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# Monday Memo



NOVA SCOTIA FEDERATION  
OF MUNICIPALITIES

## NSFM 2026 FALL CONFERENCE



**STRONGER TOGETHER:  
LEADERSHIP, TRUST &  
TRANSFORMATION**

**2026 NSFM CONFERENCE**

Nov 3 - 6 • Halifax, NS

**CLICK HERE TO VIEW THE  
PROGRAM & REGISTER**

The full program and registration details are found on the conference site.

**Presenting Sponsor:  
Nova Scotia Power**



**MONDAY OCTOBER 5 (TODAY)**  
**Don't miss out: Register today**

Networking is an important part of the NSFM Conference! Are you musical? Play an instrument and want to share your talent? The **Conference Social Lounge** is November 4!



## EDUCATION - NEW SERIES

### Natural Resources & Energy Education Series

NSFM is offering a 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:**

- **Critical & Strategic Minerals Atlas Tutorial:** [October 19](#) or [October 28](#), 12:00-12:45 PM

## MUNICIPAL CONSULTATIONS

### Consultation: Mandatory Training for New Councillors

NSFM is consulting with members on the development of new requirements for orientation training for newly elected councillors. In person and online consultation sessions will be held across the province this month. The purposes:

- Help identify current municipal orientation practices, opportunities, and barriers
- Inform an orientation framework that is accessible, equitable, and realistic for municipalities and newly elected councillors
- [View the consultation details and register](#)

## NEW & NOTEWORTHY

### Municipal Exchange

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

**Event Details:****Date:** Thursday October 15**Time:** 12:00-1:00 PM**Location:** Online**Register:** [Click Here](#)

## NEWS

[Affordability, managing growth top of mind for new Halifax CAO](#)[Halifax committee revisits Morris Street bike lanes](#)[Halifax councillor seeking review of Capped Assessment Program](#)[Liverpool lands another major national curling championship](#)[More than 250 scarecrows take over Mahone Bay as festival marks 30 years](#)[Nova Scotia developing community safety initiative with three municipalities](#)[Nova Scotia launches stormwater system support program amid growing flood risks](#)[NS volunteer fire departments sound alarm over fuel costs](#)[Organizer for Inverness meeting about drug use says situation is getting worse](#)[Port Hawkesbury residents want more answers after historic flooding](#)[Some local leaders see opportunity in proposal for NS's first data centre](#)

## 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](https://nsfunding.ca).

## PROGRAMS

integrated into your municipal planning strategy and land use by-law. This may support work that you are doing with the assistance of the [Coastal Planning Support Program](#). Information on the example text and many other coastal resilience resources can be found at [Coastal Climate Change-Province of NS](#). Contact Gordon Smith for more info:

- [coastal@nsfm.ca](mailto:coastal@nsfm.ca)
- (902) 333-7134

## Flood Recovery Solutions

Recent flooding events have created an urgent need for road repairs, washout remediation, drainage upgrades, and bridge replacement projects. [NSFM/Canoe Procurement](#)-approved supplier, [Armtec](#), helps municipalities and public-sector organizations access critical infrastructure products quickly and efficiently. Learn more about how to [expedite emergency infrastructure repairs with Armtec](#).

## Bulk Fuel Program

The [NSFM/Canoe Bulk Fuel Program](#) unlocks unparalleled cost-effectiveness and reliability with a nationwide network of fuel providers at preferred pricing. Designed for organizations with substantial fuel needs or those situated in remote areas, the program ensures fuel availability, cost predictability, and dependable scheduled deliveries, ultimately reducing downtime and enhancing operational efficiency. The program works with local retailers for supply, service, and support. **NSFM/Canoe = Local.**

## HR Spotlight: Trading Overtime for Goods or Time Off

A recent court decision warns employers of the risk of trading overtime for time off or goods. [This article](#) examines a case where an employer could not use an informal straight-time overtime arrangement to reduce the premium owed. The article explains why verbal “swaps” of overtime for goods, perks, or time off can create wage liability. Your takeaway: Keep any overtime-banking or time-off arrangement in writing, apply the required overtime value, and make sure payroll records show exactly how the entitlement was calculated.

offered at **no-charge** to municipal units in NS. More info: [partnerships@hrcovered.com](mailto:partnerships@hrcovered.com)

## What Comes First in a Car Accident

You have been in a car accident. Now what do you do and what are the first steps you should take? The first few moments following an accident can be overwhelming, [so here's what to do next.](#)

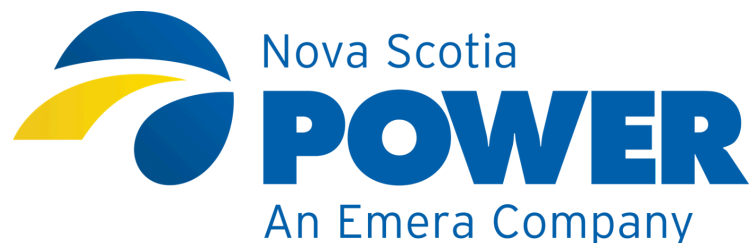
Did you know that you can receive exclusive insurance discounts on your **personal home and auto insurance** through BrokerLink's [group insurance program](#)? BrokerLink is proud to provide quality insurance products, expertise, and solutions to our sector.

## Assistance Program for Elected Officials

While we often have the skills to manage our daily lives, unexpected challenges can arise that require additional support. Do you know that NSFM offers an **Assistance Program** that elected leaders can access? The program is provided by NSFM through a partnership with Telus Health. The service is voluntary, confidential, and available 24/7.

- There is no cost to use the program
- Services are offered in both official languages (French and English)
- Available for use by elected leaders, their spouse/common-law partner, dependents living within the same household, and children away from home attending post-secondary education full time (up to 25 years of age)
- More information: [imorrison@nsfm.ca](mailto:imorrison@nsfm.ca)

## WEBINARS



Join Nova Scotia Power for an overview of our vegetation management program and its role in supporting a safe, reliable, and resilient power system. Learn how vegetation management work is planned and delivered, how we engage with landowners and communities, and how these efforts help reduce outages and improve storm preparedness across Nova Scotia. **This webinar is for NSFM members only.**

**Event Details:****Date:** Tuesday October 6**Time:** 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM**Location:** Online**Register:** [Click Here](#)

## RESOURCES

[Summer Municipal Observer](#)

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

[Fall/Winter Atlantic Municipal Magazine](#)

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



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