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# Monday Memo



NOVA SCOTIA FEDERATION  
OF MUNICIPALITIES

## NEW & NOTEWORTHY

### Municipal Wellness Program Update

The [Municipal Wellness Program](#) was established in 2014 and encourages Nova Scotia municipal units to create healthy workplace environments and promote positive health and wellbeing for all municipal employees and elected officials. The operation of the program will be transitioning from AMANS to NSFM at the end of November 2026. AMANS and NSFM have initiated a changeover process and will be working closely over the next few months to ensure an efficient transition. NSFM is committed to the program and its importance and will work very hard to ensure a successful program for the benefit of the entire municipal sector. Updates on the transition process will be provided periodically.

- More info: [imorrison@nsfm.ca](mailto:imorrison@nsfm.ca)

### Municipal Learning Series: Wildfire Risk and Resilience

CLIMAtlantic is hosting a new, bilingual online session in their Municipal Learning Series, titled **Decisions Before the Flames: How Communities Shape Wildfire Outcomes**. Join Kara McCurdy, wildfire mitigation specialist, fire service professional, and community resilience advocate, to explore how wildfire outcomes are shaped long before a fire starts, through municipal decisions around land use, development, access, water supply, public education, emergency planning, and community risk reduction. Designed for elected officials, municipal staff, fire service leaders, emergency managers, planners, and community decision-makers, the

- June 9 at 1:30- 3:00 pm
- To learn more and register, click [here](#).

## Access Awareness Week

The [Accessibility Directorate](#) works collaboratively with other departments and organizations to share news, events, resources, and opportunities, including resources to recognize and celebrate Access Awareness Week 2026. The theme this year is [Disability Justice: Stronger Together, First Voice Leading Change](#) and the week is May 31 to June 6. Here is what you can do to acknowledge this event:

- Access our [Resource Hub](#)
- Attend our upcoming events and virtual workshops [found here](#)
- Share your [Accessibility Plan](#)
- Share your [event details](#)
- More information: [accessibility@novascotia.ca](mailto:accessibility@novascotia.ca)

## Prevention Academy Cohort #2

NSFM is pleased to advise that the [Strong Cities Network](#), in collaboration with the [Canadian Centre for Safer Communities](#) and the [Foundation for a Path Forward](#), and with funding support from Public Safety Canada, is launching **Prevention Academy Cohort #2** for Canadian municipalities. Municipalities from NSFM have been invited to participate in this learning opportunity and we are seeking five elected municipal leaders to enroll. Learn more about the program by viewing the [Prevention Academy Video](#).

- NSFM Board will appoint five elected leaders to participate
- Timeframe: June 2026 – March 2027
- Time commitment: 3 hours per month
- Deadline to apply: May 29
- To apply: [imorrison@nsfm.ca](mailto:imorrison@nsfm.ca)

## Student Housing Observatory – Discussion Group

The Student Housing Observatory, led by [Dr. Nick Revington](#), seeks to understand issues related to student housing in Canadian municipalities, including town-gown conflicts and the supply and quality of housing available for students on and off

issues.

- June 12 @ 1:15 pm
- Halifax Central Library

For more information and to register: [nick.revington@inrs.ca](mailto:nick.revington@inrs.ca)

## NEWS

[Actor frustrated that Shelburne well hasn't come to fruition 7 years later](#)  
[CBRM working out deal with company on 'responsible' use of e-scooters](#)  
[Community rallies after break-in leaves Annapolis Valley pool high and dry](#)  
[Funding to Create New Arboretum on Eastern Shore](#)  
[How NS municipalities are preparing for drought and dry wells](#)  
[Independent MLA advocates against tolls, calling them a trade barrier](#)  
[Mounties decline to investigate CBRM land sale](#)  
[New Bridgewater shelter brings needed supports to community: mayor](#)  
[Town of Antigonish launches rain barrel incentive to save water](#)

## FUNDING

### Opportunities for Empowered Municipal Growth

The Funding Portal is a joint initiative of the Department of Municipal Affairs and the [Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities](#). Our mission is simple: make finding and applying for grants easy and efficient — so you can focus on building stronger communities. [nsfunding.ca](https://nsfunding.ca).

### Multiculturalism and Anti-Racism Program-Events Stream

Funding applications for events starting between December 1, 2026 and March 3, 2027 are available. Contact us for a copy of the Events General Application Form and Budget Form. Information sessions are being offered on the following dates:

- Deadline for application submission: June 10 @ 5:00 pm (Atlantic)
- [Events component guidelines](#)
- [Events component website](#)
- More information: [multiatl-atlmulti@pch.gc.ca](mailto:multiatl-atlmulti@pch.gc.ca)

## Fund Navigator Program Update

In 2023, NSFM launched the Fund Navigation Program, designed to connect municipal units with funding opportunities. The cornerstone of the program is the [Nova Scotia Funding Portal](#). NSFM has also been in contact with municipal units recently to encourage completion of the annual Fund Navigation Survey. The survey deadline is May 29. Chantel Gushue is NSFM's new Fund Navigator and is available to assist municipal units with program enquiries.

