



NOVA SCOTIA
FEDERATION OF
MUNICIPALITIES

2019 CONFERENCE

**LEADING
THE CHANGE**



NOVEMBER 5-8, 2019

WESTIN NOVA SCOTIAN

HALIFAX

Registration Information

Delegate Type	Early Bird Registration Fee by October 14 th , 2019	Registration Fee after October 14 th , 2019
Member	\$ 500 + \$ 75 HST + \$ 5 Carbon Offset Fee = \$580 Includes Banquet	\$ 550 + \$ 82.50 HST + \$5 Carbon Offset Fee = \$ 637.50 Includes Banquet
Non-Member	\$ 550 + \$ 82.50 HST + \$5 Carbon Offset Fee = \$ 637.50 Includes Banquet	\$ 600 + 90.00 HST + \$5 Carbon Offset Fee = \$695 Includes Banquet
Banquet Ticket	\$ 65 + HST = \$ 74.75	\$ 65 + HST = \$ 74.75

NSFM is not able to accept credit card payments. If you are a member, your municipality will be invoiced following the event. Non-Members will be invoiced following the event to the address/email provided upon registering.

[Click here to register](#)

Cancellation Policy

All cancellations of delegates must be received by email to abell@nsfm.ca by October 25th to incur no fee. Cancellations received between October 26th and November 1st will be subject to a \$175 charge. Cancellations received after November 1st are subject to the full registration fee. Cancellation of banquet tickets will be subject to the full fee if received after October 25th. Substitutions are welcome at no charge.

Accommodation

Host Conference Hotel – The Westin Nova Scotian Hotel

Please indicate you are part of the NSFM block. Please use the link below to book your room at the Westin or call 1-888-627-8553. **All reservations must be secured with a credit card.** The block will be held until October 4th.

[CLICK HERE TO BOOK YOUR ROOM AT THE WESTIN](#)

Westin Cancellation Policy for Guestroom Reservations is 15 days prior to the guest's date of arrival. The penalty for not cancelling before this time is a charge of the first night's room and tax charged to the form of payment that the reservation is guaranteed by. No charges will be processed until the completion of the NSFM event. If the cancelled guestrooms can be re-sold to another attendee, the cancellation penalty will be waived. This policy has been put in place to provide maximum guestroom availability to all attendees.

If you have specific billing needs (such as billing to your municipality) you need to contact Dave Pitchuck at dave.pitchuck@thewestinnovascotian.com.

Type of room	Rate
Traditional Double	\$ 152 ++
Traditional Queen	\$ 152 ++
Traditional King	\$ 162 ++

Optional Hotel – Cambridge Suites Halifax

\$ 123 single or \$ 133 double – includes deluxe continental breakfast – ask for the provincial government rate when booking -[Book Online](#) using booking code “provgov” (enter under promo/access code) Or call 1-800-565-1263 and be sure to have your municipal government ID available when checking in.

Once these hotels are full there are several other options available in Halifax. [Click here](#) for an easy reference link. NSFM does not have room blocks at these hotels.

Day One

Tuesday, November 5

2:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Registration

7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Meet & Greet Reception

Day Two

Wednesday, November 6

8:00 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.

Opening

9:15 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.

Keynote Address: Deep Service- A Call to a Higher Level
Bill Carr

10:15 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

Break/Networking/Viewing of Exhibits

10:45 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

Concurrent Sessions

- The Political Administrative Dichotomy – AMANS
- The Nova Scotia Asset Management Program & The Municipal Flood Line Mapping Project – DMAH
- Digital Engagement for Municipalities - SimplyCast

11:55 a.m. – 12:55 a.m.

Delegates Luncheon

1:00 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.

Remarks by NSFM CEO Juanita Spencer

1:15 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

AGM

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Caucus Meetings & Elections

3:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Break/Networking/Viewing of Exhibits

3:30 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.

Caucus Meetings continued

FREE EVENING

4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Optional Event: Women Creating Future Leaders

4:45 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.

