).
- Poster of Display on anything learned this year.

Level 5 – Extended Learning

We encourage members to continue their learning of First Aid lessons. In this Level, we ask members to choose an age-appropriate topic of interest. The topics listed below are suggestions, but members may also choose topics not listed. Some of the suggested topics are courses offered through St. John Ambulance or other services, and some are intended to be self-directed learning.

Members should choose new topics each year they are in Level 5.

Level 5
Suggested topics: ▪ a topic covered in an earlier level on which you wish to improve your skills/knowledge. ▪ Mental Health First Aid ▪ Wilderness First Aid ▪ Farm Safety ▪ First Responder ▪ Water Safety ▪ Risk Assessments ▪ Any other topic in First Aid (did we miss something?)

Project Requirements Level 5:

- Two articles that fit into Sections 1, 4 and/or 5 (see below in Class 15: First Aid) and reflect your learning this year.

Class 15: First Aid

Section 1: Posters
Section 2: First Aid Kits – Levels 1 & 2*
Section 3: First Aid Kits – Levels 3 & 4*
Section 4: First Aid Display
Section 5: Specialty Item (any First Aid project items that do not fit in the other sections).

*Note for resolution clarity: Following the 2024 Resolution, Section 2: First Aid Kits - Levels 1 and 2 had been combined to form a new "Level 1" and Section 2: First Aid Kits - Levels 3 and 4 combined to form a new "Level 2." The Class List sections for project work **did not change** except in name, to match the new layout. The resolution this document supports (2026), wishes to change the names back to the original, in order to match the proposed levels.

First Aid Kits

Members are encouraged to prepare First Aid kits that reflect their learning of the current 4-H year. Instead of having everything you could include in a kit (fully equipped), members should include items they have learned to use. As they learn new things in each level of the project, new items should be added to their First Aid Kit. While some material for a First Aid Kit can be expensive, the kit is not meant to cost "an arm and a leg." Some materials in a First Aid Kit can be improvised without having to cost a lot.

Note:

- Sterile items, such as gloves, gauze bandages, etc., should be kept in a sealed plastic bag.
- All kits should include a list of what is included. Kits in Level 2 and higher should include a list of what has been added each year.

The following are some **suggestions** for material that members could include in their kits in each level of the project. What should be included are items that members know how and when to use.

Level 1	Level 2
• Sturdy, preferably waterproof, container • Vinyl/latex gloves • disposable face mask/shield • Gauze dressing (roll & pads) • triangular bandages • assorted Band-Aids • antiseptic wipes • pressure dressings • compress bandage • First Aid tape • 911 number and emergency numbers • Scissors • note pad & pencil	• Level 2 Kit items • plastic freezer or 'zip-lock' bag • non-adhesive dressing • sugar pack/ketchup
Level 3	**Level 4**
• Level 2 Kit items • Plastic bags • eye pads • roller bandage (cling type) • tweezers • safety pins • water for flushing	• Level 3 Kit items • tongue depressors or stir sticks • splints • tarp • rope

• rescue blanket • cold packs • hot packs	

First Aid Displays, Posters, and Specialty Items

- Displays must be in an area no bigger than 9 square feet (ie. 3′x3′ or 2′x3′)
- All research should be shown in a Bibliography/Works Cited/Sources, whether included on the front or back of posters/displays.
- It is recommended that information covered in your poster/display for Levels 3, 4 and 5 be more in-depth than in your project work from Levels 1 and 2, showing your learning has grown.