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## Monday Memo



NOVA SCOTIA FEDERATION  
OF MUNICIPALITIES

### ADVISORY COMMITTEE NEWS!

#### Advisory Committee Overview Guide

We are pleased to introduce the **Advisory Committee Overview**, a comprehensive guide designed to help you actively engage with our five advisory committees: Public Safety, Climate Change, Municipal Infrastructure, Municipal Autonomy, and Equity and Community Wellbeing. These committees play a crucial role in shaping how NSFM represents the interests of its members. [Click Here for the Guide](#)

This practical how-to manual offers valuable insights into the objectives, functions, and collaborative opportunities within each committee. Crafted with the intent to **empower your council**, it aims to enable effective and meaningful contributions to NSFM's member-driven focus and advocacy goals.

### INVITATION

#### Committee Membership Needed

The **Equity & Community Wellbeing Committee** has commenced its work. The Committee will provide opportunities for education and knowledge sharing among the membership related to the promotion of the voices of underrepresented individuals in local government and collaboration among diverse community stakeholders. Chaired by Councillor Alison Graham, the committee is looking for one additional elected official to join.

- Committees meet 4 times a year to review advocacy issues generated by the membership
- Terms of Reference are available
- Stay tuned for additional updates via our website, newsletter, and member communications

Have an interest in this Committee? Please forward your name and a background brief to [imorrison@nsfm.ca](mailto:imorrison@nsfm.ca) **Deadline: February 29**

### CALL OUT!

#### Call for Youth Engagement Success Stories!

##### NSFM Spring Conference 2024 – May 8-10

Do you have a remarkable youth engagement success story to share? We invite you to showcase your municipality's achievements at the upcoming NSFM Spring Conference!

##### Why Share Your Story?

**Inspire Others:** Your success can motivate fellow leaders to enhance youth engagement in their communities.

**Learn and Connect:** Exchange insights and build valuable connections with peers.

**Presentation Opportunity:** Selected submissions will be featured on a panel during the conference. The planning committee will select up to three submissions to be featured.

**How to Participate:** Submit your success story by **MARCH 1** to [jwebber@nsfm.ca](mailto:jwebber@nsfm.ca)

**Join Us in Shaping the Future:** Celebrate your municipality's dedication to youth empowerment and contribute to a vibrant discussion on community building in Nova Scotia. Don't miss this chance to make a difference!

**Inquiries:** [jwebber@nsfm.ca](mailto:jwebber@nsfm.ca).

**More information on the NSFM 2024 Spring Conference coming soon!**

#### Unlock NS's Tourism Potential: Share Your Unique Innovations!

##### NSFM Spring Conference 2024 – May 8-10

Do you have a groundbreaking tourism initiative that sets your community apart? We are also seeking innovative ideas on tourism in your communities to showcase at the upcoming spring conference. Whether it's an off-the-beaten-path attraction, an initiative to inspire locals to explore their own backyard or a creative event, we want to hear about it!

##### Why Share Your Idea?

**Inspire Others:** Your innovative approach could spark new ideas and collaborations among municipalities across Nova Scotia.

**Gain Recognition:** Selected submissions will have the opportunity to present on a panel at the conference, gaining visibility and recognition for your municipality's tourism efforts.

**Contribute to Growth:** By sharing your unique innovation, you contribute to the growth and diversification of Nova Scotia's tourism industry.

**How to Participate:** Submit your idea by March 1 to [jwebber@nsfm.ca](mailto:jwebber@nsfm.ca). Don't miss this chance to showcase your municipality's ingenuity.

To review the **By-election Nominations Committee Report** detailing the outcomes of the three vacant Regional Representative positions on the 2023-2024 Board of Directors, [Click Here](#)

- Colchester/Cumberland/Pictou/East Hants Electoral Region
- Valley Electoral Region
- Southwestern Shore Electoral Region

## NEWS

[After wildfire evacuations, more communities are thinking about emergency exits](#)

[CBRM volunteer fire chiefs, management talk on changes due to budget crunch](#)

[HFX announces registry to help vulnerable people during outages, emergencies](#)

[Historic snowfall brings areas of N.S. to a halt](#)

[Majority of Atlantic Canadians support national flood insurance program: survey](#)

[NS Premier questioning CBRM's decision to declare a state of emergency](#)

[N.S. storm: Province requests federal aid after 'massive' winter snowfall](#)

[Politics and the City: Why Municipal is the New Federal](#)

[Richmond Council sticks with paper ballots](#)

[Stellarton neighbourhood overrun with domestic bunnies](#)

## FUNDING

### Unleash Fiscal Opportunities for Empowered Municipal Growth

The **NSFM Funding Database** is centralized resource is 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**.

Funding to train [Residential Building Officials](#) is available, deadline March 1.

FCM's [Green Municipal Fund](#) has revised its programs!

[Rural Transit Solutions Fund](#) will close the capital stream on Feb 28.

[Funding for Forestry](#). Initiatives have been added to the database.

[Civil Forfeiture Grant Program](#) is open for continuous intake.

[Festival and Community Event Development](#) program is open, deadline Feb 28.