Optional Event: Powered by Communities Film Festival

Wednesday, Nov 6 8:00 a.m. to 9:15 a.m. Opening

- Remarks by Conference Chair Mayor Pam Mood, Town of Yarmouth
- Greetings from Halifax
- Remarks by NSFM President Wayne Mason, Halifax
- Remarks by Honourable Chuck Porter, Minister of Dept of Municipal Affairs & Housing (tbc)
- Greetings from Mike Dolter, President, AMANS
- Greetings from Saeed El-Darahali, President & CEO of Presenting Sponsor SimplyCast
- Presentation of Climate Change Leaders Award and Carbon Surcharge Fund Recipient
- Presentation of NSFM Long Service Awards

9:15 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. Keynote Address – Deep Service: A Call to a Higher Level Speaker: Bill Carr

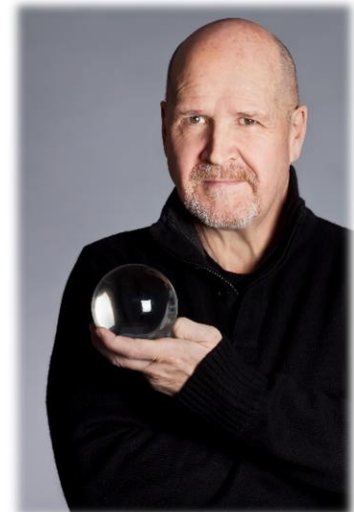
People involved in government, whether elected or employed as a civil servant, have an amazing opportunity to serve and serve deeply. Too often we get caught up in the day to day details and mania of our work-a-day world and lose sight of why we are here. Public service is a noble calling when we remember it as such. This keynote address is about bringing us back to a shared commitment to serve and serve deeply our community and thereby our society, our families and all who will come after us. Deep Service: a Call to a Higher Level seeks to unite us all and reignite the fire to serve Nova Scotia and Nova Scotians and be

truly Leading the Change to a better future for all.

About the Speaker: Bill Carr is known as a multi-medium artist, an actor, humorist, writer and motivational speaker. For over twenty-five years, Bill has been making people laugh at what's trivial while helping them think deeply about what counts. Bill helps people see their world in new and

“It’s all a matter of justice, empathy and peace” - Bill Carr

exciting ways. Bill’s unique blend of humour and insight inspires laughter and consideration; offering his audience a fresh perspective on what they face everyday. Bill researches and studies his audience and takes on the themes of their event, helping everyone focus on those things that truly matter. His humour is always directed straight to the point of the event in order to help achieve the outcomes the organizers are working so hard to achieve. His thirty-year career has seen him perform on stages across the country and most notably here in Nova Scotia at Neptune Theatre, Mermaid Theatre and the Atlantic Theatre Festival. He has written and performed in numerous radio dramas for CBC and has made appearances on countless television programs, several movies and more advertisements than he’d care to think about. Bill studied philosophy, English and theatre at Acadia University, and theology at Christian Theological Seminary in Indianapolis, Indiana, and the Atlantic School of Theology in Halifax. Bill is a



community activist and is a cofounder of a new company called ARC: The Atlantic Restorative Company, which works to integrate restorative practices into every aspect of family, business and community.

Sponsored by [CUPE NOVA SCOTIA](#)

CUPE Nova Scotia represents more than 18,000 working women and men employed throughout the public sector. We are proud to be part of Canada's largest and fastest-growing union. CUPE represents workers in health care, education, municipalities, libraries, child-care, universities, social services, public utilities, transportation, emergency services, and airlines. CUPE members are service-providers, white-collar workers, technicians, labourers, skilled tradespeople, and professionals. More than two-thirds of CUPE members are women. About one-third of our members work part-time.

10:15 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

Break/Networking/Exhibits

10:45 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

Concurrent Session – The Political-Administrative Dichotomy – AMANS

Municipal Councils make many decisions that impact their community and the municipality. The best decisions are made when Council and staff have a certain level of harmonization. It sounds simple, policy and politics are the domain of elected officials and administration is the domain of staff. But the best decisions are not the result of one of these perspectives triumphing over the other, but those that integrate the technocratic public service view with the local sensitivity that municipal elected officials contribute. This session will discuss ways in which council can balance what the public expresses with what staff advises. It will look at what steps can be taken to ensure that decisions are made in the best interest of the community and the municipality. Presenters:

Alain Muise, CAO, District of Argyle and Deputy Mayor Emily Lutz, County of Kings.

