

[View this email in your browser](#)

Monday Memo



NOVA SCOTIA FEDERATION
OF MUNICIPALITIES

NSFM 2026 FALL CONFERENCE

NSFM 2026 FALL CONFERENCE REGISTRATION NOW OPEN



STRONGER TOGETHER:
LEADERSHIP, TRUST &
TRANSFORMATION
2026 NSFM CONFERENCE

NOV 3rd – 6th

Westin Hotel, Halifax NS

Session Spotlight: Leading with Vulnerability Caring for yourself while caring for others

Leadership in an elected role comes with unique pressures, high visibility and often the expectation of being available around the clock. **Leading with Vulnerability** creates space for an honest conversation about what it takes to sustain yourself while serving your community.

Elected officials will share personal experiences—what has worked, what hasn't, and lessons learned about self-care, setting boundaries and managing expectations of access. A professional therapist will offer insight and reflection, connecting these lived experiences to practical strategies for personal wellbeing.

Speakers: Warden Nicole Albright • Deputy Mayor Maddie Charlton • Warden Shaun Hatfield • Rob Wolf

[Conference & Registration Information here](#)

EDUCATION - NEW SERIES

Natural Resources & Energy Education Series

NSFM is pleased to introduce this new series of online sessions is designed to create opportunities for municipalities to connect with provincial departments and other partners working in Nova Scotia's energy and natural resources sectors.

Upcoming sessions:

- **Mining in Nova Scotia:** [September 28](#), 12:00-1:30 PM
- **Introduction to the IESO Nova Scotia:** [October 1](#), 12:00-1:00 PM
- **Critical and Strategic Minerals Atlas Tutorial:** [October 19](#) or [October 28](#), 12:00-12:45 PM

Additional sessions will be announced as details are confirmed.

Learn more and register: [Natural Resources & Energy Education Series](#)

MUNICIPAL CONSULTATIONS

Mandatory Orientation Training for Newly Elected Councillors

NSFM is consulting with members on the development of new requirements for municipal orientation training for newly elected councillors.

These consultations will help identify current municipal orientation practices, opportunities, and barriers, and inform an orientation framework that is accessible, equitable, and realistic for municipalities and newly elected councillors.

Seven consultation sessions will be held across the province throughout October, including in-person sessions in Bridgewater, Truro, Wolfville, Port Hawkesbury, and

Members are encouraged to register for the session that best fits their schedule and region. [View the consultation details and register](#)

2026 BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION

Nominations Open for the 2026 Board of Directors Election

The **2026 Nominations Committee** is now accepting nominations for the following positions:

1. President
2. Vice President
3. Regional Representatives for each NSFM Electoral Region (except CBRM)

The nomination deadline is October 2.

Visit the NSFM website for full election details, including nomination information and Board member resources. [Click Here](#)

Learn More About the NSFM Board

Interested in learning more about the role of the NSFM Board of Directors? Current Board member Belle Hatfield shares her experience and highlights the important work of the Board in helping shape the future of Nova Scotia's municipalities. [Watch her video to learn more.](#)

Several current Board members will also share why they chose to run for the NSFM Board. Lennie White, Mayor Town of Westville, shares: "*As a lifetime learner, being a board member has given me the opportunity to have a broader understanding of issues facing municipalities. At the same time, it has provided me the opportunity to contribute to advocacy of behalf of member municipalities.*"

NEW & NOTEWORTHY

Apply for the Ken Simpson Memorial Conference Fund

Conference. Two elected officials will receive **complimentary conference registration and a \$500 travel allowance**.

Applicants should demonstrate a commitment to municipal leadership and professional development, as well as how conference participation will benefit their municipality and community. **Priority will be given to first-time applicants.**

Application deadline: 4:30 PM, Friday, October 2, 2026.

[Download the 2026 Application Form](#)

Municipal Exchange Launches

Municipal Exchange launched on September 3. This is a listserv designed as a shared space for municipal news, resources, and discussion to connect and support Nova Scotia's broader municipal sector. Participation is free and open to municipal leaders and staff across the province. You can sign up for the listserv [here](#). Read the listserv [guidelines](#).

LUNCH & LEARN SERIES

Municipal Fraud Research

What role do municipal councillors play in preventing and addressing fraud? This session will share findings from *Exploring Fraud Responsibility: A Municipal Perspective*, highlighting insights from municipal leaders and staff across Canada. Participants will explore fraud awareness, council oversight, audit committees, and communication with staff and auditors, along with practical takeaways, common pitfalls, and questions councillors can ask to strengthen governance.

Event Details

Date: Thursday, October 15

Time: 12:00-1:00 PM

Location: Online

Register: [Click Here](#)

Using the Sustainable Development Goals to Advance Local Priorities

municipalities can use the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to support local planning, decision-making, and community priorities. This session will explore practical ways to “localize” the SDGs and integrate them into governance, planning, budgeting, and program implementation.

