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## Monday Memo



NOVA SCOTIA FEDERATION  
OF MUNICIPALITIES

### NSFM 2024 SPRING CONFERENCE AHEAD!

**Future-Focused Municipalities:  
PIONEERING SOLUTIONS**  
May 8-10, Inverary Inn, Baddeck, NS



**Get ready for a couple days of innovation, collaboration, and learning** at our upcoming Spring Conference! From May 8–10, we welcome municipal leaders, experts, and stakeholders for engaging sessions, insightful discussions, and networking opportunities in beautiful Baddeck, Nova Scotia. For those registered, you'll be exploring key topics shaping our communities'. For those not attending, we hope to see you at the next one! Stay tuned for updates and announcements. We can't wait to see you there! **View the program [Click Here](#)**.

### NEWS

[Cape Breton housing bylaw change could help people living with disabilities](#)

[Critics pan rationale for N.S. government's coastal protection survey](#)

[Glooscap First Nation - Clean Energy Support](#)

[Halifax mayor draws record crowd for final 'State of the Municipality' address](#)

[Richmond County developing vulnerable persons registry for emergency response](#)

### NEW & NOTEWORTHY

#### Community Partner Consultations

The Province is holding consultations with community partners to discuss feedback on proposed changes to the *Labour Standards Code* to establish job protection for employees facing a serious illness or injury and to enhance the existing unpaid sick leave provisions for general illness. A backgrounder is available, by request, in relation to proposed changes to address these issues.

- **Deadline for feedback:** May 31
- **More information, questions, responses:** [cynthia.yazbek@novascotia.ca](mailto:cynthia.yazbek@novascotia.ca)



#### 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 9:00 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

#### Summary: Federal Housing Measures

The federal government made a series of recent announcements leading up to [Canada's Housing Plan](#) and [Budget 2024](#). These include new policies, initiatives, and changes to existing plans. Please refer to this [summary](#), prepared by Springboard Policy.

## 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.

- [Green Municipal Fund](#) webinar for Nova Scotia Municipalities, local examples will be used.
  - Please [register here](#) for the session on May 23, 11:00am.
- DMAH Programs are now open:
  - [Provincial Capital Assistance Program](#)
  - [Flood Risk Infrastructure Investment Program](#)
  - [Beautification and Streetscaping Program](#)
  - [Municipal Innovation Program](#)
  - [Emergency Services Provider Fund](#)
  - [Community Works Program](#)
- [Trail Engineering Assistance Grant Program](#) is open for applications.
- [Trail Expansion Grant Program](#) will open EOI in September.
- [Nature Smart Climate Solutions Fund](#) is expected to open this Summer. Municipalities are encouraged to propose ideas and apply.
- Capital and planning streams of [Zero Emission Transit Fund](#) are both open.
- Funding for [small craft harbours](#) in the Budget 2024.

## 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

### Safe School Zones

The **NSFM/Canoe Traffic Supply Program** enables municipalities to partner with major traffic sign suppliers, such as ATS. School zones are busy with on-going traffic at crucial times of the day. To optimize the safety of all road users, you need to maximize motorist compliance by keeping everyone alert. Carmanah R829-MX school zone beacons do exactly that by making the vital elements of a school zone atmosphere hard to miss. [Build an MX Series School Zone System today and keep your school zones safer.](#) The program works with local retailers for supply, service, and support. **NSFM/Canoe = Local.**

### Staples Professional: Office Solutions

Through the **NSFM/Canoe Procurement Program**, Staples Professional offers solutions for almost any need, featuring competitive pricing and sustainable options. Learn more about how to [customize your breakroom](#) or [re-imagine your workplace](#). This program works with local retailers for supply, service, and support. **NSFM/Canoe = Local.**

### NSFM/Canoe Keeps Your Fleet Moving

The **NSFM/Canoe Auto Parts Program** partners with NAPA Auto Parts to make your budget go further. NAPA has products designed for both small and large fleet customers with the most extensive coverage in the automotive aftermarket. A national team of fleet specialists are available to support you and your fleet with inventory support, cost analysis, and reporting to ensure that you always understand your spend and where it's going. [NAPA specials this month!](#) The program works with local retailers for supply, service, and support. **NSFM/Canoe = Local.**

### 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](#)

### Home Insurance Tips: Backyard Pools

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. As temperatures begin to rise it is a good signal to start preparations for getting your backyard pool ready for the warmer weather. Have a pool or thinking about one? Read the [Pool Owners Guide](#) to insurance.

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. Don't miss your chance to save on insurance and win some cash in the Grand Group Giveaway. Learn more at [BrokerLink.ca/contest-rules](#)

## WEBINARS

### 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

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

### 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](#)

### Municipal Flood Risk Tool

Interested in learning more about the Municipal Flood Risk tool and how it can benefit municipalities? Listen to this interview with **Joanna Eyquem**, from the Intact Centre for Climate Adaptation [here](#).

The **Intact Centre for Climate Adaptation** is an education partner of the **NSFM Municipal Group Insurance Program**.

## FEATURED

### 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.

- **May 9** - Club des retraités de Chéticamp
- **May 23** - Shelburne Community Centre, Shelburne
- **May 27** - Chedabucto Lifestyle Complex, Guysborough
- **May 29** - Royal Canadian Legion, Sheet Harbour
- **June 4** - Pictou County Wellness Centre, New Glasgow
- **June 5** - The Arts Sanctuary Centre, Dartmouth

More info contact: [OffshoreWindNS-EolienneExtracotiereNE@iaac-aeic.gc.ca](mailto:OffshoreWindNS-EolienneExtracotiereNE@iaac-aeic.gc.ca)

## 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**



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