- More info? Contact [cgushue@nsfm.ca](mailto:cgushue@nsfm.ca)

## PROGRAMS

### Capital Planning Best Practices

[NSFM/Canoe Procurement Program](#) provides a diverse range of procurement options for our members, including [Gordian](#), an approved program supplier. In [Capital Planning Best Practices: Develop an In-Depth Understanding of Your Current State](#) learn about the need to have a clear, data-driven understanding of your current state — and why planning is the difference between reactive spending and strategic investment.

In just **two** minutes, learn:

- The #1 mistake organizations make before planning
- How to uncover hidden gaps in your facilities data
- A smarter way to prioritize projects with confidence

### NSFM/Canoe Updated Supplier List: April 2026

[NSFM/Canoe Procurement Program](#) provides a diverse range of procurement options for our members. View the [May Supplier Updates](#). This month's awards span:

- Public Safety Technology
- Waterworks and more

Approved suppliers are selected through an open RFP process that follows a successful proposal evaluation and contract award. The program works with local retailers for supply, service, and support. **NSFM/Canoe = Local.**

## Courier & Logistics Program

With the [NSFM/Canoe Courier & Logistics Program](#), municipalities members access same-day, on-demand, dedicated, and routed courier services at competitive pricing. The program works with local retailers for supply, service, and support. **NSFM/Canoe = Local.**

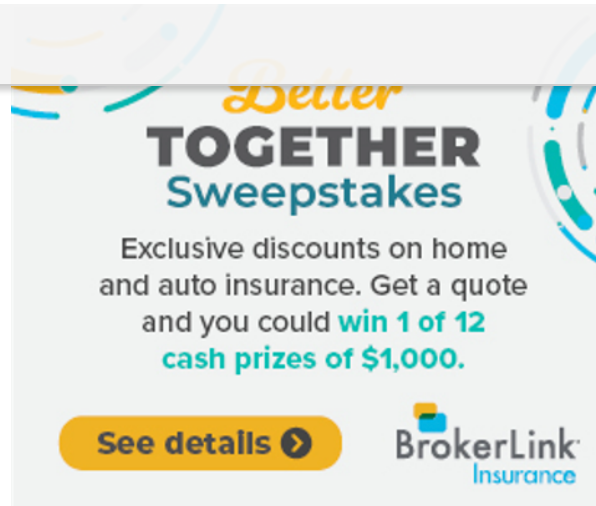
## Privacy Breach: What Employers Need to Know (and Do Next)

A [cyber incident involving an insurance company](#) has exposed the personal information of up to 70,000 individuals, most of them tied to a single employer-sponsored benefits and retirement plan. The compromised data is exactly the type of information used for identity theft. The group reportedly behind the attack gained access through a compromised employee account. For employers, the lesson is clear: outsourcing a function does not outsource accountability. Municipalities are encouraged to review vendor data-sharing agreements and ask hard questions about access controls. Update your incident response plan to include vendor breach scenarios.

[HR Covered](#) is a program partner of NSFM. Reach out to the advisory team if you need more information on this item, as well as many other great HR resources offered at **no-charge** to municipal units in NS. More info: [partnerships@hrcovered.com](mailto:partnerships@hrcovered.com)

## Better Together Sweepstakes

Leaders and staff within the broader municipal sector in NS qualify for exclusive discounts on home and auto insurance through the [NSFM Insurance Program](#). Get a quote on car or home insurance, and you could win one of 12 cash prizes of \$1,000. Do not miss your chance to save on insurance and win! BrokerLink is proud to provide quality insurance products, expertise, and solutions to our sector.



**Better**  
**TOGETHER**  
**Sweepstakes**

Exclusive discounts on home and auto insurance. Get a quote and you could **win 1 of 12** cash prizes of **\$1,000**.

[See details](#) ▶

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## WEBINARS

### HNA Blueprint Webinar

Housing Needs Assessments (HNAs) are an important tool for understanding local housing conditions. Despite their value, HNAs do not always benefit fully from available data, underserve small and rural communities, can leave a fragmented and unclear picture across wider geographies, and can require considerable time, expertise, and resources to produce.

The HNA Blueprint establishes a new, comprehensive foundation for understanding and monitoring the housing needs of communities across the country. This includes report templates, methodologies, guidebooks, datasets, and a codebase for automation. Turner Drake Partners Ltd. are hosting two webinars to provide an overview of the HNA Blueprint project: what it is, what it includes, how it was developed, and how it can be used.

- May 26 @ 1:00 pm: Register [here](#)
- May 28 @ 1:00 pm: Register [here](#)
- More info: [kbrousseau@turnerdrake.com](mailto:kbrousseau@turnerdrake.com)

### Recap: Understanding Human Rights, Presented by HR

#### Covered

NSFM recently hosted *Understanding Human Rights*, a practical webinar presented by HR Covered exploring how human rights obligations apply to elected municipal

Led by guest speaker Darcy Michaud, CHRL, the session highlighted key human rights principles, common areas of risk, and how these considerations intersect with council conduct, municipal decision-making, and public engagement. Members who were unable to attend can access the webinar recording [here](#).

## RESOURCES

### [Winter Municipal Observer](#)

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

### [Spring/Summer Atlantic Municipal Magazine](#)

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



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