Event Details**Date:** Thursday, September 24**Time:** 12:00-1:00 PM**Location:** Online**Register:** [Click here](#)

NEWS

[CBRM considers wheel boot rules for private parking lots](#)[Cape Breton Community mourns as flood recovery efforts continue](#)[Halifax looks for AI technology to better detect potholes](#)[Halifax police increasing patrols amid racing concerns: councillor](#)[Is commuter rail an option for Halifax?](#)[Flooding Lengthy repairs begin in Cape Breton's flood-damaged Richmond County](#)[Port Hawkesbury, N.S., mayor discusses historic rainfall](#)

FUNDING

Opportunities for Empowered Municipal Growth

The Funding Portal is a joint initiative of the Department of Municipal Affairs and the [Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities](#). Our mission is simple: make finding and applying for grants easy and efficient — so you can focus on building stronger communities. [nsfunding.ca](#).

[Freshwater Sustainability and Innovation across Canada](#): Canada Water Agency (CWA) funds support innovative projects that improve freshwater quality and

Deadline: September 23, 2026

[CFNS VISIONS Fund](#): Community Foundation of Nova Scotia (CFNS) funds support initiatives in Nova Scotia that strengthen inclusion and opportunity for people facing significant challenges, as well as innovative educational programs, and teaching methods.

Deadline: October 9, 2026

[Sectoral Workforce Innovation Fund \(SWIF\)](#): Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC) funds support targeted workforce solutions that address skilled labour shortages and advance federal missions, industrial strategies, and economic growth across Canada.

Deadline: ongoing intake

[Museums Assistance Program – Access to Heritage](#): Department of Canadian Heritage funds support the development and circulation of travelling exhibitions that help Canadian heritage organizations reach new audiences, and improve access to Canada’s diverse cultural and natural heritage.

Deadline: November 1, 2026

PROGRAMS

Arborist Equipment

Your green spaces provide health and recreation, so your maintenance equipment needs to be up to the task. The [NSFM/Canoe Arborist Equipment Program](#) works with suppliers that offer some of the safest and most reliable tree maintenance equipment on the market, all at competitive pricing, to keep things growing. The program works with local retailers for supply, service, and support. **NSFM/Canoe = Local.**

Fitness Supply

Procuring fitness equipment can be a marathon of work. Through the [NSFM/Canoe Fitness Supply Program](#), your municipal unit has access to plenty of options and sources to assist with your gym or recreation facility needs. The program provides a

Enterprise Resource Planning

The [NSFM/Canoe Enterprise Resource Planning Program](#) provides municipalities with access to a roster of approved ERP solutions providers and implementers through one program. You can choose your software and pair it with an implementer or engage an implementer first to advise on the right solution for your organization. The program works with local retailers for supply, service, and support. **NSFM/Canoe = Local.**

HR Spotlight

Travel Insurance: Travel to High-Risk Destinations

With global uncertainty on the rise, employee travel comes with added considerations. In this [article](#), learn about how group travel insurance applies when travelling to high-risk destinations, including what's covered, key limitations, and why pre-trip planning is critical. The article outlines what employers should review before approving travel — from government advisories to contingency planning — to help avoid complications if an emergency occurs abroad.

[HR Covered](#) is a program partner of NSFM. Reach out to the advisory team if you need more information on this item, as well as many other great HR resources offered at **no-charge** to municipal units in NS. More info: partnerships@hrcovered.com

Tips on Auto Insurance

NSFM members qualify for exclusive home and auto insurance discounts with [BrokerLink](#), get a free, no obligations quote at BrokerLink.ca/municipalities-nb. Finding car insurance at an affordable price is like navigating the highway during rush hour, let us help you know what to look for, [check out our tips for saving on auto insurance here](#).

Municipal Wellness Program: September Newsletter

The [Municipal Wellness Program](#) was established in 2014 and encourages Nova Scotia municipal units to create healthy workplace environments and promote positive health and wellbeing for all municipal employees and elected officials. In the [September Newsletter](#), read about the following:

- Wellness Bingo Challenge
- Wellness Grant Success Stories

WEBINARS

Climate Risk Assessments: How the Province and Municipalities Are Preparing for Climate Change Impacts

Climate change impacts are increasingly affecting Nova Scotia communities through wildfires, hurricanes, drought and flooding. Climate risk assessments can help municipalities identify risks, opportunities, and priorities to build more resilient communities.

Join NSFM for a webinar exploring the Province's updated 2025 Climate Change Risk Assessment, along with a local example from the Town of Truro. The session will highlight different approaches to climate risk assessment and how municipalities can tailor these tools to their unique needs.

Session Details: Wednesday, September 23 | 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Register: [Click Here](#)

RESOURCES

[Summer Municipal Observer](#)

The magazine for the **Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities**

[Spring/Summer Atlantic Municipal Magazine](#)

The magazine for the **Atlantic Region of Municipalities**



NOVA SCOTIA FEDERATION OF MUNICIPALITIES



Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities

Suite #1500, 1809 Barrington Street

Halifax NS B3J 3K8

Phone: (902) 423-8331

info@nsfm.ca

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).