



NOVA SCOTIA
FEDERATION OF
MUNICIPALITIES

RURAL INTERNET UPDATE

TO: Mayors, Wardens, Councillors, Clerks, CAOs All Units

FR: Will Brooke, Policy Advisor, Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities

The Nova Scotia Internet Funding Trust and Develop Nova Scotia

In early 2018 the Government of Nova Scotia announced \$120 million was to be set aside for the improvement of rural internet throughout the province. Over the summer, the size of the trust grew to \$193M.

Develop Nova Scotia, formerly Waterfront Development Corporation, has a mandate to lead strategic infrastructure development and property management throughout the province to help grow the economy and strengthen communities.

As one part of these broader duties, Develop Nova Scotia is heading up the Internet for Nova Scotia Initiative. This initiative aims to ensure that more than 95 per cent of rural Nova Scotians have access to broadband internet. You can read about the strategic plan for this initiative [here](#).

Develop Nova Scotia is also responsible for making recommendations to the Nova Scotia Internet Funding Trust. On Thursday, December 13th, Develop Nova Scotia released information about the competitive process for these funds, including a timeline. This information is available [here](#).

Develop Nova Scotia has now opened the process of prequalifying organizations who wish to participate in the competitive bidding process later next year. The official online page for the prequalification can be found [here](#).

The official tender documents for prequalification can be found [here](#).

A non-mandatory information session, called a 'Respondent's Conference', will be provided to prospective respondents to ensure all parties are aware of the details and services expected of them. The meeting will be held at the following location and time:

Date: January 16, 2019, 9:30 am - 11:00 am Atlantic Time

Location: Halifax, location TBD.

Addenda will be issued by January 7, 2019 with details including a teleconference option for remote participants. Respondents who do not attend the site meeting will not be precluded from submitting a proposal.

Will Brooke

*BA, MA, MPA, Queen's University at Kingston, Ontario
Policy Advisor, Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities
1809 Barrington St., Suite 1304
Halifax, NS B3J 3K8
(902) 423-8673 (Office)
(902) 221-5191 (Cell)*

www.nsfm.ca



NOVA SCOTIA
FEDERATION OF
MUNICIPALITIES

Phone: (902) 423-8331

Fax: (902) 425-5592

www.nsfm.ca

Better government. Stronger communities.

PLEASE NOTE: If you do not want to receive communications from NSFAM, please e-mail Tracy Verbeke at tverbeke@nsfm.ca, and you will be removed from the mailing list.