10:45 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

Concurrent Session – The Nova Scotia Asset Management Program & The Municipal Flood Line Mapping Project

Jennifer Duncan, Senior Engineer and Gordon Smith, Director of Planning, Department of Municipal Affairs & Housing

This two-part session will provide overviews of two initiatives that are creating valuable resources for municipalities to increase their resilience. *The Nova Scotia Asset Management Program* continues to make progress to support municipalities with their infrastructure planning efforts by developing tools and resources that lay a solid foundation for making informed, evidence-based decisions for managing municipal assets. At this session, you will learn about the tools and resources developed from pilot projects led by the Department of Municipal Affairs and Housing, which involved 7 of our local municipalities. You will also hear about the progress made with the associated *Infrastructure Registry for Municipal Assets (IRMA)* system that aims to provide a “one stop shop” to house, maintain and map asset information, and allow municipalities to access preliminary state of infrastructure analytics. *The Municipal Flood Line Mapping Project*, jointly funded by the Province and Public Safety Canada's National Disaster Mitigation Program, will provide specifications and guidance to support municipalities in developing consistent and accurate flood maps. In the second half of this session, you will learn about this project and the resources being developed for municipalities. These resources include recommendations on minimum requirements for flood mapping, a climate change scenario to be used in flood hazard mapping, and publicly available province-wide LiDAR data.

The overall goal of the project is to provide municipalities with baseline information to

10:45 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. **Concurrent Session – Digital Engagement for Municipalities – SimplyCast**

With diverse audiences, municipal communicators have the opportunity to personalize engagement for citizens and stakeholders. From all different levels — individual, organizational, public, intra- and interpersonal — municipalities and their communicators require the ability to facilitate engagement and analyze the responses received from audiences. The opportunity? Digital engagement. Digital engagement initiatives are picking up traction in many departments and offices as citizens expect to be digitally engaged. Municipal digital engagement strategies have been able to help municipalities of all sizes complement existing processes while also streamlining organizational procedures and offering citizens more in the way of personalized communication and services. Digital municipalities are able to improve citizen engagement by leveraging online technologies to learn about each individual citizen and their needs and interests. Having this information automatically generated allows municipalities to make better decisions, enhance public services, and increase safety. With standardized, digitized communication and engagement strategies, municipalities can ensure proper and timely distribution of emergency and non-emergency communications to all citizens. As experts in engagement and digitization, SimplyCast is excited to have this opportunity to impart knowledge and aid local municipalities in their endeavors to organize, communicate, and engage their citizens. Hosted by Saeed El-

Darahali, President and CEO of SimplyCast, this session will explore the opportunities municipalities have today to digitize components of their day-to-day operations in order to gain new insights, optimize procedures, and offer citizens engaging communication. Russell Stuart, Director of Health Services Emergency Management for the Nova Scotia Department of Health and Wellness, will also be joining via teleconference to outline emergency scenarios and the ways in which digital technologies are able to help in preparation, response, and restoration efforts.

11:55 a.m. – 12:55 p.m. **Delegate’s Luncheon**

Sponsored by [Nova Scotia Municipal Finance Corporation](#)

The Nova Scotia Municipal Finance Corporation is a Crown Corporation of the Province of Nova Scotia. The Corporation is governed by a board of directors appointed by the Governor-in-Council. Legislation requires that 40 per cent of the board be appointed on the recommendation of the Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities. The mission of the Corporation is to provide capital infrastructure financing to clients at the lowest available cost, within acceptable risk parameters, and to provide financial management advice and assistance to clients. The enabling legislation is the [Municipal Finance Corporation Act](#).

1:00 p.m. – 1:15 p.m. **Update from NSFM CEO Juanita Spencer**

1:15 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. **Annual General Meeting**

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Caucus Meetings & Elections

3:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Break/Networking/Exhibits

3:30 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.

Caucus Meetings continued

FREE EVENING

4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Optional Event – Women

Creating Future Leaders – Moving the
Needle to gender balance

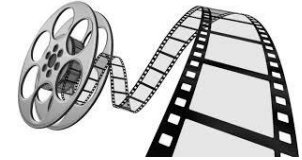
What would you tell a woman coming into
politics that you wish you had known?

Come and join these frank round table
discussions with your fellow female municipal
colleagues.

4:45 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.

Optional Event – Powered by
Communities

Film Festival –
QUEST



Striving to make the unknown, known and the
uncelebrated, celebrated - the **Powered by
Communities** initiative is bringing community
energy success stories in Nova Scotia to the
forefront. As part of this initiative, the
Powered by Communities Film Festival has
brought together short films, some familiar
and some new, to showcase the amazing
achievements of Nova Scotia's municipalities.
Join us and be inspired by the possibilities of
how municipal government can better serve its
residents through innovative energy projects.

