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Monday Memo



NOVA SCOTIA FEDERATION
OF MUNICIPALITIES

Remembering Annapolis Royal Deputy Mayor Pat Power

Long-serving Deputy Mayor Pat Power passed away on Friday, March 31, 2023. She was first elected as a councillor in November 2008 and served as Deputy Mayor for the last two council terms. She is sadly missed by all members of Council, Town Staff, and the community at large.

Deputy Mayor Power's commitment to the Town is exemplified most recently by her service on the Board of Police Commissioners, the Towns' Audit Committee, as the Town representative for the Annapolis Valley Regional Library Board, the Friends of the Library, the Annapolis West Health Foundation, and as alternate representative for the Interim Management Board which oversees Valley Waste and Kings Transit. She was also the Moderator for the Annapolis Royal Baptist Church. Deputy Mayor Power was always willing to help whenever asked. Just last month, she received the Lieutenant Governor and his wife on behalf of the Town at an event at King's Theatre.

As a member of Council, Deputy Mayor Power was always fully engaged and responsive to Council and staff requests for guidance and assistance. She always represented the views of her constituents. She was often heard to say how proud she was of "our little town."

Pat often spoke of her children, Steven and Rhonda, and many times brought her grandchildren into the Town office.

Inquiries may be directed to Amery Boyer at mayorboyer@annapolisroyal.com or 902.532.0056

Update on Retroactive Pay for RCMP Officers

Last week, NSFM was invited to attend an ad-hoc Contract Management Committee Meeting (CMC) in which Assistant Deputy Minister of Public Safety Canada, Talal Dakalbab, shared the federal government's decision regarding the retroactive pay for RCMP officers. In this meeting, ADM Dakalbab shared that the Treasury Board and Public Safety Canada have decided that municipalities must pay these retroactive pay amounts based on the current cost-share formula. ADM Dakalbab further explained that letters from Public Safety Canada and invoices with the specific amounts to be paid will be sent to contract holder by March 31, 2023, and that payment will be due by April 1, 2025.

This decision is disappointing as the only relief offered to municipalities is a slightly extended timeline for repayment. NSFM is engaging with other municipal associations that are represented on the CMC and joined a group call convened by FCM to determine our response to this decision. FCM and other municipal associations are set on expressing our disappointment with this decision and will be issuing a joint statement. With longer-term challenges in mind, FCM and NSFM wants to ensure municipalities are taken seriously and have a say in decisions that impact them.

NSFM will continue to provide updates on further developments.

ROOMS AT DIGBY PINES

If you've booked a room at Digby Pines that you don't plan to use, kindly call to the resort and release it so those on the waiting list can book a room.

EXCEEDING THE VISION

NSFM Spring Conference May 3-5, 2023 - Digby, NS

The 2023 NSFM Spring Conference will take place from May 3 – 5 at the Digby Pines Resort.

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

Local Leadership in Climate Action Projects will showcase innovative municipal climate action projects in Nova Scotia Municipalities. The presenters will outline how they brought the projects to fruition and how they acquired the funding to do so. Town of New Glasgow will showcase their new Community EV

provide Transit Options for Rural Areas; and the Department of Agriculture will outline the Dykeland System Upgrade from the Disaster Mitigation Fund.



[Be sure to register soon so you don't miss out on the early bird registration fee.](#)

Committee Appointment: AMANS Municipal Accessibility Steering Committee

From AMANS

The Municipal Accessibility Steering Committee is a volunteer-based committee that will determine the program direction and priorities to ensure it is meeting the needs of municipalities and villages.

Commitment Requirements:

Meetings will happen once a month for approximately 1-2 hours for the first several months while the committee settles into their work. The frequency of meetings can then be reassessed based on discussions within the committee who may decide to reduce the frequency of meetings to bi-monthly or quarterly meetings.

All committee meetings will take place virtually.

Committee members are asked to commit to participating for a 16-month (one and a half year) term from February 2023 – June 2024.

To apply, please submit a short description of your interests and experience to info@nsfm.ca.

