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Monday Memo



NOVA SCOTIA FEDERATION
OF MUNICIPALITIES

NSFM 2026 FALL CONFERENCE

Call for Municipal Success Stories

Did your municipality try something new this year that made a real impact in your community? NSFM will be holding a Municipal Success Stories session at the Fall Conference and we are looking for fresh examples to share. The session will be held November 5 and will highlight a selection of municipal success stories from across the province. It is an opportunity to showcase ideas that are creative, practical, inspiring within the broader conference program, and are easy to adapt and replicate in other communities.

Do you have a success story to share? Share what your municipality is proud of and what others can learn from and submit your ideas that demonstrate what is working across our municipalities.

- Submissions due: July 20
- Submission reviewed by Fall Conference Planning Committee
- More info: jwebber@nsfm.ca

LUNCH & LEARN SERIES

Beyond the Ballot – Rethinking Women's Inclusion in Municipal Politics

decision to remain in or leave elected office. This session will examine barriers and challenges faced by women in local government, their impact on re-election decisions, and potential policies and programs to support greater retention of women in municipal leadership.

Presenter: Dr. Rebecca Wallace, Mila Mulroney Research Chair in Women and Politics and Assistant Professor, Political Science, St. Francis Xavier University

To Register: [Click Here](#).

NEW & NOTEWORTHY

Study on Violence and Harassment Against Elected Officials

In partnership with the NSFM, Dr. Rebecca Wallace, Mila Mulroney Research Chair in Women and Politics (St. Francis Xavier University) and her team are studying the experience in municipal officeholding, with a particular focus on the tenure of women in politics. Women politicians are leaving office earlier than men at other levels of Canadian government, but this has not been explored at the municipal level. The research is now entering a new outreach phase in which **all elected municipal leaders** have been invited, via direct message, to participate in a survey on their experiences in elected office.

- More information: rwallace@stfx.ca

Survey: Coastal Policy Decision Making Guide

NSFM is developing a plain-language, step-by-step Coastal Policy Decision-Making Guide and checklist to help municipal councils and staff move forward with greater confidence on coastal issues such as flooding, erosion, and sea level rise. We are seeking your input in a survey that gathers your experience and requirements so the guide is genuinely useful, whether your municipality is just getting started or building on work already underway. There is an option to share your contact details if interested in a follow-up workshop.

- Results will only be reported in aggregate form
- Takes 10-15 minutes to complete
- [Access survey here](#)

Prevention Academy

[Strong Cities Network](#) is a global network of municipalities committed to addressing all forms of hate, extremism, and polarization. In 2025, [Prevention Academy Canada](#) was launched. The purpose of this initiative is to address national and global issues that have put considerable strain on Canadian municipalities and local officials facing rising levels of hate, discrimination, division, and social polarization in their communities. The following elected leaders are participating in Cohort #2, which has recently launched:

- Councillor Christina Sappington, Municipality of the County of Kings
- Councillor Danielle Fraser, Town of Westville
- Councillor Katherine McCarron, Town of Mahone Bay
- Mayor Amery Boyer, Town of Annapolis Royal
- View the [Prevention Academy Video](#)

NSFM Listserv: Coming Soon...Sign Up Now!

This summer, NSFM will launch a new listserv designed to connect and support Nova Scotia's broader municipal sector. Participation is **free** and **open** to **municipal leaders and staff** across the province.

The listserv will:

- Support the exchange of information related to municipal practices and procedures
- Encourage collaboration and cooperation among municipal units
- Foster a community of shared interests across the municipal sector
- Provide a forum to share ideas, requests for information, best practices, and knowledge
- Serve as a key communication channel for the municipal sector
- Share relevant NSFM news, programs, services, and professional development opportunities

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

NEWS

[Baseball association cries foul over HRM proposal to convert field for cricket](#)

[Council says no authority to act in dispute involving mayor, taxi company](#)
[Fire chief working on plan for emergencies as wind turbines get moved](#)
[Lunenburg buying new sidewalk machine](#)
[Lunenburg considering new social media policy](#)
[Mariner's Centre receives \\$70,000 for ice replacement](#)
[No clear timeline on EV stations at Civic Centre says Port Hawkesbury mayor](#)
[Nova Scotia MLA challenging Cobequid Pass tolls in court](#)
[Pictou-Antigonish libraries launch fund to help library future](#)
[Shelburne mayor says dump was not in a Black community and is not a case of environmental racism](#)
[St Barbara reviving 3 old proposals: Eastern Shore gold mine megaproject](#)
[Temporary water relief program in Digby starts July 2](#)

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.

The NSFM Fund Navigation Program is here to help municipalities connect with funding opportunities that support local priorities. Explore the [Funding Portal](#) or contact fundnavigator@nsfm.ca for guidance.