Day Three

Thursday, November 7

6:45 a.m. – 7:30 a.m.	Early Morning Walk (weather permitting)
8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	FCM Panel
9:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.	Premier Stephen McNeil (tbc)
9:30 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.	Resolutions/Member Feedback
10:15 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.	Break/Networking/Viewing of Exhibits
10:45 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	Resolutions/Member Feedback
11:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Tim Houston, Leader of the PC Party
12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Delegates' Luncheon
1:05 p.m. – 1:35 p.m.	Gary Burrill – Leader of the NDP party
1:35 p.m. – 2:35 p.m.	Municipal Government Needs a Good Decluttering
2:35 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Break/Networking/Viewing of Exhibits
3:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.	Dr. Thomas Trappenberg - Leader of the Green Party
3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.	Panel: Successful Partnerships between Municipalities and First Nations
6:15 p.m.	Reception
7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.	Banquet
9:00 p.m. – 11:30 p.m.	Dance - Bluesmobile

Thursday, Nov 7

6:45 a.m. – 7:30 a.m.

Early Morning Walk (weather permitting)

Enjoy an early morning walk lead by Rebecca Kolstee, Municipal Wellness Coordinator, Association of Municipal Administrators NS

8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

What can FCM do for your municipality?

This session will provide you with an update on current FCM activities and initiatives. President Bill Karsten and Councillor Tom Taggart, County of Colchester and Vice-Chair of the FCM Rural Forum will discuss their funding opportunities, online resources and how they are working with NSFAM to advocate for Nova Scotia's Municipalities.

9:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

Premier Stephen McNeil (tbc)

9:30 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.

Resolutions/Feedback from Members

10:15 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

Break/Networking/Exhibits

10:45 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Resolutions/Feedback from Members

11:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Tim Houston, Leader of the PC Party

12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Delegates' Luncheon

1:05 p.m. – 1:35 p.m.

Gary Burrill, Leader of the NDP Party

1:35 p.m. – 2:35 p.m.

Municipal Government Needs a Good De-Cluttering – Jordi Morgan, CFIB

Jordi Morgan oversees all legislative activities and communications for the Atlantic region for Canada's largest business association. CFIB represents 5,200 business owners in Nova Scotia. Jordi chairs HRM's Joint Project for Regulatory Modernization (JPRM) Business Advisory Panel and, along with his colleagues at CFIB, provides strong advocacy for federal, provincial and municipal red tape reduction.

2:35 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Break/Networking/Exhibits

3:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Dr. Thomas Trappenberg, Leader of the Green Party

NSFM may take photographs and video at the Conference and may use them in our newsletter or promotional materials whether in print, electronic or other media including the NSFAM website. By participating in the NSFAM Conference, you grant NSFAM the right to use your name and photograph for such purposes.

3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Panel: Successful Partnerships between Municipalities and First Nations

Strong relationships with the First Nations Community are essential to the viability and sustainability of our municipalities. Come and learn how some of your colleagues have created this success within their own municipalities. Mayor Brenda Chisholm from the Town of Port Hawkesbury and Laura Prosper and Karen Ann Bernard from Eskasoni will be on hand to outline the Government FOCUS (Female Objectives Cape Breton Unama'ki Strait) initiative. FOCUS is a movement of community leaders from the six First Nation communities and 10 municipalities in the Strait region as well as in Unama'ki - Cape Breton. The focus will be to host a school to encourage women from all 16 communities to learn more about, and consider running for, local government, whether it is First Nation Councils or Municipalities. The desired result is to reach a better gender balance at First Nation and Municipal councils for eastern Nova Scotia, and the best way to achieve this goal is for our community leaders to collaborate and work together to achieve this desired result. Mayor Cecil Clarke, CBRM and Chief Terry Paul from Membertou will also be joining the discussion. A lot has changed in the last 25 years. Amalgamation created the CBRM and with that, a new relationship between the municipality and the local First Nations communities began. Leveraging traditional knowledge and contemporary processes, the communities have created a strong connection and positive change. Growing together, through shared projects and priorities, CBRM and Membertou have forged ahead in the spirit of cooperation and collaboration, producing shared infrastructure and economic benefits, resulting in reconciliation via action; not just words. There are bumps along the road but with renewed political trust and open dialogue, CBRM and Membertou continue to

evolve together. Rose Paul, the CEO of Bayside Development Corporation will also join the panel to discuss her experiences with economic development in municipalities.

6:15 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Reception

7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Banquet

Sponsored by [Frank Cowan Company](#)

Frank Cowan Company is a leader in providing specialized insurance programs, including risk management and claims services to municipalities, healthcare, education, community, children's and social service organizations across Canada. Proven industry knowledge, gained through over nine decades of partnering with insurance companies and independent brokers, gives Frank Cowan Company the ability to effectively manage the necessary risk, advisory and claims services for both standard and complex issues.

