

BANK OF NOVA SCOTIA /  
Form 6-K  
January 21, 2010

**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
**Washington, DC 20549**  
**Form 6-K**  
**Report of Foreign Private Issuer**  
**Pursuant to Rule 13a-16 or 15d-16 of**  
**the Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

For the month of: January, 2010

Commission File Number: 001-31316

**THE BANK OF NOVA SCOTIA**  
(Name of Registrant)  
**44 King Street West, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor, Scotia Plaza, Toronto, Ontario, M5H 1H1**  
**416-866-4269**

(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 if the registrant is submitting the Form 6-K in paper as permitted by Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(1):

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is submitting the Form 6-K in paper as permitted by Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(7):

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

Yes  No

If Yes is marked, indicate below 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: January 21, 2010

By: /s/ Jeffrey Heath  
Name: Jeffrey Heath  
Title: Executive Vice President and Group  
Treasurer

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**EXHIBIT INDEX**

Exhibit	Description of Exhibit
99.1	Underwriting Agreement dated January 19, 2010