BANK OF NOVA SCOTIA /
Form 424B5
March 10, 2014
The information in this Preliminary Pricing Supplement is not complete and may be changed. We may not sell these Notes until the Pricing Supplement is delivered in final form. We are not selling these Notes, nor are we soliciting offers to buy these Notes, in any State where such offer or sale is not permitted.

PRELIMINARY PRICING SUPPLEMENT **Filed Pursuant to Rule 424(b)(5)**
Subject to Completion **Registration No. 333-185049**
Dated March 10, 2014

Pricing Supplement dated March ___, 2014 to the

Prospectus dated August 1, 2013

Prospectus Supplement and Product Prospectus Supplement (Equity Linked Index Notes, Series A) dated August 8, 2013

**The Bank of Nova Scotia**

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**Capped Buffered Notes, Series A**

**Linked to the MSCI EAFE Index**

**Due June 15, 2015**

The Capped Buffered Notes, Series A Linked to the MSCI EAFE Index Due June 15, 2015 (the "Notes") offered hereunder are unsecured obligations of The Bank of Nova Scotia (the "Bank") and are subject to investment risks including possible loss of the principal amount invested due to the negative performance of the reference asset and the credit risk of The Bank of Nova Scotia. As used in this pricing supplement, the "Bank," "we," "us" or "our" refers to The Bank of Nova Scotia.

The Notes will not be listed on any U.S. securities exchange or automated quotation system.

**The Notes will not bear interest.** The amount that you will be paid on your Notes at maturity is based on the performance of the MSCI EAFE Index (which we refer to as the reference asset) as measured from the trade date to and including the valuation date. **If the percentage change (defined below) of the reference asset is less than –10.00% (the final level is less than the initial level by more than 10.00%), you will lose a portion of your investment in the Notes and may lose a substantial portion of your investment depending on the performance of the reference asset. Additionally, the amount you may receive for each $1,000 principal amount of your Notes at maturity is subject to a maximum redemption amount of $1,114.00. Any payment on your Notes is subject to the creditworthiness of The Bank of Nova Scotia.**

To determine your payment at maturity, we will first calculate the percentage increase or decrease in the final level (determined on the valuation date, subject to adjustment) from the initial level (which will be the closing level of the reference asset on the pricing date), which we refer to as the percentage change. The percentage change may reflect a positive return (based on any increase in the level of the reference asset over the life of the Notes) or a negative return (based on any decrease in the level of the reference asset over the life of the Notes). At maturity, for each $1,000 principal amount of your Notes:

if the final level is *greater than* the initial level (the percentage change is *positive*), you will receive an amount in cash equal to the *sum* of (i) $1,000 *plus* (ii) the *product* of $1,000 *times* the percentage change, subject to the maximum redemption amount;

if the final level is *less than* or *equal to* the initial level but not by more than 10.00% (the percentage change is *zero* or *negative* but not below –10.00%), you will receive an amount in cash equal to $1,000; or

if the final level is *less than* the initial level by more than 10.00% (the percentage change is *negative* and *is below* –10.00%), you will receive an amount in cash *equal to* the *sum of:* (1) $1,000 *plus* (2) the *product of* (i) $1,000 *times* (ii) approximately 1.111 times (iii) the *sum* of the percentage change *plus* 10.00%. You will receive less than $1,000.

**Following the determination of the initial level, the amount you will be paid on your Notes at maturity will not be affected by the closing level of the reference asset on any day other than the valuation date. You could lose a substantial portion of your investment in the Notes. A percentage decrease of more than 10.00% between the initial level and the final level will reduce the payment you will receive at maturity below the principal amount of your Notes. Further, the maximum payment that you could receive at maturity with respect to each $1,000 principal amount of your Notes (the minimum denomination) is limited to the maximum redemption amount of $1,114.00. In addition, the Notes will not bear interest, and no other payments on your Notes will be made prior to maturity.**

The difference between the estimated value[1] of your Notes and the original issue price reflects costs that the Bank or its affiliates expect to incur and profits that the Bank or its affiliates expect to realize in connection with hedging activities related to the Notes. These costs and profits will likely reduce the secondary market price, if any secondary market develops, for the Notes. As a result, you may experience an immediate and substantial decline in the market value of your Notes on the trade date and you may lose all or a substantial portion of your initial investment. The Bank's profit in relation to the Notes will vary based on the difference between (i) the amounts received by the Bank in connection with the issuance and the reinvestment return received by the Bank in connection with those funds and (ii) the costs incurred by the Bank in connection with the issuance of the Notes and the hedging transactions it enters into with its affiliates. The Bank's affiliates will also realize a profit that will be based on the (i) cost of creating and maintaining the hedging transactions minus (ii) the payments received on the hedging transactions.