### FCM Funding Opportunities

On February 7, Scott Pearce, president of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), announced today that its [Green Municipal Fund](#) (GMF) is revising its core funding to enhance its flexibility and adaptability and maximize its impact.

[Click here](#) to find more information.

## PROGRAMS

### Waste Management Equipment

The **NSFM/Canoe Waste Management Equipment Program** has partnered with leading manufacturers of innovative waste management vehicles and equipment. With a wide variety of suppliers to choose from, you will be able to find the products that meet your specific needs. Click [here](#) for more information. The program works with local retailers for supply, service, and support. **NSFM/Canoe = Local**.

### Heavy Construction Equipment

Heavy equipment plays a pivotal role on the frontline. The **NSFM/Canoe Heavy Construction Equipment Program** offers access to reliable machines, such as graders, bulldozers, excavators, backhoes, loaders, dump trucks, and more, at preferred pricing and fully compliant with trade standards. The program works with local retailers for supply, service, and support. **NSFM/Canoe = Local**. [More information](#)

### HR OnCall from People First HR

NSFM and AMANS have partnered with HR OnCall to offer municipal units, regardless of size or scope, expertise, and practical solutions to meet their human resource needs. NSFM members will receive a special program rate of \$60/month (\$720 annually) for the service. Gain access to best practices and advice for your HR inquiries when you need it.

[Click here for the NSFM Subscription](#)

[Click here for HR OnCall Service Options](#)

[Click here for HR OnCall FAQs](#)

### Preferred Insurance Rates for Elected Leaders & Staff

Did you know that you can receive exclusive insurance discounts on your **personal home and auto insurance** through BrokerLink's group 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.

[Click here to learn about the program benefits and how BrokerLink can provide you with a free, no-obligations insurance quote. Thinking about travelling soon? \[Travel Tips & Insurance\]\(#\).](#)

### Grand Group Giveaway

When a BrokerLink group member requests a quote on car or home insurance between January 1 and December 31, 2024, they will be entered to win 1 of 4 cash prizes of \$5,000. Don't miss your chance to save on insurance and win some cash in the Grand Group Giveaway. Learn more at [www.BrokerLink.ca/contest-rules](http://www.BrokerLink.ca/contest-rules)  
Contact BrokerLink today: Call 1-833-998-3798, or visit [BrokerLink.ca/municipalities-NS](http://BrokerLink.ca/municipalities-NS)

**BrokerLink is a program partner of the NSFM.**

### GoodLife Fitness Discount

Municipal employees and elected officials can access the **GoodLife Fitness Discount Program**. **Features include:**

- 30% corporate discount off club pricing.
- Access to professionally trained staff, while receiving
- No enrollment fees
- All municipal employees and elected officials are eligible for this program. You do not need to be an AMANS member

Visit our [NEW](#) website for more information on the GLF Membership Discount Program

To register for the program or obtain more information, contact [mbower@amans.ca](mailto:mbower@amans.ca)

### LIFT Fitness

If your municipality or municipal unit is a subscriber to the **TELUS Health EAP program**, check out the FREE [LIFT Fitness Program](#).

Benefits:

- full suite of FREE fitness offerings that make working out exciting, easy, and efficient
- custom programs created by certified experts to help you reach your goals
- Live chat with experienced fitness professionals to help you every step of the way
- Just like working out at your gym or studio without ever stepping outside

More information, contact [mbower@amans.ca](mailto:mbower@amans.ca)

## WEBINARS

### Preferred Insurance Rates for Elected Leaders & Staff

Did you know that you can receive exclusive insurance discounts on your **personal home and auto insurance** through BrokerLink's group 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 explains how the program works, how access works, and how you can benefit from lower insurance rates and value-added education on insurance products.

#### Eligibility

- Municipal leaders
- Municipal staff
- Family members living in the same household, including spouse/common law spouse, dependents under the age of 21, or 25 (if attending a post secondary institution full time)
- Retirees

February 28: 2-3 pm (AST) [Register Here](#)

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

**BrokerLink is a program partner of the Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities.**

### Recording: A Sustainable Future for Your Fleet Vehicles

Navistar, a partner in the **NSFM/Canoe Procurement Program**, offered a presentation on Navistar's current and future plans for fleet electrification and sustainable transportation. The recording of the webinar, courtesy of [Association of Municipalities of Ontario](#), is available at the following link:

[A Sustainable Future with Navistar - Canoe Procurement Group | JAS](#)

## COURSES

### Accessibility Foundations Train the Trainer

The Accessibility Foundations Train the Trainer program includes a 2-module, live, facilitated, virtual workshop series based on foundational accessibility and disability topics. Note, you must attend both modules to graduate as a trainer. If you are part of a previous Train the Trainer cohort but did not complete both modules, we invite you to sign up for the module you need to complete the course.

[Register for Workshop #1](#): Monday, February 26, 1–4 pm

[Register for Workshop #2](#): Monday, March 4, 1–4 pm

**Please register and send any accessibility requirements by February 12, 2024.**

## RESOURCES

### [Winter Municipal Observer](#)

The magazine for the Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities

### [Atlantic Municipal Magazine](#)

The magazine for Atlantic Canadian municipalities



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