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Monday Memo



NOVA SCOTIA FEDERATION
OF MUNICIPALITIES

NSFM FALL CONFERENCE 2023



The 2023 NSFM Fall Conference will take place from November 7 – 10 at the Westin Nova Scotian Hotel in Halifax.

The full program, registration and accommodation details can be found on the conference site. [Click here to view the Program & Register.](#)

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.

We are pleased to bring back last year's popular **Conversation Series Tables** session.

The Conversation Series is your opportunity to network with your fellow municipal colleagues through short, informal, discussions on various topics such as: Climate Change, Asset Management, Municipal Finance, Active Transportation, Roads, etc. We are inviting members to have conversations rotating through several different tables, each with a different topic of discussion. Tables will change at 20-minute intervals. Deputy Ministers and senior staff from the province have been invited to sit at various tables and the NSFM Board will facilitate some of the discussions.



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
- For more info visit: [Circular Economy and Waste: Engagement](#)
- Feedback to: SWRM@novascotia.ca
- Questions: Bob Kenney at robert.kenney@novascotia.ca or 902-499-2178

NEWS

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 been 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](#)

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.

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

[Premier Houston says housing issue is everyone's problem, asks Halifax council to step up](#)

[Amherst mayor worries Hurricane Lee could leave Chignecto Isthmus under water](#)

[Feds say wildfire season could last throughout Canadian fall](#)

[Former cabinet minister and Guysborough warden Lloyd Hines dead at 72](#)

[Premier Announces Historic Cabinet Changes](#)

[Premier Announces Changes to Public Service](#)

[Funding for Sustainable Community Projects](#)

[Truro Curling Club Goes Solar](#)

FUNDING

Tourism Digital Assistance Program – Communities

The Tourism Digital Assistance Program – Communities helps effectively promote local communities as a travel destination, attract visitors and encourage

- [Program details](#)
- **Application Deadline Extended:** September 21 @ 4:00 p.m.
- For more information, contact: jennifer.mckeane@novascotia.ca or (902) 717-3623

FCM Funding Opportunities

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

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
[Click here for more info.](#)

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

Make Yourself Comfortable

Staff and Councillors that are comfortable at work are productive at work. With the **NSFM/Canoe Furniture Program**, municipalities get access to furniture designers and manufacturers, such as **Humanscale**, who are recognized as experts in their fields, ensuring some of the best commercial furniture available. Best value pricing and preferential service is a recipe for success. **How it works:**

- Post a notice on your recognized electronic bid notification system to use the NSFM/Canoe Procurement Program.
- Contact the supplier of your choice, requesting program pricing
- Confirm purchase with a contract number

Read about how [Humanscale](#) eliminates harmful chemical from products

Take Your Fleet Further

Through leveraging the combined purchasing power of all member organizations, the **NSFM/Canoe Fuel & Lubricant Program** allows municipalities access to a nationwide network of fuel and lubricant providers at preferred pricing. The program has options for filling up at a nearby gas station, accessing cardlock, or arranging for bulk delivery. **How it works:**

- Contact Canoe Procurement for a free fuel analysis
- Canoe will provide a report based on the last three months of your fuel invoices versus what you would pay by switching to the program
- Upon confirming your intent to opt into the program, Canoe will provide relevant documents and fuel cards

Click [here](#) for more information

WEBINARS

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: [Canoe Procurement](#)

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 27, 4:00 p.m.](#)

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

Educating Property Owners on Risk Mitigation

Recently Blair Feltmate of the Intact Centre for Climate Adaptation shared crucial insights on how homeowners can protect their properties from extreme weather. Learn simple yet effective strategies by accessing the [informative infographics](#) to safeguard your property against climate change impacts.

[CityNews The Mike Farwell Show - Blair Feltmate Interview - YouTube](#)

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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