The return on your Notes will relate to the price return of the reference asset and will not include a total return or dividend component. The Notes are derivative products based on the performance of the reference asset. The Notes do not constitute a direct investment in any of the shares, units or other securities represented by the reference asset. By acquiring Notes, you will not have a direct economic or other interest in, claim or entitlement to, or any legal or beneficial ownership of any such share, unit or security and will not have any rights as a shareholder, unitholder or other security holder of any of the issuers including, without limitation, any voting rights or rights to receive dividends or other distributions.

**Neither the United States Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC"), Nor ANY state securities commission has approved or disapproved of the Notes or passed upon the accuracy or the adequacy of this document, the accompanying prospectus, prospectus supplement or product prospectus supplement. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense. THE NOTES ARE NOT INSURED by the Canada Deposit Insurance Corporation pursuant to the Canada Deposit Insurance Corporation Act OR THE U.S. FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION OR ANY OTHER GOVERNMENTAL AGENCY OF CANADA, THE UNITED STATES OR ANY OTHER JURISDICTION.**

Scotia Capital (USA) Inc., our affiliate, will purchase the Notes from us for distribution to other registered broker dealers or will offer the Notes directly to investors. Scotia Capital (USA) Inc. or any of its affiliates or agents may use the final pricing supplement to which this pricing supplement relates in market-making transactions in the Notes after their initial sale. Unless we, Scotia Capital (USA) Inc. or another of our affiliates or agents selling such Notes to you informs you otherwise in the confirmation of sale, the final pricing supplement to which this pricing supplement relates is being used in a market-making transaction. See "Supplemental Plan of Distribution (Conflicts of Interest)" in this pricing supplement and "Supplemental Plan of Distribution" on page PS-30 of the accompanying product prospectus supplement.

| | Per Note | Total |
|---|---|---|
| Price to public | 100.00% | $ |
| Underwriting commissions2 | 0.25% | $ |
| Proceeds to The Bank of Nova Scotia3 | 99.75% | $ |

**Investment in the Notes involves certain risks. You should refer to "Additional Risks" in this pricing supplement and "Additional Risk Factors Specific to the Notes" beginning on page PS-5 of the accompanying product prospectus supplement and "Risk Factors" beginning on page S-2 of the accompanying prospectus supplement and on page 6 of the accompanying prospectus.**

We will deliver the Notes in book-entry form through the facilities of The Depository Trust Company ("DTC") on or about March 13, 2014 against payment in immediately available funds.

**Scotia Capital (USA) Inc.**

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[1] **The estimated value of the Notes on the Trade Date as determined by the Bank is approximately $l (l%) per $1,000 Principal Amount of the Note, which is less than the Original Issue Price.** See "The Bank's Estimated Value of the Notes" in this pricing supplement for additional information.

[2] Scotia Capital (USA) Inc. or one of our affiliates will purchase the Notes at the Principal Amount and as part of the distribution, if the Notes priced today, would pay varying discounts and underwriting commissions of approximately $2.50 (0.25%) per $1,000 Principal Amount of the Notes in connection with the distribution of the Notes. Scotia Capital (USA) Inc. may also receive a structuring and development fee of up to $0.50 (0.05%) per $1,000 Principal Amount of the Notes. See "Supplemental Plan of Distribution (Conflicts of Interest)" in this pricing supplement.

[3] Excludes profits from hedging. For additional considerations relating to hedging activities see "Additional Risks—The Inclusion of Dealer Spread and Projected Profit from Hedging in the Original Issue Price is Likely to Adversely Affect Secondary Market Prices" in this pricing supplement.

**Summary**

The information in this "Summary" section is qualified by the more detailed information set forth in this pricing supplement, the prospectus, the prospectus supplement, and the product prospectus supplement, each filed with the SEC. See "Additional Terms of Your Notes" in this pricing supplement.

