

BANK OF NOVA SCOTIA /  
Form 6-K  
December 21, 2004

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**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
**Washington, DC 20549**

**Form 6-K**

Report of Foreign Issuer  
Pursuant to Rule 13a-16 or 15d-16 of  
the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

For the month of: December, 2004

Commission File Number: 001-31316

**THE BANK OF NOVA SCOTIA**

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*(Name of registrant)*

**44 King Street West, 6th Floor, Scotia Plaza, Toronto, Ontario, M5H 1H1**  
**[Public, Corporate & Government Affairs, Tel.: 416-866-3925]**

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*(Address of Principal Executive Offices)*

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant files or will file annual reports under cover of Form 20-F or Form 40-F:

Form 20-F

Form 40-F

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant by furnishing the information contained in this Form is also thereby furnishing the information to the SEC pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934:

Yes

No

If  Yes is marked, indicate the file number assigned to the registrant in connection with Rule 12g3-2(b): N/A

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**SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

THE BANK OF NOVA SCOTIA

Date: December 20, 2004

By: /s/ Ian McIntosh  
Name: Ian McIntosh  
Title: Senior Vice-President, Public,  
Corporate & Government Affairs

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**EXHIBIT INDEX**

<b>Exhibit</b>	<b>Description of Exhibit</b>
99.1	2004 Annual Report