

[View this email in your browser](#)

Monday Memo



NOVA SCOTIA FEDERATION
OF MUNICIPALITIES

NSFM 2024 SPRING CONFERENCE

Future-Focused Municipalities: PIONEERING SOLUTIONS

May 8-10, Inverary Inn, Baddeck, NS

PROGRAM CHANGE: The Hon. Sean Fraser, tentatively scheduled for May 10, is unable to attend. In place, DMAH will provide an update on the Department of Emergency Management and the Nova Scotia Guard.

There is incredible value attending an NSFM event for you and your municipality. **Future-Focused Municipalities: Pioneering Solutions** will be no different.

We are offering the exceptional value expected from NSFM. Attendees will participate in presentations, discussions, and educational and networking opportunities focusing on topics such as Untangling Government Relations, Innovative Tourism Strategies, Coastal Protection, and more.

Reasons to attend the 2024 Spring Conference?

- **Informative Sessions:** Gain insights directly from provincial crown corporations on their municipal initiatives, discover cutting-edge solutions for tourism, and explore how other municipalities are leading in climate change adaptation
- **Insightful Speakers:** Connect with industry experts, fellow municipal leaders, and forward-thinking changemakers from across Nova Scotia
- **Network and Collaborate:** Forge valuable connections with your peers and our inspiring speakers; foster partnerships and collaboration opportunities

[VIEW PROGRAM DETAILS AND REGISTER HERE](#)

NEWS

[Calls to Change Property Assessments Following Wildfires](#)

[Coordinator to Help With Coastal Protection Plans](#)

[East Hants Aims to Better Prepare for Emergencies with New Role](#)

[New Home for CBRM Pallet Shelters](#)

[Partnership Formalized for Chignecto Isthmus Work](#)

[Province to Fund Municipal Coastal Protection Coordinator](#)

[Victoria County to Stop Accepting Fish Plant Waste](#)

NEW & NOTEWORTHY

Federal Budget Recap

The [2024 Federal Budget](#) was released April 16. Some key highlights:

- Spending: \$457 billion
- Expenses: \$497 billion
- Deficit: \$40 billion
- Investments in housing, infrastructure, and community safety initiatives that will affect municipalities
- \$6-billion Canada Housing Infrastructure Fund with \$1 billion for urgent community infrastructure (including water and wastewater management)
- \$5 billion for conditional agreements with provinces and territories to support long-term priorities
- \$400 million top-up to the Housing Accelerator Fund
- CCBF funding of \$2.5 billion
- Additional \$800,000 for Natural Resources Canada to help build wildfire fighting capacity and enhance training
- [More information](#)

Session: Offshore Wind Development

In 2022, the federal Ministers of Environment and Natural Resources and the provincial Minister of Natural Resources and Renewables established a Committee to conduct a Regional Assessment of offshore wind energy development in NS. The

Information can be found [here](#)

- What: Mayors, Wardens, & CAOs Call
- Topic: Regional Assessment of Offshore Wind Development
- Date: April 24
- Time/Location: 5 pm-6 pm Online
- Presentation: The Committee will be presenting on the Interim Report
- Register in advance for this meeting [here](#)

Low Carbon Leadership Conference

This interactive workshop-style conference will explore what municipalities and community leaders need to know to proactively plan for and action community and neighbourhood scale low and zero carbon projects in NS.

- June 25 9 am - 4:30 pm
- Inn on Prince, Truro
- \$25 +HST, includes continental breakfast, lunch, and refreshments
- [Register here](#)

Presented by:

- NSFM
 - Province of NS LCC Program
 - FBM Architecture & Interior Design
- Planning together toward energy efficient neighbourhoods**

FUNDING

Opportunities for Empowered Municipal Growth

The NSFM Funding Database is a centralized resource dedicated to our members to help find municipal funding opportunities. A monthly funding update will also be communicated, outlining deadlines and information sessions. Click [here](#) to see the latest updates on the Municipal Funding Database.

