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Monday Memo

NOVA SCOTIA FEDERATION OF MUNICIPALITIES

HELP SHAPE AN NSFM CONFERENCE

Planning Committee Members Wanted

NSFM is seeking elected officials interested in serving on a planning committee for either the Spring or Fall 2027 Conference.

Planning committee members play an important role in helping develop conference programming that is relevant, engaging, and valuable for municipal leaders across Nova Scotia. Committee members will participate in approximately 2-3 virtual planning meetings leading up to the event and are expected to attend the conference, where they will chair sessions. All speaking notes, scripts, and session information will be provided in advance. NSFM staff take care of all logistics and arrangements.

Please note that committee members are responsible for their own conference registration, travel, accommodation, and related expenses.

As committee membership is limited, we may not be able to accommodate all interested volunteers.

If you are interested in contributing to the success of an NSFM conference and helping shape discussions that matter to municipalities, please send an email expressing your interest to jwebber@nsfm.ca by December 4.

Natural Resources & Energy Education Series: Two New Sessions

NSFM is pleased to announce two upcoming sessions in its Natural Resources & Energy Education Series.

Long-Term Energy Planning with IESO Nova Scotia
Wednesday, November 25 | 12:00–1:00 PM
Join IESO Nova Scotia to learn about the Integrated Resource Plan (IRP), a long-term planning process that helps guide the development of the electricity system over the next 20 to 30 years. The session will explore the IRP process and provide an opportunity for municipalities to share their perspectives and input on long-term electricity planning. **Register Here**

Community Benefit Agreements: What Municipalities Need to Know
Thursday, November 26 | 12:00–1:30 PM
Join lawyers from Cox & Palmer and the Ecology Action Centre for a session exploring Community Benefit Agreements and their application in a municipal context. **Register Here**

NEW & NOTEWORTHY

Register: Flood Adaptation Workshop for Local Elected 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.

Municipal Wellness Program Online Event

Join us as we mark an exciting new chapter for the Municipal Wellness Program on November 30 from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM! This ***virtual*** event will bring together elected officials and municipal employees from across Nova Scotia as we continue building healthy, supportive, and resilient municipal workplaces.

The morning will feature remarks from provincial and municipal leaders, the featured seminar ***Foundations of Wellbeing: Building Resilience and Balance for Everyone***, and an introduction to the program and opportunities ahead. We hope you will be part of this important milestone as we look ahead to the future of municipal wellness in Nova Scotia.

Register here: NSFM Municipal Wellness Program Launch

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.

NEWS

Halifax seeks public input on Bedford ferry
Lantz residents face flooding risk as $2M culvert fix awaits political resolution
N.S. mayors meet in Halifax
Nighttime parades returning to CBRM
Nova Scotia municipal leaders say tax model isn't keeping up with rising costs
Pictou County residents helping shape future coastal policy
Port Hawkesbury targets end of November for Granville Street bridge repairs

Province extends freeze on development fees in HRM
Public opinion mixed on proposed AI data centre for Point Tupper
Sand blowing into homes next to rural N.S. subdivision development
South Shore communities mourn loss of former mayor and longtime historian
'The fear is real': Nova Scotia municipal politicians face escalating public harassment
Truro to host 2028 World Women's Curling Championship

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.

New to the Portal:

Canada FIRM (Forest Innovation and Renewable Markets) Challenge: Ecostrat and the BDO Zone Initiative select 15 Canadian forest regions to receive a fully funded BDO Zone Rating, valued at approximately $150,000, and connections to global bioeconomy project developers. **Deadline:** December 3, 2026

PROGRAMS

EV Charging Station

As more people are purchasing electric vehicles, be prepared with charging options. The NSFM/Canoe EV Charging Station Program will help get charging stations faster, more cost-effectively, and best of all, through a convenient procurement process. The program works with local retailers for supply, service, and support. **NSFM/Canoe = Local**.

Flooring

The NSFM/Canoe Flooring Program works with suppliers to help you find the best options for each of your spaces: rugs, carpet tiles, luxury vinyl flooring, and more.

With preferred pricing and the tendering process already completed on your behalf, you just need to pick your design. The program works with local retailers for supply, service, and support. **NSFM/Canoe = Local**.

Park'N Fly Discount

The NSFM/Park'N Fly Discount Program is available for elected municipal leaders and municipal staff within the broader municipal sector. Did you know that travel expenses are among the highest costs for many organizations? Reserve your next stay and save. Plus, earn valuable Aeroplan points on every eligible stay. Park'N Fly offers a discount of up to 20% on airport parking and if you use the discount code, parking is 40% cheaper than parking in the airport lot.

WEBINARS

EV Forward: Electric Vehicle Charging for Municipalities

Join HCi3 and the Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities (NSFM) for a practical webinar exploring how EV charging infrastructure can support economic development, attract visitors, and help municipalities meet the growing demand for electric transportation. Learn about the EV Forward program, hear real-world lessons from municipalities implementing charging solutions, and gain expert insights from Liam Cook of Navigate Energy, Martha Horsman of Halifax Regional Municipality, and Lauren Clark from the Town of Mahone Bay on moving from planning to successful deployment.
Date: Wednesday, November 18
Time: 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM
To Register: Click Here

Funding Webinars/Information Sessions:

November 17 at 2 PM AT | Register Here
Ecostrat Canada FIRM (Forest Innovation and Renewable Markets) Challenge informational webinar. The session covers the program, eligibility, assessment process and application requirements.

November 24 at 2 PM AT | Register Here

FCM Green Municipal Fund webinar: Beyond grants: New revenue opportunities for municipal climate action. Explore revenue-generating tools and innovative financing approaches to help municipalities fund climate mitigation projects, district energy and community renewable energy systems.

December 10 at 12 PM AT | Register Here
Join David Rockwood, EMO Provincial Fire Coordinator, for a practical session on Fire Smarting Trails! David will walk trail groups through simple things to look for on their trails that can help reduce fire risk, support response efforts during a forest fire event, and keep trails safer for everyone. You'll leave with easy, useful tips your group can put into action, and there will be plenty of time to ask questions.

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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