

BANK OF NOVA SCOTIA /  
Form 6-K  
December 20, 2005

**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, 2005**

**Commission File Number: 001-31316**

**THE BANK OF NOVA SCOTIA**

(Name of registrant)

**44 King Street West, Scotia Plaza 8<sup>th</sup> floor, Toronto, Ontario, M5H 1H1**

Attention: Secretary's Department (Tel.: (416) 866-3672)

(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 19, 2005

By: /s/ Nives Gaiotto  
Name: Nives Gaiotto  
Title: Assistant Secretary

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**EXHIBIT INDEX**

| Exhibit | Description of Exhibit              |
|---------|-------------------------------------|
| 99.1    | Terms of Preferred Shares Series 13 |
| 99.2    | Mandate of the Board of Directors   |
| 99.3    | Guidelines for Business Conduct     |