Frank Cowan Company is a Managing General Agent (MGA) with the authority to write and service business and municipalities on behalf of strategic partners who share our commitment and dedication to protecting specialized organizations. Because our partners are long-term participants on our program, they understand the nature of fluctuating market conditions and complex claims and are prepared to stay the course.

9:00 p.m. – 11:30 p.m. Dance

[BLUESMOBILE](#) is the Annapolis Valley's own 15-piece dance band featuring a 6-piece horn section, 5-piece

rhythm section, and 4 vocalists. The band plays music from many musical styles including blues, funk, rock, soul and R&B!



Day Four

Friday, November 8

8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	Are Your Municipal Facilities Climate Ready?
9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	Concurrent Sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bulk Purchase of Electronic Voting Services • PVSC Strategic Update
10:10 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.	How Immigration is Helping Employers and Communities Succeed
11:15 a.m.	Draw Prizes & Conference Wrap Up



Networking Bingo

A big part of NSFME events is the insight you glean from networking with your fellow municipal colleagues. During the conference, you will have the opportunity to participate in Networking Bingo! It's simple and fun! You will be provided with a bingo card in your kit. All you will need to do is put your networking skills to good use and find people during the 3 days who meet one of the criteria in the bingo squares. Criteria such as: Is afraid of heights; Has 2 or more pets; Can Juggle; Does volunteer work; to name a few.

Full bingo cards will then go into a draw at the conclusion of the event for a special prize!

Friday, Nov 8

8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

**Sponsored Session: Are your
Municipal Facilities Climate
Ready? – AMERESCO**

Climate disruption is causing damage to infrastructure, cost increases, and adverse health effects that have enormous financial implications for municipalities. Ameresco is helping municipalities of all sizes reduce exposure to climate risks, lower liability costs, and reduce operating costs by making new and existing facilities more efficient and climate resilient.

[AMERESCO](#) has become a leading energy efficiency and renewable energy company by approaching its business with a specific set of values and goals. All of our projects and our employees embrace our Mission, Vision and Values as we work to meet the energy and sustainability goals of our clients and stakeholders

9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

**Concurrent Session: Bulk
Purchase of Electronic Voting
Services - AMANS**

Municipal Councils will soon have to decide which voting method they wish to use for the upcoming 2020 municipal elections. Joining the bulk purchase of electronic voting services will provide significant cost savings to municipal units. Lead by Kevin Arjoon, Municipal Clerk, HRM and Mark Phillips, CAO Region of Windsor/West Hants, this session will provide information about the bulk purchase, such as: what the bulk purchase entails; how to join; and municipal obligations. It will also provide key information about the use of e-voting in past municipal elections; the realities of

electronic voting; Council's role in municipal elections; and perceived vulnerabilities.

9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

**Concurrent Session: PVSC
Strategic Update**

As a municipally funded service provider to all 50 municipalities in Nova Scotia, Property Valuation Services Corporation (PVSC) prides itself in providing municipalities with the information required to budget, set municipal tax rates and bill and collect property taxes. Grounded in Service Level Agreements with municipalities, PVSC has spent the last year expanding its client care program highlighting its commitment to the quality of the assessment roll. Come hear how PVSC is capitalizing on emerging technology to continuously provide municipalities with timely, accurate assessment information while exploring alternative methods of revenue generation. Presenters: Warden Jimmy MacAlpine, Chair, PVSC Board of Directors and Kathy Gillis, CEO, PVSC.

10:10 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.

**How Immigration is Helping
Employers and Communities
Succeed**

Nova Scotia is welcoming a record number of newcomers. The Honourable Lena Metlege Diab, Q.C., Minister of Immigration, along with representatives from NS Health Authority and the NSOI, will discuss how immigration benefits all Nova Scotians through a strengthened economy and population growth. During this informative panel, learn how the Nova Scotia Office of Immigration's innovative programs are supporting businesses and communities succeed by helping employers fill labour needs, diversifying our communities, contributing to improvements in

healthcare and education, and the retention of newcomers.

11:15 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Closing Ceremonies & Prize
Draws

2019 Planning Committee

Chair – Mayor Pam Mood, Town of Yarmouth
Mayor Jeff Cantwell, Town of Wolfville
Councillor Cheryl Fritz, Town of Truro
Deputy Mayor Heather Kelly, Region of Queens Municipality
Councillor Ty Walsh, Town of Berwick

