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Monday Memo



NOVA SCOTIA FEDERATION
OF MUNICIPALITIES

NEWS

Extended Producer Responsibility for Printed Paper & Packaging

NSFM is pleased to advise the regulations regarding Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) for Printed Paper and Packaging (PPP) are now in place. This has been an advocacy priority of the membership since 2019.

We would like to extend our thanks to the provincial government for passing legislation in 2021, as part of Environmental Goals and Climate Change Reduction Act, that facilitated these new regulations. This represents a multimillion-dollar savings to municipalities as the responsibility for the collection and processing of blue bag waste shifts to those companies producing these materials. Perhaps most important is the added incentive for producers to create more environmentally sustainable types of packaging.

The Solid Waste-Resource Management Regional Chairs Group, led by elected officials from across the province, has worked hard to inform and track the progress of these regulations. We extend our thanks to them as well. NSFM looks forward to providing additional information to our members on key decision points as implementation gets underway. Please stay tuned and thank you for your support in continuing to create strong, sustainable communities.

[News Release](#)

NSFM Carbon Surcharge Fund 2023

NSFM is accepting applications for the Carbon Surcharge Fund from now until **August 24**. Application instructions and a sample evaluation form are online. The application form may be found at <https://nsfm.ca/awards.html>.

In 2012, the Board of NSFM passed a motion to add a \$5 carbon surcharge fee to its conference registration to mitigate the greenhouse gas emissions generated from hosting these events, as well as on expense claims for staff and committee members to offset travel. This fund is collected in a special account and disbursed annually at the Fall Conference to support local, small-scale initiatives that help our municipalities reduce their energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions. The fund is intended to help initiate new or extend ongoing projects.

NSFM Climate Change Leaders Award 2023

NSFM is accepting applications for the Climate Change Leaders Award from now until **August 24**. Application instructions and a sample evaluation form are online. The application form may be found at <https://nsfm.ca/awards.html>.

The Climate Change Leaders Award honours municipalities that have demonstrated exemplary leadership in climate change adaptation and/or mitigation through the implementation of initiatives and creation of awareness. The objectives of the award program are to celebrate successes, encourage continuous action towards climate change adaptation and mitigation, support the implementation of strategies from Municipal Climate Change Action Plans, and support collaborative efforts and the sharing of information among municipalities. This award is intended to recognize ongoing or recently completed projects.

Overview of July 12th Policing Meeting

Thanks to those who attended the July 12th NSFM Meeting on Policing Services. Your contributions help to confirm and further develop our understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of the different policing models. If you did not attend the meeting, you can read the overview document to see what was discussed. If you posed a question that was not answered during the meeting, NSFM endeavoured to provide answers in the overview document, which can be accessed [at this page](#).

Raising the Bar on Local Leadership: 85 Days Away

Save the date for the NSFM Fall Conference, which occurs November 7-10 in Halifax. The conference theme is Raising the Bar on Local Leadership. Program and registration details will be available in early September.

IN THE NEWS

[As Climate Disasters Increase, N.S. Volunteer Firefighters Need More Financial Help](#)

['Complacency' Blamed for N.S. Struggles with Flooding, Other Climate Disasters](#)

[County of Kings Shuts Down Systems While 'Cybersecurity Incident' Investigated](#)

[How the Nova Scotia Floods Compare to Hurricane Fiona](#)

[Jamie Myra Elected as Town of Lunenburg Mayor](#)

[Nova Scotia Premier Considering Public Alert Changes After Flood Warning Came Two Hours Late](#)

[N.S. Town Councillor Who Died at 37 Leaves Legacy of Justice, Compassion](#)

FUNDING

FCM Funding Opportunities

Stay up-to-date with funding opportunities through the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM). Visit <https://fcm.ca/en/funding> to find more information and links.

NRCan Climate Adaptation Program

Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) has opened a Call for Proposals under NRCan's Climate Change Adaptation Program, which supports Canada's National Adaptation Strategy. Up to \$15 million in funding is available to develop tools and resources to support communities, decision-makers, and natural resource-sector businesses take adaptation-informed decisions and actions. Deadline: September 22, 2023.

[Click here for more info](#)

Submit Applications for the Housing Accelerator Fund

Canada's Minister of Housing and Diversity and Inclusion has announced the opening of the Application Portal for the Housing Accelerator Fund (HAF). The application portal will be open until August 18 @ 11:59 pm (Eastern).

