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Monday Memo



NOVA SCOTIA FEDERATION
OF MUNICIPALITIES

2024 NSFM FALL CONFERENCE



Registration is now open for NSFM's 2024 Annual Conference!

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

This year's conference marks an important gathering, as it will be the first NSFM event following the October municipal elections. It offers a unique opportunity for newly formed councils to come together with returning leaders, government officials, and experts to address the pressing issues impacting our communities.

The program includes:

- A keynote presentation by Olympic gold medalist and host of Amazing Race Canada Jon Montgomery.
- Panels on renewable energy, policing, good governance, cybersecurity, and much more.
- Networking sessions, exhibitor showcases, and discussions with political leaders.



We look forward to seeing you all there!

Our Presenting Sponsor:



MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS

Things To Know Before You Run For Municipal Office in 2024

Thinking about running for municipal office this year? NSFM has you covered! We've developed a comprehensive tool designed to help prospective candidates understand what it takes to serve their communities effectively. [CLICK HERE](#)

NEW & NOTEWORTHY

Library Funding Review Committee Update

The Library Funding Review Committee (LFRC) met on August 29. Topics included:

- LFRC Working Group presented four library funding options that prioritize higher wages for library staff, increased investment in library collections and technology, and new investment in cybersecurity. The options are supported by funding research (on staffing, technology, and collections) and allow for greater sustainability and growth for libraries into the future.
- Moving forward, the library funding review process will shift from the LFRC to government, where CCTH staff will build on the work done by the LFRC and develop library funding recommendations for government consideration.

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

Register for the Municipal Climate Learning Group

Clean Foundation's Community Climate Capacity (CCC) program is offering enhanced climate action support to municipalities across Nova Scotia through the new Municipal Climate Learning Group (MCLG). By registering, municipalities will gain access to tools and resources designed to support local climate and sustainability efforts, including:

- Regular climate-focused info sessions
- Specialist coaching from experts in mitigation, adaptation, policy, and funding applications
- Opportunities for knowledge-sharing and collaboration
- Priority access to CCC Summit tickets.

[REGISTER HERE](#) to gain access to MCLG resources and coaching. The MCLG is open to municipal administrators, staff, and elected officials. The first monthly

Invitation to Community Group Leaders

The Nova Scotia Guard invites community group leaders to join one of two online information sessions to learn about collaborating during emergencies. The sessions will cover the Guard's role, how community groups can contribute, and registration details. Registration is required. Session Dates:

- September 19: [Register here](#)
- September 26: [Register here](#)

NEWS

[Antigonish mayor, warden, condemn racism toward Muslim community](#)
[Cogswell District construction to come in under budget, on time](#)
[Most CBRM rooming house landlords ignore bylaw licensing deadline](#)
[Three Halifax councillors not seeking re-election reflect on their tenures](#)
[Truro's Victoria Park on the mend](#)
[Pam Mood to seek fourth term as Yarmouth mayor](#)

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.

[Canada Housing Infrastructure Fund](#)

- Invests in water, wastewater, stormwater, and solid waste infrastructure
- Anticipated launch Fall of 2024, website currently not available
- NSFM has scheduled a meeting with the fund on Sept 17 @ 2:00-2:45 AST
- The meeting will provide an overview of the program, including program objectives, funding streams, parameters, and associated timelines
- E-mail fundnavigator@nsfm.ca if you would like to attend.

Provincial [Clean Fuels Fund](#)

- Now open
- Provides municipalities funding to replace traditional fossil fuels with cleaner fuels for heating, transportation and industrial processes.

