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Monday Memo

NOVA SCOTIA FEDERATION
OF MUNICIPALITIES

NSFM FALL CONFERENCE 2023



Our Fall Conference will take place in-person from November 7– 10 at the Westin Nova Scotian Hotel in Halifax.

[CLICK HERE](#) to access the conference website. The full program, registration, and accommodation details are found on the site.

Don't miss out on the early bird registration fee! The Planning Committee has put together a very exciting and informative program that you will not want to miss.

REGISTRATION FEES:	Before October 10, 2023	After October 10, 2023
Member (includes banquet)	\$ 700 + HST	\$ 750 + HST
Non-Member (includes banquet)	\$ 750 + HST	\$ 800 + h HST
Banquet Ticket	\$ 75 + HST	
Each registrant will be charged a \$5 Carbon Surcharge Fee		

Our Presenting Sponsor:



NSFM gratefully acknowledges our 2023 Sponsors:



EVENTS

Circular Economy and Waste: Engagement

The Government of Nova Scotia is consulting the public on ideas to encourage the province's circular economy and reduce waste. The Province has set a solid waste disposal target of 300 kg per person per year by 2030 in the Environmental Goals and Climate Change Reduction Act and has committed to developing a strategic plan by the end of 2023 that shows how we will reach this target. Your input on what should be included in this strategic plan is welcomed.

- Consultation period: August 17 to September 29

NEWS

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

Nominations will be accepted until September 28. [Click here for more information.](#)

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.

Code of Conduct Recommendations and Framework Survey

Individual elected officials and senior administrators are requested to complete the following [Survey](#) before end of day Monday September 25, 2023.

[To learn more about the recommendations](#)

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

[Halifax will soon decide how to create affordable housing in Cogswell District](#)

[N.S. fire chief wants provincial legislation to protect volunteer jobs](#)

[16 people selected to make sure recommendations from Portapique inquiry aren't ignored](#)

[Annapolis County residents call on review board to shrink council](#)

[Cities could hit net zero carbon emissions in 10 years with these methods: study | CTV News](#)

FUNDING

FCM Funding Opportunities

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

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

[Click here for more info.](#)

Tourism Digital Assistance Program–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](#)
- **Application deadline:** September 14 @ 4:00 p.m.
- 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 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 trucking in Canada, as well as associated charging and refuelling infrastructure.

For more info, please contact: ZETProgram-ProgrammeCZE@tc.gc.ca

[Click here for more info.](#)

PROGRAMS

Canadian Cybersecurity Study

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**.

Keep Your Municipality Rolling

From fleet to heavy equipment, and even including specialty uses, the **NSFM/Canoe Tire Program** has you covered for all your tire needs. Get quality, brand name tires for vehicles of any size, retread or brand new – all fully trade compliant and at the best pricing available in Canada. NSFM and Canoe are now partnering with **KalTire** to deliver excellent pricing and service. [Concerned about high costs in your transit fleet?](#)

NSFM/Canoe Drone Program

The **NSFM/Canoe Drone Program** offers you access to cutting-edge technology that can help you from the air, under water, and from other difficult-to-reach places. Procure uncrewed vehicles that can provide precise data collection, infrastructure inspection, maintenance, mapping, and modelling services with ease.

[Learn about the NSFM/Canoe Drone Program](#)

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)
- Stability within an unstable landscape
- Strength in numbers

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 relevant insurance topics. Have you evaluated your commercial insurance needs recently? Questions about the NSFM program contact: imorrison@nsfm.ca

WEBINARS

EPR for PPP Regulation Overview

NSFM and the Regional Solid Waste Chairs are pleased to present an overview of the recently announced EPR regulations. This session will assist local elected officials in understanding the implications these regulations will have for their municipality. Both sessions will be virtual via Zoom. Two dates are available and registration is required:

- [September 20, 4:00 p.m.](#)
- [September 27, 4:00 p.m.](#)

Utility Scale Solar Development

With the electrification of our energy systems including the use of EVs and heat pumps, increasing total electrical generation is a must. Utility scale solar, typically coupled with storage, is another tool that utilities will use to diversify their generation mix. This webinar will discuss some of the considerations when developing a utility scale development from 1-10 MW. This includes site selection, land agreements, utility interconnection, managing distribution/transmission/load constraints with storage, and discussing the process to make decisions around these considerations.

- Date: September 21 from 1 p.m. – 2 p.m. (AST)
- Facilitator: Jeff MacKinnon, PEng, PE, JMK Engineering Inc.
- [Webinar Registration - Zoom](#)

Webinar: Canoe 101

NSFM and the Canoe Procurement Group want to ensure your purchases are quick, easy, and regulation compliant. Join us for a 'back to basics' look at how Canoe Procurement works and how it can save you time and money. About [Canoe Procurement](#).

September 28 from 2 p.m. – 3 p.m. (AST)
[Register Here](#)

RESOURCES

Podcast: Water Sustainability in the Face of Climate Change

Recently, Dr. Anabela Bonada of the **Intact Centre on Climate Adaptation**, shared her profound insights on the pressing issue of water sustainability in the face of climate change and, in particular, the effect on the senior population within our communities. Be sure to catch this illuminating discussion: [now available](#).

The Intact Centre on Climate Adaptation is an education partner of **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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