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Monday Memo



NOVA SCOTIA FEDERATION
OF MUNICIPALITIES

NSFM PODCAST SERIES

🎧 NSFM Podcast Episode 8 Now Live!



This week, **Warden Linda Gregory of the Municipality of the District of Digby** shares insights on the Digby Art Bank and why ongoing support for local artists remains a key priority for council. She discusses how investing in local culture contributes to economic growth, community identity, and long-term success.

🔊 Listen now: [Click Here](#)

Coming next in Episode 9: Stay tuned for a conversation with Mayor Mike Trinacty of the Town of Berwick.

NSFM 2025 SPRING CONFERENCE



Register Now for the NSFM 2025 Spring Conference!

Join municipal leaders from across NS for the **NSFM 2025 Spring Conference**, where we will tackle key issues, share innovative solutions, and collaborate on the future of our communities.

What to Expect:

- Insightful speakers sharing practical knowledge
- Interactive sessions and panel discussions
- Meaningful networking with municipal leaders and experts
- Key updates on pressing municipal issues

[Click Here](#) to visit the conference website for the full program and registration details. **We look forward to seeing you there!**

ADVOCACY IN ACTION

Other Advocacy Issues - Offshore Wind Development

NSFM is committed to ensuring offshore wind (OSW) development is a sustainable and transformative opportunity for municipalities. Our recent letter to the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada outlines key municipal priorities for OSW: [Click Here to View Letter](#)

- Infrastructure readiness, from ports to social amenities
- Municipal service capacity to support growth
- Balancing OSW impacts with local tourism and heritage
- Ensuring economic benefits are equitably distributed

We urge governments to facilitate Impact and Benefit Agreements, ensuring that communities directly impacted by OSW development are sustainably supported. NSFM welcomes collaboration to mitigate challenges and maximize opportunities for municipalities. Let's work together to shape a brighter future for our communities. The NSFM Board of Directors has approved a motion for the Municipal Infrastructure Committee to monitor this issue.

Equity & Community Wellbeing Committee

The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for March 20. Councillor Cynthia Bazinet, Municipality of Barrington, was recently appointed by the NSFM Board to fill a vacancy on the Committee.

NEW & NOTEWORTHY

Update: Code of Conduct Mandatory Online Module

developing the Code of Conduct Online Module. Once you receive the email, register as soon as possible to receive **login credentials** and further information on how to access and complete the module.

AMANS Qualified List of Investigators – Municipal Code of Conduct

AMANS has released a list of ten qualified investigators vetted through its RFQ process. Municipalities may use this list but must verify investigator availability and handle their own contracts. AMANS has not entered into agreements with any listed investigators. [Click Here to View List](#).

- More info: dcampbell@amans.ca

Update on Tariffs from Canoe Procurement

Like other organizations, Canoe Procurement Group of Canada has been diligently observing the fluidity of the political situation involving the potential imposition of tariffs. Canoe Procurement and NSFAM recognize the significant impact that this could have on members and suppliers and are continuing to monitor the situation as it evolves. Read the latest update from Canoe [here](#).

NSFM has been actively engaged in the issue of tariffs and have reached out to our procurement partners for information that may be of benefit to members.

Uncover Your Essence Youth Conference – April 15

The **Uncover Your Essence Conference** returns on Tuesday April 15 at the Halifax Convention Centre from 8:00 am-3:00 pm. Designed for youth ages **13 to 18**, the conference offers dynamic workshops and expert speakers covering health, entrepreneurship, STEM, the arts, justice, and apprenticeships. Participants will gain valuable insights, foster connections, and unlock their potential. **Attendance is free.** Volunteer opportunities are available. **Learn more:** [Click Here](#)

NEWS

[Antigonish housing society accepting applications for 17 affordable units](#)
[Council reverses decision on Windsor Street Exchange redevelopment project](#)
[Derelict buildings in CBRM raising concerns](#)
[Door-to-door transportation service fills transit gap in rural St. Mary's](#)
[Fracking debate splits Colchester County Council](#)
[Nova Scotia premier says changes likely to controversial freedom of information bill](#)
[N.S. wants to deny 'vexatious' information requests. Critics say they are concerned](#)
[Sustainable Communities Challenge Fund Prioritizes Coastline Projects](#)

FUNDING

Opportunities for Empowered Municipal Growth

The NSFAM 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**.

- [Provincial Capital Assistance Program](#) open
- [Flood Risk Infrastructure Investment Program](#) open
- [Municipal Innovation Program](#) open
- [Community Health Board Wellness Funds](#) open
- [Sustainable Communities Challenge Fund](#) open
 - [Information Webinar](#): March 11 @10:30 am
 - [Workbook Webinar](#): April 1 @ 10:30 am
- [Energy Innovation Program, Clean Fuels](#) open for EOI
 - Includes biofuels produced from organic industrial waste (e.g., sludge from a sewage treatment facility) and source-separated organic municipal solid waste
- [Accelerating Community Energy Systems](#) Deadline extended to March 31
- [Guide to Finding Grants](#) added to website
 - A resource for municipal councillors to help community groups and non-profits find funding for their important projects

FCM Funding Opportunities

FCM has you covered with the right type of project funding. Review the [grant page](#) for funding opportunities available for planning, studies, and pilot projects.

PROGRAMS

Janitorial Supply

Keep your facilities clean and safe with the [NSFM/Canoe Janitorial Supply Program](#). From cleaning supplies to [floor cleaning](#), the program provides everything you need to create a healthy environment for your staff and visitors at competitive rates. This program works with local retailers for supply, service, and support. **NSFM/Canoe = Local.**

Pest Control

The [NSFM/Canoe Pest Control Program](#) will keep your buildings and worksites pest-free and ensure that pests do not come back. Connect with our pest control approved suppliers already tendered on your behalf. When looking for efficient and

Job Order Contracting

The [NSFM/Canoe Job Order Contracting Program](#) enables efficient contract repairs, renovations, and new construction projects. Whether you need procurement data or software to assist your in-house experts, or are looking for full project implementation and support, our approved supplier can help. Gordian is an approved supplier that offers a trusted project delivery method. For more information, refer to [Job Order Contracting: Trusted for Project Delivery](#) which provides a brief overview of the types of work completed using JOC.

Insurance Tips: Worry Free Winter

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.](#)

We know that the only way to enjoy winter is to embrace it. We have put together some tips to help you have a worry-free winter. Refer to our guide on [Insurance Tips for a Worry Free Winter.](#)

Park'N Fly Discount

The **NSFM/Park'N Fly Discount Program** is 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. 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.](#)

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.](#)

WEBINARS

Economic Outlook 2025

If you missed this recent webinar presented by NSFM & CIBC it examined how renewed trade uncertainty with the US is impacting the Canadian economy and the outlook for interest rates, and how the outlook for Nova Scotia will be impacted. It also examined how recent changes to immigration policy and a potential change in federal government could impact the national and local economies. Finally, it discussed whether the US economy can continue to outperform others, or whether a deceleration could be seen which will weaken the US\$ and by extension bring a rebound in the Canadian dollar. The presenter was Andrew Grantham, Executive Director and Senior Economist, Economics, Capital Markets, CIBC. To view 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.](#)

RESOURCES

[Winter Municipal Observer](#)

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

[Fall/Winter Atlantic Municipal Magazine](#)

The magazine for the **Atlantic Region of Municipalities**



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