This week:

- [Active Communities Fund](#) open
- [Build and Mobilize Foundational Wildland Fire Knowledge](#) open
- [Community Economic Development Fund](#) open
- [Community Recreation Capital Grant](#) open
- [Environmental Damages Fund](#) not available in NS
- [Farm Credit Canada AgriSpirit Fund](#) can be used for fire departments
- New [Grant Finder](#) tool for CCTH funding, share with community groups
- [New rebates](#) for larger zero-emission vehicles
- [Planning Assistance Program](#) open
- Quest Canada [Pan-Atlantic Net-zero Community Accelerator Program](#)
- [Recreation Community Development Grant](#) open
- Tourism NS [Emerging Destinations Program](#) open

FCM Funding Opportunities

The Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) offers grants for planning, studies, and pilot projects. Loans are available for capital projects and most recipients receive an additional grant of up to 15% of their loan amount. [More information](#)

PROGRAMS

Expertec: Tailored Decisions for Diverse Industries

In the fast-paced and demanding environments of trade industries, efficiency and reliability are paramount. Industries such as these require equipment to be reliable, flexible, and accessible to guarantee operational efficiency. Expertec understands these unique challenges and designs aluminum service bodies to meet and exceed expectations. [Read the latest article from Expertec](#) to learn how they provide durable, efficient, and customizable solutions across multiple industries. **Expertec** is a partner of the **NSFM/Canoe Procurement Program**.

Firefighting Apparatus Program

Emergency responders tackle some of your most critical operations. Ensuring safety during fires is critical. The **NSFM/Canoe Firefighting Apparatus Program** provides you with firetrucks you can count on, all with a simplified procurement process and competitive rates. The program works with local retailers for supply, service, and support. **NSFM/Canoe = Local.** [Learn more](#)

NSFM/Canoe Supplier List

We strive to continually provide a wide range of procurement options to our membership. Here is the latest [list of new suppliers and recently renewed contracts with current suppliers](#). Approved suppliers are selected through an open RFP process

products and services and would you like to learn more about using [Canoe Procurement](#)? The program works with local retailers for supply, service, and support. **NSFM/Canoe = Local. Canoe Procurement is a program partner of NSFM.**

Tips: How to Save Money on Insurance

We are all looking for ways to be savvier about how we are spending our money. Whether cutting back on eating out or looking at what household expenses could be shaved back, everyone is trying to keep some extra dollars in their wallet. Trying to save money in different areas of your budget? Look over your insurance policies. [Tips on how to save money on your insurance.](#)

Did you know that you can receive exclusive insurance discounts on your personal home and auto insurance through BrokerLink's group insurance program? [More information.](#)

When a BrokerLink group member requests a quote on car or home insurance between January 1 and December 31 they will be entered to win 1 of 4 cash prizes of \$5,000. Next draw period ends June 30! Learn more at www.BrokerLink.ca/contest-rules.

Contact BrokerLink: 1.833.998.3798 or BrokerLink.ca/municipalities-NS
BrokerLink is a program partner of NSFM.

NS Walk Day: May 8

Celebrate NS Walk Day, enter your name to win wellness prizes, and walk on May 8. This is a great opportunity to bring your organization together to enjoy the many physical, social, and mental health benefits of walking. Sign up individually or as a team.

If your municipal unit is a subscriber to the NSFM benefits programs, you will also be eligible to win prizes provided by the **AMANS Wellness Program**.

- Date: May 8
- Walk Duration: 20–60 min
- Registration deadline: April 25
- Registration link: [2024 Sign-Up](#)

WEBINARS

Amplifying Climate Awareness

April 24 @ 10 am

NSFM is pleased to present a free one-hour webinar for all members. Learn from the Canadian Centre for Climate Services and CLIMAtlantic about:

- Climate trends and projections for Nova Scotia
- Tools, resources, and services available to apply climate data in your own work
- Examples of what others are doing to adapt to climate change
- Participate through interactive polling and a question period

Presenters:

- Casey Clunas, Canadian Centre for Climate Services
- Frances Delaney, Canadian Centre for Climate Services
- Alex Cadel, CLIMAtlantic
- [Register here](#)

Webinar: The Canoe Method of Procurement

The **NSFM/Canoe Procurement Program** presents the following one-hour webinar: **The Canoe Way**. Join us for this informative session on group procurement as Tony De Sciscio shares valuable insights on the benefits of Canoe Procurement.

Tony is a Contract Manager for the Canoe Procurement Group, supporting supplier relationships in Eastern and Atlantic Canada. With over two decades of experience in procurement and supply chain management, Tony has honed his skills in public and non-profit group purchasing, mobile and industrial power solutions, and tier 2 auto manufacturing sectors.

- May 2 @ 12 noon
- [Register here](#)

Webinar: The Health Effects of Wildfire Smoke

Health Canada will present a one-hour webinar about the health effects and protective measures related to wildfire smoke. The one-hour discussion will be led by Maureen Robinson, regional air quality and health specialist for the Atlantic region. Topics include the Air Quality Health Index, protection of indoor spaces, actions to

Canada resources.

