



Premier's Office

Jamie Muir Appointed Nova Scotia Finance Minister

March 10, 2009 – 2:03 PM

Nova Scotia Premier Rodney MacDonald today, March 10, appointed Jamie Muir as finance minister.

Muir has been a member of the Progressive Conservative caucus since 1998. He has held a number of cabinet positions including: Minister of Health; Minister of Education; Minister of Justice and Attorney General; and Minister for Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations.

The premier said Mr. Muir's work as chair of the Treasury and Policy Board, where he worked closely with the Department of Finance, will be an asset in his new portfolio.

"Jamie Muir has the experience and knowledge to lead our team as we finalize the budget," said Premier MacDonald. "He has been a valuable voice around the cabinet table in the past, and I am pleased to welcome him back."

Mr. Muir left cabinet in January after announcing he would not be reoffering in the next provincial election. He said this appointment does not change his long-term plans, but he is looking forward to the challenge of being finance minister.

"I know a lot of the budget work has been done, but there is still a lot to do before we are ready to present it to the people of the province," said Mr. Muir. "We are committed to delivering an eighth consecutive balanced budget, but as everyone knows, these are challenging times, and we have a lot of tough decisions to make."

Mr. Muir's appointment is effective immediately. He replaces Michael Baker who passed away last week.

FOR BROADCAST USE:

Jamie Muir is Nova Scotia's new finance minister. The announcement was made today (March 10th) by Premier Rodney MacDonald.

Mr. Muir was first elected in 1998, and has held a

number of cabinet positions. He left executive council in January after announcing he wouldn't seek re-election.

Mr. Muir replaces Michael Baker, who died last week.

-30-

Media Contact:

Wade Keller

Premier's Office

902-424-4092

E-mail: kellerwm@gov.ns.ca