[Recreation Trail Expansion](#) and [Off-Highway Infrastructure Fund](#) is now open
[Green and Inclusive Community Buildings 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

NSFM/Canoe Equipment Rental Program

The [NSFM/Canoe Equipment Rental Program](#) gives you access to cost-effective ways to access a huge variety of tools. With a network of top suppliers and an extensive catalogue including everything from aerial lifts and power generators to pickup trucks and earthmoving vehicles, there is something for every need. The program works with local retailers for supply, service, and support. **NSFM/Canoe = Local.**

Staples Professional: Facility Solutions

[Staples Professional](#) is designed to streamline the distribution process, with a sophisticated supply chain that has national and multi-regional reach, making it quick and easy to get the supplies you and your building need. With a consistent selection across the country, you can count on getting the right supplies delivered no matter your building size or location. This program works with local retailers for supply, service, and support. **NSFM/Canoe = Local.**

Grounds Maintenance Program

From highway ditch care to green space maintenance, tractors to wide-area flail mowers, the [NSFM/Canoe Grounds Maintenance Program](#) has partnered with industry leaders to bring innovative solutions to your landscaping challenges. The program works with local retailers for supply, service, and support. **NSFM/Canoe = Local.**

Insurance Tips: Essential Fall Checklist

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. [More information](#).

The season is changing and besides gearing up for cozy sweaters and pumpkin spiced lattes, there is much to do to get ready for fall and winter. Please refer to our [Essential Fall Checklist](#).

Nova Scotia Power – Storm Readiness

If you missed Nova Scotia Power's webinar presentation on storm readiness you can learn more about storm season, the steps taken to prepare for severe storms, and how they respond to restore power to customers in outage situations, using their restoration priorities. As well, they shared relevant business updates. [CLICK HERE](#)

The Benefits of Group Procurement

Learn about the benefits of the **NSFM/Canoe Group Procurement Program**. Join us on Tuesday, September 24 for a one-hour webinar hosted by Tony De Sciscio, Canoe's Contract Manager, supporting supplier relationships in Eastern and Atlantic Canada, presents an insightful session on everything Canoe, group procurement, and how to become an approved supplier.

- September 24 @ 2:00 pm
- [Register Here](#)
- About [Canoe Procurement](#)

An Introduction to Contract and Procurement Fraud

The **NSFM Municipal Group Insurance Program** presents the following one-hour webinar: **An Introduction to Contract and Procurement Fraud**. The webinar, presented by Régina Fox (MacInnis) and Rey Richards from the province's Internal Audit Centre, will discuss knowledge and skills necessary to identify, prevent, and mitigate fraudulent activities within operational realities.

- Comprehend contract and procurement fraud
- Spot fraudulent activities
- Apply detection techniques
- Establish prevention and control measures
- Promote transparency
- September 25 @ 2:00 pm
- [Register here](#)

Home & Auto Insurance: Recording

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](#).

EAP for Elected Officials: Recording

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](#).

Advisors, Vendors, and Education

Are you familiar with the Learning Development Supply Arrangement (LDSA) or Flextrack? Did you know that municipalities can take advantage of the province's standing offer for services in a variety of areas.

Need advice or expertise on topics such as DEI, mindfulness, decision making, or conflict management? The **LDSA** can provide you with a list of course information and available vendors that have an established standing offer with public service bodies.

Flextrack can provide a list of vendors for a variety of service areas which municipalities can contact and award either directly or through a statement of work process. Service areas include learning development, managed business services, and executive search.

Both of these initiatives are approved for use by public service bodies in NS. For more information, please contact staci.macaskill@novascotia.ca or visit [here](#).

FOIPOP Act Review: Engagement with NSFM

The province is undertaking a review of Nova Scotia's access and privacy legislative framework. The FOIPOP Working Group carrying out the review is hosting a one-hour **online engagement session** to gauge feedback. NSFM elected officials and relevant staff responsible for access and privacy are invited to attend and share perspectives on potential changes to the [Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act \(nslegislature.ca\)](#) and the [Municipal Government Act \(nslegislature.ca\)](#)

- **Session date:** September 17 @ 3 pm
- **To attend:** Check your inbox for meeting invite
- **Missing your meeting invite? Contact:** imorrison@nsfm.ca

RESOURCES

[Summer Municipal Observer](#)

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

[Atlantic Municipal Magazine](#)



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Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities

Suite #1304, 1809 Barrington Street

Halifax NS B3J 3K8

Phone: (902) 423-8331

info@nsfm.ca

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