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## Monday Memo



NOVA SCOTIA FEDERATION  
OF MUNICIPALITIES

### NSFM FALL CONFERENCE 2023

NSFM is delighted to announce Nova Scotia Power as the presenting sponsor for our highly anticipated 2023 annual conference, themed "Raising the Bar on Local Leadership."



Nova Scotia Power is genuinely committed to understanding the unique priorities of our member municipalities in connection with the services they offer.

We cordially invite you to view a brief video message from our **President and CEO, Mr. Peter Gregg**.



Additionally, **Nova Scotia Power** has requested a few moments of your time to participate in a [brief survey](#). Your input will play a crucial role in shaping the content of their presentation to our esteemed delegates in November.

We eagerly anticipate your presence at the [NSFM 2023 Conference](#), where we will collectively explore and elevate the standards of local leadership.

**EARLY BIRD RATE DEADLINE FAST APPROACHING - OCTOBER 10**

**REGISTER TODAY**

### NEWS

#### Police Review Advisory Committee

The Province is set to establish a [Police Review Advisory Committee](#), tasked with conducting a comprehensive evaluation of Nova Scotia's policing structure and potentially proposing enhancements to the delivery of policing services. The Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities (NSFM) is pleased to see the province's commitment to advancing the recommendations put forth by the Mass Casualty Commission (MCC). We eagerly anticipate the unfolding of this vital dialogue.

Notably, the Police Review Advisory Committee is an additional initiative to the MCC-recommended [Progress Monitoring Committee](#), convened by the provincial and federal governments on September 1, which includes representation from municipalities among its members. Municipalities bear the significant responsibility of providing policing services in Nova Scotia and are poised to offer invaluable insights to this review.

#### Updated Guidelines for Environmental Noise Measurement and Assessment

The Department has posted the final approved Guidelines at [Air | Air\(novascotia.ca\)](#) and [Publications | Resources \(novascotia.ca\)](#), effective October 1, 2023. Noise related compliance continues to be based on the terms and conditions as written in Approvals. These terms and conditions remain applicable until such time as the Approval is updated to reflect the use of the new Guidelines.

#### Nominations open for the 2023 Board of Directors Election

The 2023 Nominations Committee is now accepting nominations for the following positions:

1. President
2. Vice President
3. Regional Representatives for each NSFM Electoral Region

## October is Cybersecurity Awareness Month

CDW Canada's 2023 Cybersecurity Study provides insights into Canadian cybersecurity trends. The study sheds light on evolving threat landscapes, vulnerable attack types, and mitigation efforts. It also delves into industries like government, education, healthcare, finance, and small businesses. Here are some industry highlights from the report:

- Government faces a cybersecurity skills gap affecting incident prevention and IT modernization
- Education lags in cyber incident response times
- Healthcare suffers data breaches with 72% reporting exfiltration

[Get CDW Canada's 2023 Canadian Cybersecurity Study](#) to learn how organizations are combating cybersecurity threats and attempting to minimize their impact. Learn about the increasing risks organizations face from an ever-expanding threat landscape and the types of cyberattacks Canadian businesses are most vulnerable to.

**CDW Canada** is an industry partner of the **NSFM/Canoe Procurement Program**.

## Built Environment Accessibility Standard wants your feedback!

Nova Scotia's proposed Built Environment Accessibility Standard work is now available for review and comment! This is an important milestone in the development of Nova Scotia's first accessibility standard. The goal of this standard is to address barriers to accessibility in buildings and outdoor spaces. [To learn more.](#)

[Deadline for public feedback:](#) October 30, 2023.

### Information Session for PPSBs: Proposed Built Environment Accessibility Standard Work

This webinar will take place on Thursday, October 12, 2023 from 1:00 pm. – 2:00 p.m. on Zoom. Please note that this webinar is an information session and not a forum to provide feedback on the proposed standard.

We encourage you to submit your questions in advance, by emailing [Hannah.MacDougall@novascotia.ca](mailto:Hannah.MacDougall@novascotia.ca) by Friday, October 6, 2023. We will also accept questions during the session. Please [use this link to register](#).

## UPDATE: Reducing physician red tape (Expanded Target)

The expanded target to reduce unnecessary physician administrative burden is now published (400,000 annual hours to be removed by end of 2024). The report shows that 100,000 hours of physician burden (the equivalent of 300,000 annual patient visits) has already removed more giving physicians more time to do what they do best: care for us.

To see the 45+ initiatives identified, many of which are completed and measured, to achieve the target here:

[Reducing red tape for physicians: Office of Regulatory Affairs and Service Effectiveness - Government of Nova Scotia](#)

## Prompt payment and dispute resolution for the construction industry: engagement

The Province of Nova Scotia has provided an update on engagement regarding [prompt payment and dispute resolution for the construction industry](#). Regulations are being developed to support legislative amendments related to construction projects that local governments may be involved in.

## Engagement: Modernizing Environmental Assessment Process

The government has begun public engagement on modernizing its environmental assessment process. Environmental assessment is a planning and decision-making tool used by governments globally, supporting sustainable development by allowing consideration of overall project impacts at an early stage.

The last major update to Nova Scotia's environmental assessment regulations was over 15 years ago (in 2008). The world has changed in the last 15 years, and it continues to change quickly. This is why, as part of the [Environmental Goals and Climate Change Reduction Act](#), Government has committed to modernizing environmental assessment in the Province, by 2024.

