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Monday Memo



NOVA SCOTIA FEDERATION
OF MUNICIPALITIES



We Stand Together

The past week has been a difficult one for our province and our members. Our thoughts are with the municipalities and their staff and leadership; agencies, personnel, and leadership at all levels of government; service/volunteer agencies; and brave first responders as they deal with the extreme flooding conditions that have again affected our beautiful province.

Our thoughts also extend to all Nova Scotians and their families, friends, pets, and livestock that have been affected by the flooding. We are thankful for the first responders and the many volunteers that have provided and continue to provide support. We are inspired by the sense of kindness that exists within our communities. **Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities is present to serve our members in any way possible.**

NEW & NOTEWORTHY

Accessibility Directorate Update

The Accessibility Directorate is responsible for administering the Accessibility Act and advancing disability issues within government. The department works collaboratively with persons with disabilities, municipalities, businesses, post-secondary institutions, and others to achieve the goal of an accessible Nova Scotia by 2030. For an update on accessibility-related activities that are underway or coming up at the Accessibility Directorate and other related areas, refer to the [Breaking Barriers](#) update.

More information: accessibility@novascotia.ca

Provincial Policing Survey

Nova Scotians are asked to share their opinions and perspectives about the current state of policing in the province, as well as their vision of what policing should look like in the future. The Department of Justice has launched an anonymous survey as part of the Province's comprehensive review of policing services. **You are encouraged to complete the [survey](#) and share. Survey deadline: July 31.**

LFRC Update

The **Library Funding Review Committee (LFRC)** met on June 21 and July 5. Topics included:

- presentation of research on projected funding levels for library staffing (June 21)
- review of funding research on staffing, technology, and collections (July 5)
- directed a working group to provide a more integrated funding approach to develop library funding options for the committee to review

Updates will be shared periodically. More information: lynn.somers@novascotia.ca

Community Partner Consultations

The Province is holding consultations with community partners to discuss feedback on proposed changes to the *Labour Standards Code* in relation to paid domestic violence leave. This consultation is intended to obtain feedback on proposed changes to the *General Labour Standards Code Regulations* to increase the number of paid days for domestic violence leave from three paid days to five paid days. A background document is available, by request, in relation to proposed changes to address these issues. Feedback can be provided through written submissions or participation in a virtual meeting.

- **Deadline for feedback:** August 26
- **More information, questions, responses:** cynthia.yazbek@novascotia.ca

Canadian Navigable Waters Act (CNWA)

Indigenous Peoples, stakeholders, and other orders of government across the country.

Following the "What We Heard" Report's publication, the CNWA legislative review team will finalize its analysis of all comments received and develop the final recommendations. The analysis and recommendations will be reflected in the final report which is due to the Minister of Transport in August, after which it will be tabled in Parliament and then posted online in the fall.

CNWA Legislative Review Team TC.CNWAreview-ExamenLENC.TC@tc.gc.ca

NEWS

[Chester village residents worry new density could worsen water issues](#)
[Decades-old plan to 'daylight' downtown Dartmouth river enters final phase](#)
[Halifax councillor opens up for Pride](#)
[Inverness County looks to trim costs related to new Port Hastings roundabout](#)
[N.S. Heritage Trust asks Halifax council not to demolish old memorial library](#)

FUNDING

Opportunities for Empowered Municipal Growth

The NSFМ 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.

- [Zero Emissions Vehicle Infrastructure Program](#) is open.
- [Access to Justice in Both Official Languages Support Fund](#) is open.
- National Anti-Racism Fund, [Event and Youth Initiative Grant](#) is open.
- [Local Leadership for Climate Adaption](#) is open.
- [Green Industrial Facilities and Manufacturing Program](#) is open.
- [Digital Museums](#) grants are open for 2024.
- [Intersectoral Action Fund](#) is open.
- [Sustainable Jobs Stream - Canadian Apprenticeship Strategy - Union Training and Innovation Program](#) is open.

FCM Funding Opportunities

FCM has you covered with the right type of project funding. Grants are available 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

Understanding NSFМ/Canoe Procurement

Do you need help finding cost-effective products and services and would you like to learn more about using [Canoe Procurement](#)?

Andy Saxby is here to help. Andy is the member outreach representative for Nova Scotia municipal units. He is your direct contact for the Canoe program. In his role, Andy helps local governments and non-profits find time and cost-saving benefits on a wide variety of municipal needs. He also provides educational sessions and support to help members navigate the cooperative procurement process. The program works with local retailers for supply, service, and support. **NSFM/Canoe = Local.**

Contact: andy@canoeprocurement.ca or (902) 417-2575

NSFM/Canoe Paint Supply

We live in a colourful world, so why limit your projects to shades of grey? With the **Canoe Paint Supply Program**, you can access a wide range of architectural and commercial paint, wall coverings, and tools that will help you get the job done right. Our program is fully trade compliant, cuts through the administrative hassles, and gives you exclusive access to preferential pricing and services. [The program](#) works with local retailers for supply, service, and support. **NSFM/Canoe = Local.**

NSFM/Canoe Drone

The **NSFM/Canoe Drone Program** offers you access to innovative 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. The program works with local retailers for supply, service, and support. **NSFM/Canoe = Local.** [Learn about the NSFМ/Canoe Drone Program](#)

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.**

Pet Insurance

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. Did you know that over the past two years there has been an increase in **pet ownership**? Learn more about [pet insurance](#) and refer to tips on how to ensure your pets are safe and living their best life.

[Click here](#) to learn about the program benefits and how BrokerLink can provide you with a **free, no-obligations insurance quote**.

Park'N Fly Discount

The **NSFM/Park'N Fly Discount Program** is now available for elected municipal leaders and municipal staff within the broader municipal sector. Under this program, you can receive an exclusive discount on the services of Park'N Fly for business or leisure travel at their Halifax Stanfield International Airport location and at six other locations across Canada.

With a network that spans coast-to-coast, Park'N Fly is focused on providing customers with cost-effective parking options while enjoying a park happy experience every stay. Reserve your next stay and save. Plus, earn valuable Aeroplan points on every eligible stay. **Park'N Fly offers a discount of up to 20% on airport parking.** [More information.](#)

The Working Mind

The **Municipal Wellness Program** is committed to creating a culture of health and wellness for municipal employees and elected officials. **The Working Mind** is virtual and interactive training is designed to:

- increase awareness of mental health
- reduce stigma and other barriers to care in the workplace
- encourage mental health conversations
- more information: [Click Here](#)
- Cost: Members \$50; Non-Members \$75

Upcoming Sessions:

- [July 16](#) (for Employees)
- [July 18](#) (for People Leaders)
- [August 13](#) (for People Leaders)
- [August 15](#) (for Employees)

More information, contact: mbower@amans.ca

WEBINARS

HR OnCall: Recording

Did you miss our webinar on the **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](#)

The Canoe Way: Recording

NSFM and **Canoe Procurement Group** recently hosted a webinar outlining Canoe's operations and its role in public procurement, how suppliers can find opportunities with Canoe, details about Canoe's RFP process, compliance requirements, the benefits for both members and suppliers, and the support provided to approved suppliers post-contract award. Missed the webinar? The [recording](#) and [presentation slides](#) are now available to view.

RESOURCES

[Summer Municipal Observer](#)

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

[Atlantic Municipal Magazine](#)

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



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