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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

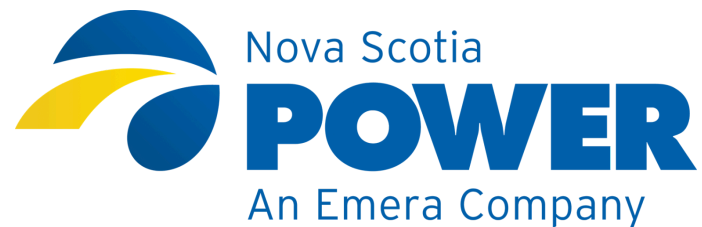
Registration for the 2026 NSFM Annual Conference closes at noon on October 29!

Don't miss out on several informative sessions and networking opportunities all focused on being stronger together.

Get your registration in now to enjoy all the benefits the NSFM Conference affords you.

[REGISTER NOW](#)

Presenting Sponsor:



STRONGER TOGETHER

We're proud to be the presenting sponsor of the Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities (NSFM) Conference this fall. We look forward to connecting with municipal leaders and discussing how we can work together to strengthen relationships, build trust, and support the transformation needed to meet Nova Scotia's future opportunities.





POWERING OUR COMMUNITIES: GRASSROOTS GRANTS APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN

Across Nova Scotia, community organizations make a difference every day. They're creating opportunities for connection, supporting local needs, and strengthening communities. Powering strong communities is part of who we are at Nova Scotia Power.

Through [Grassroots Grants](#), we're helping local organizations turn ideas into action and create lasting community benefits where our customers, employees, friends, and neighbours call home.

With \$200,000 in funding available, community groups and non-profit organizations can apply for grants of up to \$20,000 to support projects that make a difference in their communities.

Whether you're improving a community space, running a local program, helping people connect, or supporting those in need, we're looking for projects that help communities thrive. Since launching in 2025, the program has supported 18 organizations working to strengthen local communities through projects focused on food security, education, sustainability, inclusion, community development, and more.

We encourage organizations with ideas that strengthen and connect communities to apply.

[APPLY NOW](#)

Applications deadline: November 13, 2026

2026 BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION

The voting for NSFM's 2026 Board of Directors Election has officially begun (October 26 at 8:00am to October 30 at 4:30pm). We invite you to go online and vote - your engagement in this democratic process is instrumental! For more information refer to: [Election Overview](#) and the [eBallot Guide](#).

EDUCATION - NEW SERIES

Natural Resources & Energy Education Series

NSFM is pleased to introduce this new series of online sessions 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 session:**

- **Critical & Strategic Minerals Atlas Tutorial:** [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

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

Officials

NSFM and Rochelle Owen Consulting are hosting a workshop to help local elected officials access flood planning and policy resources, with a focus on inland flooding.

Two sessions will be offered on Thursday, November 19:

- In person: 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM at the Fairbanks Centre in Shubie Park, Dartmouth area. Includes case studies, practical resources, participant discussion, lunch and refreshments. [Register for the in-person session.](#)
- Online: 6:00 – 7:00 PM Features information, resources, and case studies. [Register for the online session.](#)

Elected officials are encouraged to participate and strengthen their understanding of municipal flood adaptation. While this workshop is primarily intended for elected officials, a municipal staff member working in flood adaptation is welcome to attend if Council is unable to send a representative.

Accelerating Climate Resilience for Atlantic Municipalities

Municipalities across Nova Scotia and Atlantic Canada can now access rapid, practical support to assess and act on climate risks through [Clean Foundation's Resilient Municipalities Coaching Service](#).

Designed for communities of 30,000 residents or fewer, this free service delivers tailored, one-on-one coaching, practical tools and flexible guidance to help local governments quickly understand vulnerabilities and advance adaptation priorities for infrastructure and housing projects with confidence.

For municipalities ready to quickly bring climate risk assessments to action, the Resilient Municipalities Coaching Service offers a streamlined path to implementation recommendations and ongoing support.