**Engagement:** Ends October 6. [For more info visit](#) and [Press Release](#).

## Rules of Order & Meeting Processes In-person 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.

Join our transformative workshop to unlock the secrets behind successful town and municipal council or village commission meetings. Don't miss out on the chance to elevate your governance skills and ensure your meetings run seamlessly.

### Exclusive Incentives Await You – Early Bird Advantage

- **Enroll before the early bird deadlines for a chance to win a complimentary registration for your selected session!**
- **Secure a Certificate of Completion upon workshop fulfillment.**

[Click here for more info](#)

## IN THE NEWS

[Province Consulting Coastal Property Owners](#)

[Municipal councillor wants schools to have safety plans in place for emergencies](#)

[Pumpkin People return to Kentville with an important message](#)

[HRM investigating whether different pit bulls were involved in fatal attacks](#)

[Nova Scotia announces plans for 222 new public housing units](#)

[The threat of wildfires is rising. So are new artificial intelligence solutions to fight them](#)

[Sydney to sell municipal land to build housing - CTV News](#)

[Why one town and not another? N.S. mayors want more info on new public housing locations](#)

## FUNDING

### Opportunities Closing Soon!

#### Zero-Emission Trucking Program

**Deadline:** October 3 [Click here for more info](#)

#### 2 Billion Trees

**Deadline:** October 12 [Click here for more Info](#)

### FCM Funding Opportunities

Stay up-to-date with funding opportunities through the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM). [Visit](#) to find more information.

## PROGRAMS

### Reminder: Accessibility Foundations Train the Trainer Opportunity

The Accessibility Directorate is pleased to share an opportunity to engage in our Accessibility Foundations Train the Trainer program this fall.

The Accessibility Foundations train the trainer program includes a 2-module, live, facilitated, virtual workshop series. You **must** be available to attend **both modules**. [For more information](#)

**Application deadline is Wednesday, November 1 @ 4pm.**

Module 1- Thursday, November 30, 1-3:30pm

Module 2- Thursday, December 7, 1-3:30pm

[Click here to apply](#)

### Fireproof Your Organization

Your emergency responders are at the forefront of some of your most critical operations and keeping them safe is critical. Through the **NFSM/Canoe Firefighting PPE Program**, municipalities get preferred pricing on some of the best protective equipment available in the industry, including bunker gear, hoods, helmets, boots, gloves, and more.

[Grainger Canada](#) is a procurement partner in the program:

- Firefighting PPE, apparel, and accessories
- Cleaning maintenance equipment
- 24/7 online ordering with no minimum order
- Pre-paid freight on orders shipped via ground
- Same-day shipping on 99% of in-stock items
- Keep Stock inventory management solution
- Distributor Alliance Small Business Program

**More info, contact:** [katrina.king@grainger.ca](mailto:katrina.king@grainger.ca)

### NFSM/Canoe & Expertec: Catch-22 of a New Truck in the Fleet

It has been more than 70 years since Joseph Heller coined the phrase (and wrote the book) Catch 22, but fleet operators and skilled trades in Canada are most assuredly living it. One of the most important facets of this program is to ensure municipal units are able to get that newly purchased asset in the field as quickly as possible by ensuring everything required to outfit a truck is in stock and available. Expertec is loaded with inventory, with everything from [Slip-in Service Bodies](#) to [SpaceKaps](#), and a warehouse filled with the smaller accessories to get the vehicle on the road as soon as possible. The result is simple: lead times measured in weeks, not months.

[Learn more about how Expertec can help you today!](#)

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

**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 at [andy@canoeprocurement.ca](mailto:andy@canoeprocurement.ca) or 902-417-2575.

## WEBINARS

### Municipal Panel: Challenge & Building a Culture of Respect

Listen to this recorded webinar featuring an expert panel covering the unique people, culture challenges, and opportunities experienced in municipalities.

**Panelists:**

- Marjorie Munroe, Human Rights & Respectful Workplace, City of Calgary
- Michelle Phaneuf, Partner, Workplace FairnessInternational

[Listen Here](#)

### Gordian: Job Order Contracting

Job Order Contracting (JOC) is a procurement process that is relatively new in Canada and is most suitable for repairs, renewal, alteration projects, and emergency work. Instead of conducting multiple procurement processes, JOC allows for a variety of projects to be completed through a single contract that is competitively awarded. Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities and Canoe Procurement supplier Gordian will discuss how this process can help to make your renovation and construction projects run smoothly.

October 11, 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. (AST) [Register Here](#)

About: [Canoeprocurement](#)

## RESOURCES

### Flood Mapping in Canada

Recently Blair Feltmate of the Intact Centre for Climate Adaptation shared crucial insights on flood mapping in Canada. The challenges surrounding the accessibility of flood risk maps in Canada take the stage in this discussion. Delve into the essential role flood risk maps play in safeguarding critical infrastructure and human lives. Flood risk maps help identify safe ground during a storm or flood and lay out where to avoid building, but they are not readily available. [Click here to learn more.](#)

The **Intact Centre for Climate Adaptation** is an education partner of the **NSFM Municipal Group Insurance Program**.

### [Summer Municipal Observer](#)

The magazine for the Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities

### [Atlantic Municipal Magazine](#)

The magazine for Atlantic Canadian municipalities



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