Access resources including the HAF Applicant Guide

The [Applicant Guide](#) has been developed to help effectively navigate the application submission process and portal. Visit <cmhc.ca> to access the Guide and other useful information and resources.

Get Answers to your Questions

CMHC is available to answer questions. Contact them by phone @ 1-800-668-2642 or email @ contactcentre@cmhc.ca

Tourism Digital Assistance Program–Communities (TDAP-Communities)

This program helps to effectively promote local communities as a travel destination, attract visitors, and encourage spending. The program will cover up to \$15,000 in services and online tools for municipalities, business chambers, and community tourism organizations to address their digital needs. TDAP–Communities is a partnership between Tourism Nova Scotia and Digital Nova Scotia.

- Program details: <https://tourismns.ca/tourism-digital-assistance-program-communities>
- Application deadline: September 14 @ 4:00 pm
- For more information, contact: jennifer.mckeane@novascotia.ca or (902)717-3623

Zero-Emission Trucking Program Funding

Transport Canada's Zero-Emission Trucking Program (ZETP) has just launched a call for proposals for projects that accelerate readiness for medium and heavy-duty zero-emission freight-haul and vocational vehicles.

The objective of this CFP is to support projects (up to \$1 M per project) that develop, align, and modernize curricula, guidelines, codes, standards, and regulations to enable and accelerate the safe deployment of zero emission medium and heavy-duty trucking in Canada, as well as associated charging and refueling infrastructure. For more info, please contact ZETProgram-ProgrammeCZE@tc.gc.ca

[Click here for more info](#)

PROGRAMS

Buy What You Need. Sell What You Don't.

Whether you need to make your purchasing budget go further or find an economic way to cycle out inventory, the **NSFM/Canoe Surplus Auctioning Program** has your back. Participate in online auctions for government surplus and unclaimed property including heavy equipment, cars, trucks, buses, and much more.

Unlike the traditional, linear process of manufacturing an item to be used and ultimately discarded, you can participate in the circular economy by extending the utility of assets with “as is, where is” surplus sales. By incorporating circularity into the economic process, usable goods can be saved from landfills and incineration through repurpose and reuse by new owners. Measure your success by tracking both the quantity of assets diverted from landfill and total weight of assets diverted from landfill. [Discover the solution today!](#)

Gasboy Solutions: An NSFM/Canoe Procurement Partner

Introducing Gasboy Commercial and Industrial Fueling Solutions as a resource for any fuel dispensing equipment or fuel management system needs that your municipality may have.

Leverage Gasboy's Sourcewell/Canoe Procurement Group of Canada FMS contract #092290-GVR for pre-negotiated discounts on fuel management solutions. A wide range of Fuel Management System solutions to assist any size fleet are available.

- Information on the Fuel Management Program:
<https://canoeprocurement.ca/program/fuel-management-program/>
- What is Gasboy: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=87-W8S3r_W0
- Gasboy products offered through Canoe:
<https://info.gasboy.com/canoe-procurement-group-fueling-solutions>

For more information, contact:

Matt Lunardini

Canadian Commercial Manager

Gasboy Commercial and Industrial Fueling Solutions

E-mail: matt.lunardini@gilbarco.com

Mobile: (647) 822-7514

Website: www.gasboy.com

NSFM & Canoe Procurement Program

Do you need help finding cost-effective products and services and would you like to learn more about using [Canoe Procurement](#)?

Andy Saxby is here to help. Since January, Andy has been working as the member outreach representative for Nova Scotia municipal units. He is your direct contact for the Canoe program.

In his role, Andy helps local governments and non-profits find time and cost-saving benefits on a wide variety of municipal needs. He also provides educational sessions and support to help members navigate the cooperative procurement process.

Contact Andy Saxby to get started with Canoe Procurement for your municipality's purchasing needs:

Andy Saxby

Canoe Procurement Group of Canada

Phone: (902) 417-2575

E-mail: andy@canoeprocurement.ca

NSFM Municipal Group Insurance Program

NSFM offers a comprehensive and flexible commercial, D&O, and liability insurance program so that municipal units are able to effectively meet the needs of their citizens. Benefits can be summarized as follows:

- Continued evaluation around the quality of the broker services (annual survey) and acting on the results received from participants
- Education and awareness around risk management issues (including inspections which contain hazard recommendations as well as building valuations and contract reviews)
- Guiding participants to control claims by mitigating risks in advance
- Local claims management
- Insurance products specifically aimed at municipal units and the expertise of the service team
- Leveraging the strength of the relationships within the program (insurer, brokers, program sponsor)