[View the Terms of Reference here.](#)

Municipal Innovation Call for Expressions of Interest

Associate Professor Zachary Spicer (York University) and Assistant Professor Joseph Lyons (Western University) are completing a project about municipal innovation. The project consists of an edited book where municipal practitioners would be writing case studies about particular innovations in their community. They are looking for representation from Atlantic Canada.

Please feel free to review the call for Expressions of Interest [here](#).

Building Advisory Committee Call for Expression of Interest

As part of the provincial Agency, Boards, and Commissions (ABC) recruitment process, the Building Advisory Committee is seeking a nominee from NSFM. The Building Advisory Committee provides the Minister of DMAH with advice and assistance concerning the Building Advisory Act and regulations. For more information including Committee member requirements, please visit the Committee's ABC Profile and Selection Criteria page.

If you are interested in participating and meet the posted requirements, please submit an Expression of Interest to info@nsfm.ca.

While the NSFM Board of Directors nominates an elected official, the selection process is completed at the provincial level.

Construction and Demolition Debris Management

The Nova Scotia Department of Environment and Climate Change (the Department) has been engaging with external stakeholders to modernize how construction and demolition (C&D) debris is managed in Nova Scotia. We are now sharing the results of the targeted engagement, the updated Guidelines, and what you can expect next.

Results of Targeted Engagement and next steps

The What We Heard is attached and outlines the results of the targeted engagement that the Department undertook to establish the final Guidelines and how feedback has been addressed.

Finalized Guidelines

Amendments to the following Guidelines have been approved and are available online, here:

- [Solid Waste Management Facility Guidelines for Construction and Demolition \(C&D\) Debris Storage, Transfer, Process and Disposal](#)
- [Solid Waste Management Facility Guidelines for Municipal Waste Transfer Facilities](#)

The Guidelines, which outline minimum requirements for approval holders, will come into effect on July 5, 2023, aligning with the following two regulatory changes:

- Treated wood ban from disposal at C&D facilities
- Approvals required for processing, transfer, and storage of C&D material

Project leadership

If you have any questions, please reach out to the project lead, Don MacQueen (Donald.MacQueen@novascotia.ca).

CMHC Housing Accelerator Fund

The Housing Accelerator Fund – launching in summer 2023 – provides incentive funding to local governments to boost housing supply across Canada.

Learn about program and funding details, expected outcomes and resources to support your application:

[Register for the session on April 6, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. EST](#)

[Register for the session on April 13, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. EST](#)

Funding Available for Rural Transit

The Rural Transit Solutions Fund, Capital Projects Stream, is now [open for a second intake of applications](#). Eligible applicants, including rural municipalities, can seek funding of up to \$3 million to help cover the capital costs of new or expanded transit solutions (e.g., purchase of vehicles or digital platforms) and up to \$5 million to support zero-emission transit solutions (e.g., for the purchase of zero-emission vehicle(s)).

The Rural Transit Solutions Fund responds directly to FCM advocacy by supporting a wide range of delivery models for rural, remote, and small communities. [Register to the webinar to learn more.](#)

Infrastructure Canada Launches Call for Applications to Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund (DMAF)

The DMAF is a national, competitive, and merit-based contribution program intended to support infrastructure projects designed to mitigate current and future climate-related risks and disasters triggered by natural hazards, such as floods, wildland fires, droughts, and seismic events.

Eligible projects include new construction of public infrastructure and/or modification or reinforcement of existing public infrastructure, including natural infrastructure, that prevent, mitigate, or protect against the impacts of climate change, disasters triggered by natural hazards, and extreme weather.

[Information on the DMAF, including the applicant's guide, eligibility criteria, and how to apply, is available at this link.](#)

Applications must be submitted to Infrastructure Canada through the application portal accessible via the DMAF website. Applications will be accepted at any time before the portal closes on **July 19, 2023, at 3:00 p.m. (EDT)**.

[For program questions, contact dmaf-faac@infcc.gc.ca](mailto:dmaf-faac@infcc.gc.ca)

[Nova Scotia Prompt Payment Survey](#)

Submitted by the Nova Scotia Prompt Payment Team

Nova Scotia made changes to the *Builders' Lien Act* in 2019 and again in 2022 to allow for prompt payment and adjudication and has been working closely with CANS and a coalition of industry associations on drafting the regulations which will set the details for these processes.