New opportunities added to the portal this week:

[Biodiversity Restoration Initiative](#): Through Tree Canada's National Greening Program, funding and technical support are available for projects that restore ecosystems, improve wildlife habitat, enhance biodiversity, strengthen ecological resilience, and support the recovery of Species at Risk. Deadline: ongoing intake

PROGRAMS

As a partner of the [NSFM/Canoe Procurement Group](#), Staples Professional is proud to support NSFM members. Staples Professional presents a better way to manage your whole workplace. Managing a workplace means taking care of your people, your space, and your budget. From random requests to last-minute fire drills, [Staples Professional](#) delivers on the basics. More info: brenda.mcquinn@staples.ca

ERP Solutions

The [NSFM/Canoe Enterprise Resource Planning Program](#) provides access to a roster of approved ERP solutions providers and implementers through one program. With Microsoft's announcement that Dynamics GP will reach end of life in December 2029, ERP modernization is increasingly becoming essential and time-sensitive. [Discover how cooperative procurement can support a thoughtful, low-risk transition.](#) The program works with local retailers for supply, service, and support. **NSFM/Canoe = Local.**

Built for Canada

As a partner of the [NSFM/Canoe Procurement Group](#), municipal units have access to the [Built for Canada Program](#). By leveraging group purchasing power, cost-effective, compliant solutions to support your municipality's needs are available. Whether you are focused on 'Buy Canada' strategies, exploring alternatives, or balancing both, our diverse supplier network is ready to assist. We are working closely with suppliers expanding their Canadian offerings and encourage members to connect directly for the best options, because Canoe is built to support Canada's diverse needs. **NSFM/Canoe = Local**

Employee Benefits and the 2026 Drug Landscape

[In this article](#), explore how changing prescription drug trends are impacting employer benefits plans in 2026. From the growing demand for GLP-1 medications like Ozempic and Wegovy to rising specialty drug costs and upcoming generic alternatives, employers are facing new questions around coverage, sustainability, and employee communication. Understanding these developments now can help organizations better manage costs and avoid confusion as the benefits landscape continues to evolve.

offered at **no-charge** to municipal units in NS. More info: partnerships@hrcovered.com

Insurance Tips: RV Season

Are you ready for camping season? The warmer weather is just around the corner and we could not be more excited! Besides packing your RV with S'mores kits and bug spray, you need to make sure your vehicle is safe and ready for adventures. We have put together some tips to help you [prep your RV for camping season](#) and enjoy a safe and worry-free camping season.

Did you know that you can receive exclusive insurance discounts on your **personal home and auto insurance** through BrokerLink's group insurance program? [More information.](#)

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. Many travellers are taking advantage of the travel season this summer, including those on your team! Now is the perfect time to help them get the best value on airport parking. Travel smart from the start with the fastest and most convenient way to park and fly. With Park'N Fly Halifax, take advantage of

- Complimentary 24/7 shuttles
- Aeroplan point earnings
- Park'N Fly offers a discount of up to 20% on airport parking

Krown Discount

[Krown](#) and NSFM offer a discount program on services offered by Krown, for the benefit of elected leaders and staff working within the broader municipal sector in Nova Scotia:

- 15% off discount on all Krown Vehicle Products
- Offer valid for all elected leaders, staff, and their friends and family
- Presentation of the Dealer Promo Code required

Click [Krown Discount Program](#) for more program information, including the Dealer Promo Code to access your benefit.

Municipal Info Session: Onshore Wind Energy in Nova Scotia

NSFM, in partnership with the Department of Energy, is hosting a session for municipalities on onshore wind energy in Nova Scotia. The webinar will cover wind procurement, project development, legislation, and how projects interact with municipal governments. The Department of Energy will also speak to the 2026 Green Choice Wind Energy Procurement, including the Request for Proposals and project selection process.

Event Details

Date: July 15

Time: 11:30 p.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Register: [here](#)

Climate Adaptation Webinars for Municipal Staff

The University of Waterloo's Climate Institute is offering two free webinars this July for municipal staff and elected officials. Topics include accounting and finance, health and well-being, nature-based solutions, engineering, governance, and planning to support local climate resilience.

Event Details

Date/Time #1: July 15 | 1–2 p.m. (EST)

Date/Time #2: July 21 | 1–2 p.m. (EST)

Learn More & Register: [here](#)

Recap: Land for Housing Program

The province launched the Land for Housing Program to increase housing supply by making provincially owned land available for residential development. Since many municipalities also hold land that could support housing, the province is now exploring a Municipal Partnership Stream to help support municipalities in bringing forward municipally owned sites. Did you miss the recent webinar presented by NSFM and the Province of NS on the **Land for Housing Program – Municipal Partnership Stream**? You can view the webinar [here](#).

[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**



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