

TO: Mayors, Wardens, Councillors and CAOs, All Units

FR: Amy Pugsley Fraser, Communications Advisor

RE: *YOUR MONDAY MEMO*

MONDAY MEMO



All the NSFM News You Need for the Week



- Doctors Nova Scotia Contract
- This Week's Media Mentions
- FCM Advocacy Days in Ottawa
- CFIB Releases Municipal Spending Report
- SimplyCast Conference Presentation

• **Doctors Nova Scotia Update**

On Nov. 25, the province's doctors approved two new four-year agreements with the provincial government.

The new agreements will help address several issues that affect the province's ability to retain and recruit doctors, including more competitive compensation, physician engagement, physicians' work environment and physicians' right to representation.

In late 2017, NSFM members voted to make doctor recruitment one of the top priorities for the year.

The Resolution passed at the 2017 conference:

- **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that UNSM (NSFM) Ask the province to clarify and support municipal involvement in attracting and retaining physicians**
- **Host a one-day workshop to identify what municipalities can do to support recruitment efforts.**

As a result of your resolution, NSFM hosted a workshop in 2018 and worked actively throughout that year with the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Dalhousie Medical School, Doctors Nova Scotia, the Department of Health and Wellness, and the Nova Scotia Health Authority.

The collaboration helped shed new light on the role municipalities can play, and we're continuing these efforts through 2019.

For more on the contract, click on <https://doctorsns.com/news-events/health-care-news/news-releases-page/nova-scotias-doctors-ratify-new-four-year-contracts>

• **Media Mentions**

This week's Media Mentions includes an Op Ed by NSFM's Policy Advisor Will Brooke.

Brooke, a member of the *Nova Scotia Physician Recruitment and Retention Advisory Committee*, wrote a piece which ran in the Municipal Information Network, the national online daily of municipal news: <https://municipalinfonet.com/article/municipal/category/Health/73/803222/NSFM-Supports-new-funding-agreement-with-Doctors-NS.html> (by subscription).

To read his full editorial, go to: <https://www.nsfm.ca/1467-2019-11-27-nsfm-supports-funding-agreement-with-doctors-ns/file.html>

• **FCM Advocacy Days in Ottawa**

Last week, Nova Scotian members of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities Board of Directors were in Ottawa to take part in FCM Advocacy Days.

Those attending included: Tom Taggart, Municipality of the County of Colchester; Warden Timothy Habinski, Annapolis County; HRM Councillor Russell Walker; HRM Councillor and FCM President Bill Karsten; along with NSFM President Pam Mood, and CEO Juanita Spencer.

NSFM members attended the Atlantic Region Caucus meeting, to discuss different funding options for municipalities, cannabis revenues and rural broadband.

And at the FCM board meeting, they planned, discussed and strategized Canadian municipal priorities for the year ahead.

There were also presentations from the Honorable Catherine McKenna, the country's new Minister of Infrastructure and Communities; and the Honorable Maryam Monsef, Minister of Rural Economic Development and the Status of Women.

● **CFIB Municipal Spending Report**

Last week, the Canadian Federation of Independent Business (CFIB) released its first edition of an analysis into spending trends of Nova Scotia's largest communities. Their news release was titled, "Municipal Spending in Nova Scotia Meets Benchmark."

The report is intended to give perspective on municipal finances and to act as an accountability tool for local government spending.

Report writers Ibrahim Ali (public policy and entrepreneurship intern), and Nick Cunningham (CFIB's Nova Scotia Policy Analyst) collected and analyzed financial data on the 33 largest communities in Nova Scotia from 2010-2017.

The report uses annual statistical reports published by the Nova Scotia Department of Municipal Affairs to paint a more transparent and complete picture of the spending habits of local governments.

The report is provided as an attachment at the top of your Monday Memo.

● **NSFM Conference Presentations**

Are you looking for the links to the videos and power points from NSFM's fall conference in Halifax?

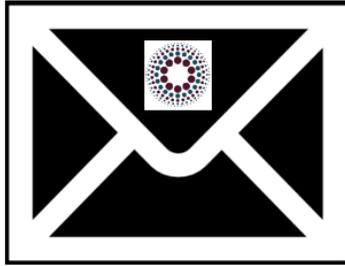
SimplyCast has the video from their conference presentation on emergency communication and management capabilities available here:

<https://vimeo.com/205897490>

Other presentations from the conference, including the E-voting session by HRM Municipal Clerk Kevin Arjoon, or the well-attended "Are your municipalities climate ready?" from Ameresco, are available at:

<https://www.nsfmconference.ca/presentations.html>

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All the NSFM News You Need for the Week

All the news, notes, messages and reminders from your NSFM Office are in one weekly package.

If you have something to share, please reach out to communications@nsfm.ca for a future Monday Memo publication.