- Date: May 8 @ 2 pm
- [Register here](#)

Webinar: Streamlining Municipal Procurement

The **NSFM/Canoe Procurement Program** presents the following webinar: **Streamlining Municipal Procurement: Compliance and Best Practices**. The webinar is tailored for CAOs and municipal procurement professionals and offers insight into developing a straightforward procurement policy framework, emphasizing compliance with key trade agreements (CFTA, NWPTA, and CETA), and effective solicitation strategies. Hosted by Stéphanie Dion, a distinguished procurement professional with 19 years of experience across diverse public sectors in Canada. She currently serves as the procurement manager for the Canoe Procurement Group. Highlights:

- Overview: creating a compliant, efficient, procurement policy, solicitation strategies, overview of RFPs, RFTs, etc., and choosing the right one
- Who Should Attend: municipal procurement staff and staff aiming for enhanced compliance, efficiency, and innovation in their processes
- Date: May 23 12 noon-1 pm
- [Register now](#)

Webinar Recording: Home & Auto Insurance

Did you miss our webinar on the **NSFM Personal Home & Auto Insurance Program**? BrokerLink is proud to provide quality insurance products, expertise, and solutions to our sector. Their dedicated group insurance advisors will compare your coverage options and help get you the most comprehensive coverage at the best value. This webinar recording explains how the program works, how access works, and how you, as an elected leader or municipal staffer, can benefit from lower insurance rates and value-added education on insurance products. [Click here](#).

Webinar Recording: HR OnCall

Did you miss our webinar on **HR OnCall**? NSFM in partnership with HR OnCall offers HR support for municipal units in Nova Scotia. This webinar discusses how you can access a dedicated team of professionals that can help guide you through the challenges of leading people and building an HR infrastructure with HR OnCall. This webinar also explains how the program works, how access works, and how you can benefit from HR guidance, expert consultation, reduce risk, gain peace of mind, and save time and money. [Click here](#).

Webinar Recording: EAP for Elected Officials

Did you miss the recent webinar presented by NSFM and AMANS on the **EAP for Elected Officials**? The webinar discussed how to access and navigate the programs and services offered and provided an overview of the new website and app. The program features an extensive number of tools and resources of benefit to elected leaders. You can view the webinar [here](#).

FEATURED

Know Your ABCs: Applications Open

The Government of Nova Scotia is seeking applicants to serve on agencies, boards, and commissions (ABCs). Apply now apply to volunteer for various roles across more than 140 ABCs, including the Workers' Compensation Board, Apprenticeship Board, and the Labour Board.

- Application deadline: May 22
- More information: NovaScotia.ca/abc

Open House Dates: Offshore Wind Development

Learn about the Regional Assessment of Offshore Wind Development in NS, get answers to questions and share thoughts. Sessions are 5 pm-7:30 pm. Refreshments available.

- April 22 - Port Hawkesbury Civic Centre
- April 25 - The Simon Hotel, Sydney
- May 9 - Club des retraités de Chéticamp

More information, contact: OffshoreWindNS-EolienneExtracotiereNE@iaac-aeic.gc.ca

Provincial Career Fair

The NS Health provincial career fair enables visitors to discover a career or volunteer opportunity that improves healthcare in your community. Connect directly with hiring managers, match skills and interests with the department, and share resumes quickly using a QR code at one of 11 locations across the province.

- Click [here](#) for more information

CMHC Engagement Session: Housing Design Catalogue

The federal government plans to create a catalogue of standardized housing designs and has launched consultations with industry partners. The intent of the initiative is to get homes built faster, more efficiently, and more affordably. Standardized housing designs are expected to reduce the time required for design and construction while supporting new and innovative construction methods. If interested, please attend a one-hour engagement session and come prepared for a technical discussion on the issues and questions outlined in the consultation paper. Written submission welcome.

- More information: catalogue@infcc.gc.ca
- Date: May 2 @ 2 pm
- [Register here](#)

RESOURCES

[Winter Municipal Observer](#)

The magazine for the **Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities**

[Atlantic Municipal Magazine](#)

The regional magazine for the **Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities**



NOVA SCOTIA FEDERATION
OF MUNICIPALITIES



Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities

Suite #1304, 1809 Barrington Street

Halifax NS B3J 3K8

Phone: (902) 423-8331

info@nsfm.ca

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).