Before finalizing the proposed regulations, the Province is seeking feedback from those who work with, and in the construction industry, regarding the proposed prompt payment and adjudication processes. It is important to receive feedback from the public and interested groups to ensure the development of this process is transparent to those impacted.

Applications are open: join the Accessibility Standards Canada (ASC) technical committees

ASC are recruiting members for three (3) new technical committees:

1. [Technical committee for Acoustics](#)
2. [Technical committee for the Design and Delivery of Accessible Programs and Services](#)
3. [Technical committee for Accessible Travel Journey](#)

To learn more about each individual technical committee or the members' role, click or press on one of the three links above.

Deadline: You have until **April 18, 2023**, to apply.

Diversity and inclusion are at the core of our organization. We aim for the same thing when creating our committees. We are looking for 12 to 18 members per committee in the following categories:

- People with disabilities
- Consumer and public interest
- Academic and research bodies
- Non-governmental organizations
- Government bodies and authorities with jurisdiction
- Labour and unions
- Standards development bodies
- Federally regulated industries and workplaces
- Federally regulated public sector bodies, municipalities, and territorial private-sector firms
- Business and industry

It could be you! Apply today by visiting the ASC website. [Creating accessibility standards - Accessibility Standards Canada](#)

Can't join? Please help us spread the word by sharing this opportunity within your network.

The Nova Scotia Health Authority Healthy Communities teams in Public Health have updated the [Canadian Guidance on Alcohol and Health](#).

Nova Scotia Walk Day on Wednesday May 10th

The goal of Nova Scotia Walk Day is to celebrate walking and how it connects us to our communities and to each other.

Hike Nova Scotia is inviting municipalities to host a short, friendly walk in their community any time that day.

[Sign up by Wed. April 26 to receive promotional materials.](#)



canoe

Upcoming Events

[Preliminary agenda for N.S. Main Streets Ideas Exchange now available](#)

Date: Thursday April 27, 2023

Time: 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Location: St. Francis Xavier University, Antigonish, N.S.

Description:

The preliminary agenda for NSFM's Main Streets Ideas Exchange event is now available online. 14 speakers and panelists have been confirmed, including keynote

[Register Here](#)

2 Billion Trees Call for Proposals Webinar

Reminder: [Submit your application](#) by for a decision by April 13, 2023, for a decision by October 2023.

Please Note: The online application system will be temporarily shut down for regular maintenance from Saturday April 8 at 8:00am– Monday April 10 at 8:00am EST.

Have questions about the application process? Attend our **Question and Answer Webinar session**. Details below.

When: April 5, 2023 11:00am-12:00pm ET (English Session)

Registration

link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/91012726471> After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

Details: This webinar will strictly be a **question and answer session** with program officials. For previous webinar materials that provide information about the program and the Call for Proposals, please send an email to: donotreply2BTfaq-nepasrepondrefaq2GA@nrcan-rncan.gc.ca. You will receive an automated response with the materials attached.

Social Media Accessibility Workshop with The Accessibility Directorate

This workshop will explore the importance of social media accessibility, focusing on practical steps you can take to make copy and content more accessible to all on platforms including Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

Save the date: **April 19, 2023, from 1:30 pm – 3:30 pm, on Zoom.**

[Register here.](#)

Webinars: Learn More About Electric Vehicle Fleets

New options for powering the vehicles municipalities use in their operations are rapidly coming to market. Knowing how these new pieces of equipment could fit into your operations can be a challenge. The Canoe Procurement Group brings together industry experts to let you know what is available today, what is coming in the near future, and how you can ensure any new technologies will be a successful addition to your community.

[An update on light duty vehicles, including the smaller vehicles that have been available for several years and pickup trucks just arriving on the market. Discussion includes options to keep vehicles charged, including both fleet and public charging stations.](#)

[Equipment used by Public Works and other departments to keep communities working. Suppliers for light-duty grounds maintenance equipment, medium and heavy construction equipment, and ice resurfacers comment on current and future electric equipment available.](#)

Webinars courtesy of Canoe Procurement Group



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