Connect with Clean Foundation at the NSFM Annual Conference this November, or contact Kallyn to learn more: rmcs@cleanfoundation.ca

Employment Opportunity

- Position: Policy and Research Officer
- Posting Detail: [Click here](#)
- Closing Date: October 28

Sign up for Municipal Exchange

Municipal Exchange 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. Sign up for the listserv [here](#). Read the listserv [guidelines](#).

Municipal Awareness Week

The week of November 1-7 has been proclaimed as **Municipal Awareness Week** in the province. NSFM is encouraging municipalities and residents to celebrate the week by recognizing local leaders and staff, sharing community success stories and memories, and highlighting initiatives that are making a difference. Connect with our social channels and share your stories.

NEWS

[\\$10B AI data centre project planned for Cape Breton](#)

[Halifax mayor asks locals for top concerns](#)

[Halifax police board, councillors surprised by RCMP changes to new satellite offices](#)

[Halifax mayor says defence boom will put new pressure on city infrastructure](#)

[Meeting planned for future of New Glasgow, N.S., shelter](#)

[Shelburne well costs nearly double after community college drops project](#)

[South Shore police services changing response to domestic violence involving dementia](#)

[‘Tragic’: Wolfville, N.S., mayor says community is keeping strong after fatal collision](#)

[Understanding the mayor and warden systems](#)

[Wolfville taps artists at L’Arche Homefires to help update town’s official stationery](#)

[What can we learn from Nova Scotia's own separatist movement?](#)

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](#).

[Local Festivals – Building Communities through Arts and Heritage](#): Department of Canadian Heritage Federal funding up to \$200,000 for recurring local festivals presenting work of local artists, artisans, heritage performers and Indigenous cultural carriers taking place between September 1 and December 31, 2027.

Deadline: January 31, 2027

[Feasibility Study: Adaptation in Action](#): FCM – Green Municipal Fund (GMF) supports feasibility studies to assess climate adaptation projects under \$1M, helping municipalities plan implementation projects to reduce climate risks.

Deadline: December 15, 2026

[Climate Resilience Grants](#): Intact Financial Corporation provides grants of up to \$225,000 for practical, community-led projects that reduce flood or wildfire risk and strengthen climate resilience in municipalities and Indigenous communities.

Deadline: December 18, 2026

[Multiculturalism and Anti-Racism Program – Projects](#): Department of Canadian Heritage provides project funding to address systemic racism and discrimination through collaborative initiatives that promote inclusion, equitable access and a sense of belonging in Canada.

Deadline: November 12, 2026

PROGRAMS

NSFM/Canoe Office Supply Program

The [NSFM/Canoe Office Supply Program](#) is a one-stop shop for all office supplies. The program offers members everything from pens to cleaning equipment, furniture to computers, promotional materials to coffee supplies, all with preferential pricing.

BrokerLink
Insurance insights
Your trusted group partner



Preferred Insurance Rates for Elected Leaders & Staff

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. Their dedicated group of insurance advisors will compare your coverage options and help get you the most comprehensive coverage at the best value. Learn about the [program](#) benefits and how BrokerLink can provide you with a free, no-obligations insurance quote.

WEBINARS

[Financing adaptation: Move your projects beyond traditional funding](#): FCM – Green Municipal Fund (GMF) introductory session to explore non-grant financing options that can help local governments support their climate adaptation priorities.

Date: October 29 at 3:00 PM (AT)

Intact Climate Resilience Grants: Program overview webinars on October 28.

Register for the [2 PM \(AT\) English session](#) or the [12 PM \(AT\) French session](#).

Supportive Housing Expression of Interest information sessions on November 4 at 10:00 AM–12:00 PM and November 17 at 5:00–7:00 PM. Contact

hsh@novascotia.ca for additional information and to register for the information sessions.

[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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