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| **Issuer:** | The Bank of Nova Scotia (the "Bank") |
| **CUSIP/ISIN:** | CUSIP 064159EA0 / ISIN US064159EA09 |
| **Type of Notes:** | Capped Buffered Notes, Series A |
| **Reference Asset:** | The MSCI EAFE Index (Bloomberg Ticker: MXEA) |
| **Minimum Investment and Denominations:** | $1,000 and integral multiples of $1,000 in excess thereof |
| **Principal Amount:** | $1,000 per Note |
| **Original Issue Price:** | 100% of the Principal Amount of each Note |
| **Currency:** | U.S. Dollars |
| **Pricing Date:** | Expected to be March 10, 2014 |
| **Trade Date:** | Expected to be March 10, 2014 |
| **Original Issue Date:** | Expected to be March 13, 2014 (to be determined on the Trade Date and expected to be the 3rd scheduled Business Day after the Trade Date). |
| **Maturity Date:** | June 15, 2015, subject to adjustment as described in more detail in the accompanying product prospectus supplement. |
| **Principal at Risk:** | You may lose a substantial portion of your initial investment at maturity if there is a percentage decrease from the Initial Level to the Final Level of more than 10.00%. |
| **Fees and Expenses:** | Scotia Capital (USA) Inc. or one of our affiliates will purchase the Notes at the Principal Amount and as part of the distribution, if the Notes priced today, would pay varying discounts and underwriting commissions of $2.50 (0.25%) per $1,000 Principal Amount of the Notes in connection with the distribution of the Notes. Scotia Capital (USA) Inc. may also receive a structuring and development fee of up to $0.50 (0.05%) per $1,000 Principal Amount of the Notes.<br><br>The price at which you purchase the Notes includes costs that the Bank or its affiliates expect to incur and profits that the Bank or its affiliates expect to realize in connection with hedging activities related to the Notes, as set forth above. These costs and profits will likely reduce the secondary market price, if any secondary market develops, for the Notes. As a result, you may experience an immediate and substantial decline in the market value of your Notes on the Trade Date. See "Additional Risks—The Inclusion of Dealer Spread and Projected Profit from Hedging in the Original Issue Price is Likely to Adversely Affect Secondary Market Prices" in this pricing supplement. |
| **Payment at Maturity:** | The Payment at Maturity will be based on the performance of the Reference Asset and will be calculated as follows: |

If the Final Level is greater than the Initial Level, then the Payment at Maturity will equal:

the lesser of (a) the Principal Amount + (Principal Amount x Percentage Change) or (b) the Maximum Redemption Amount

If the Final Level is greater than or equal to the Buffer Level, but less than or equal to the Initial Level, then the Payment at Maturity will equal the Principal Amount

If the Final Level is less than the Buffer Level, then the Payment at Maturity will equal:

Principal Amount + [Principal Amount x Buffer Rate × (Percentage Change + Buffer Percentage)]

***In this case you will suffer a loss on your initial investment in an amount equal to the negative Percentage Change in excess of the Buffer Percentage multiplied by the Buffer Rate. Accordingly, you could lose up to 100.00% of your initial investment.***

**Initial Level:** The closing level of the Reference Asset on the Pricing Date.

**Final Level:** The Final Level of the Reference Asset will be determined based upon the closing level published on the Bloomberg page “MXEA<Index>” or any successor page on Bloomberg or any successor service, as applicable, on the Valuation Date. In certain special circumstances, the Final Level will be determined by the Calculation Agent, in its discretion, and such determinations will, under certain circumstances, be confirmed by an independent calculation expert. See “General Terms of the Notes—Unavailability of the Level of the Reference Asset on a Valuation Date” and “General Terms of the Notes—Market Disruption Events” beginning on page PS-19 and “Appointment of Independent Calculation Experts” on page PS-22, in the accompanying product prospectus supplement.

**Percentage Change:** The Percentage Change, expressed as a percentage, with respect to the Payment at Maturity, is calculated as follows:

$$\frac{\text{Final Level} - \text{Initial Level}}{\text{Initial Level}}$$

For the avoidance of doubt, the Percentage Change may be a negative value.

**Buffer Level:** To be determined on the Pricing Date (equal to the Initial Level multiplied by the difference of 100% minus the Buffer Percentage).

**Buffer Percentage:** 10.00%

**Buffer Rate:** $\frac{\text{Initial Level}}{\text{Buffer Level}}$, which equals approximately 111.11%

**Maximum Redemption Amount:** $1,114.00, which equals Principal Amount x 111.40%. The Maximum Redemption Amount sets a cap on appreciation of the Reference Asset of 11.40%.

June 10, 2015

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| **Valuation Date:** | The Valuation Date could be delayed by the occurrence of a market disruption event. See "General Terms of the Notes—Market Disruption Events" beginning on page PS-19 in the accompanying product prospectus supplement. |

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| **Form of Notes:** | Book-entry |
| **Calculation Agent:** | Scotia Capital Inc., an affiliate of the Bank |
| **Status:** | The Notes will constitute direct, unsubordinated and unsecured obligations of the Bank ranking *pari passu* with all other direct, unsecured and unsubordinated indebtedness of the Bank from time to time outstanding (except as otherwise prescribed by law). Holders will not have the benefit of any insurance under the provisions of the *Canada Deposit Insurance Corporation Act*, the U.S. *Federal Deposit Insurance Act* or under any other deposit insurance regime. |
| **Tax Redemption:** | The Bank (or its successor) may redeem the Notes, in whole but not in part, at a redemption price determined by the Calculation Agent in a manner reasonably calculated to preserve your and our relative economic position, if it is determined that changes in tax laws or their interpretation will result in the Bank (or its successor) becoming obligated to pay additional amounts with respect to the Notes. See "Tax Redemption" below. |
| **Listing:** | |