The advantages of the program are best explained by the municipal units participating in the NSFM program:

- Benefit of being part of a larger group
- Communication with fellow municipalities
- Economies of scale
- Insurance provided through a municipal lens
- Not having to tender and plan the program oneself
- Program tailored to small, medium, and large municipalities

In addition, the NSFM program offers value-added education around topics such as:

- Hazards of Special Events
- How Hail Affects Shingle Roofs
- How to Increase Resilience of Urban Trees
- Mitigation strategies within our communities to address the threat of extreme heat, flooding, and wildfires
- Towards a Flood Forecasting Framework in Canada

Have you evaluated your commercial insurance needs recently? Questions about the NSFM program? Contact imorrison@nsfm.ca

Rules of Order & Meeting Processes Workshops

AMANS, in conjunction with NSFM, presents the following in-person workshop opportunity. Registration is on a first-come first-serve basis with a limit of 30 registrants per session.

This session will delve into the reasons behind the existence of rules of order and meeting processes; guiding participants on how to get your meeting started well, establishing agendas, determining quorums, the role of ex-officio members, crafting clear motions and amendments, whether to approve or not approve reports, conflict of interest protocols, changing terms of appointments, approving minutes, basic decorum, and how to better prepare yourself for the unexpected. Topics such as voting procedures, quorums, conflict of interest protocols, and basic decorum will be extensively discussed.

Throughout the session, we will explore numerous real-life examples from Nova Scotia municipalities and engage in simulation exercises to reinforce learning. The facilitator is **Chris McNeill**, former Registered Parliamentarian, Chief Administrative Officer, Municipality of the County of Annapolis.

For complete registration details, including cost of attendance, session times and locations for **administrators** and **elected officials**, click [registration info](#).

RESOURCES

[Coastal Climate Adaptation Toolkit](#)

Explore this toolkit for advice on how to best prepare for coastal climate impacts

Engaging Infographics Show How Nova Scotia Health is Connecting the Dots Between Poverty and Health

Municipalities can support residents in need and help them access necessary services by connecting the dots on poverty. **Poverty and food insecurity** rates in Atlantic Canada are among the highest in Canada and have increased during COVID-19. According to the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives Nova Scotia, financial assistance introduced during the pandemic helped lift 26,810 children in our province out of poverty. Municipalities can help **connect the dots** between poverty and health.

More information to support planning, decision making, and conversations with constituents, can be found in [this infographic](#) and resource website: <https://www.communityhealthboards.ns.ca/resources>

Municipalities can support residents in need and help them access necessary services by connecting the dots on poverty. Many parts of Nova Scotia are facing a **housing** crisis, with low vacancy rates, high and increasing rental rates, and increasing housing insecurity and homelessness. Municipalities can help **connect the dots** between poverty and health.

More information to support planning, decision making, and conversations with constituents, can be found in [this infographic \(housing continuum\)](#) and resource website: <https://www.communityhealthboards.ns.ca/resources>

The province has announced the completion and release of the first Equity and Anti-Racism Strategy. The Health Equity Framework was also released as part of the strategy. The Health Equity Framework will now act as a strategic tool that will further guide government and system partners in better addressing racism, discrimination, and inequities within the health system. The framework is one of many key tools being used to advance health equity as contained in the **Action for Health** strategy.

- Announcement: <https://novascotia.ca/news/release/?id=20230706002>
- Strategy: <https://novascotia.ca/just/publications/docs/equity-and-anti-racism-strategy.pdf>
- Health Equity Framework: <https://novascotia.ca/just/publications/docs/health-equity-framework.pdf>

For further information, contact:

- health.equity@novascotia.ca
- eric.hemphill@novascotia.ca
- john.ariyo@novascotia.ca

Nova Scotia Floods and Adaptation, Discussion by Dr. Blair Feltmate on The Mike Farwell Show

On the Mike Farwell Show, Dr. Blair Feltmate discusses practical steps that can be taken by provinces, municipalities, and home owners to prepare for extreme weather events, such as flooding. Dr. Feltmate is Head of the **Intact Centre on Climate Adaptation**, an education partner of the **NSFM Municipal Insurance Program**.

[Click here for the interview.](#)

[Summer Municipal Observer](#)

The magazine for the Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities



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