

[View this email in your browser](#)

Monday Memo



NOVA SCOTIA FEDERATION
OF MUNICIPALITIES

IMPORTANT UPDATES

RCMP: Committee Update & Collective Bargaining

RCMP CMC Officials Meeting in October: Record of Decision (RoD)

To access the Record of Decision (RoD) for the CMC Officials Meeting in October, please [Click Here](#). It outlines the **Preliminary Findings of the Consultation on Contract Policing** and provides essential **Updates on Collective Bargaining**.

Collective Bargaining Highlights: Current Status & Next Steps

Since November 2022, the Treasury Board (TBS) has provided updates on Collective Bargaining to the CMC. The current status includes five pending issues [Click Here](#) to learn more. Once a tentative agreement is reached, TBS will conduct a meeting to update members on preliminary outcomes, followed by a comprehensive overview upon agreement ratification.

Contact: For any inquiries about Collective Bargaining, please reach out to Public Safety Canada at: ps.cmcsec-cgesecc.sp@ps-sp.gc.ca

SURVEY INVITE

Accessibility Education, Supports, and Resources

On behalf of the **Nova Scotia Accessibility Directorate** all prescribed public sector bodies (PPSBs) that have obligations under the **Accessibility Act** should complete this survey.

This survey was created to identify the education, resources, and support your organization needs to help meet your Accessibility Act Requirements. This could be related to your accessibility plan commitments, updating your accessibility plan, and understanding the Built Environment standard when it is enacted.

Please complete this 10 minute survey by January 11, 2024. [Click Here](#)

Contact: Laura Beth MacPherson LauraBeth.MacPherson@novascotia.ca.

NEWS

Workshop: EV Charging Stations in NS

Join a virtual workshop on January 31 from 2 to 4 pm, **hosted by the Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources and Renewables**. Share insights on our Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy, a crucial step in achieving our commitment to 30% zero-emission vehicle sales by 2030. Your involvement matters.

Register here: [Link](#)

More information: krista.phillips@novascotia.ca or Eliza.Jackson@novascotia.ca

Let's shape Nova Scotia's sustainable future together.

IN THE NEWS

[Haligonians concerned about speeding on neighbourhood roads](#)

[New N.S. population data shows end to years-long interprovincial migration trend](#)

[Shelburne water project backed by Elliot Page is raising more funds to get flowing](#)

[Surplus land from National Defence could be used for housing at CFB Greenwood, official says](#)

FUNDING

Access Financial Resources to Empower Your Municipality

NSFM recently launched an online **Funding Database**. This centralized resource is dedicated to our members to help you find municipal funding opportunities. You can access this valuable tool at nsfm.ca/grants. As part of this initiative, a monthly

Contact NSFM's Fund Navigator, Lucy MacLeod: lmacleod@nsfm.ca

Important Grant Info:

- The [Research and Knowledge Initiative](#) (for housing strategies and research) is open for applications, deadline Feb 9.
- The [Green Choice Program](#) is now open, info session on Jan 24.
- [Connect2](#) is now open for EOI, deadline Jan 22.
- CCTH has opened their community [infrastructure and accessibility grants](#) for the year. Info sessions on Jan 8.
- [Green Jobs Initiative](#) is now open, deadline Feb 16.
- [Energy innovation Program](#), two more streams opened, info session in Jan.
- Information for [Canada Post's 2024 Community Grants](#) is now available.
- [Rural Transit Solutions Fund](#) has begun a continuous intake for applications. Registration is open for info sessions, click [here](#).
- [Mitacs CleanTech Call](#) has been extended to Feb 9. There is a possibility of securing funding for an expert researcher in the field at approximately 75%. For projects such as:
 - Clean technology in water and wastewater treatment.
 - Upcycling waste and by-product streams to reduce environmental impact and create value.
 - Bioremediation of heavy metal waste
 - Microbiology/Agriculture – micro-organisms and soil health relationship.
- In addition to Mitacs funding, it is anticipated that through soon-to-be-announced federal funding, organic waste-to-energy projects will be up to 100% funded. If you are interested in projects that convert wastewater biosolids or solid waste to energy, please reach out: lmacleod@nsfm.ca.

FCM Funding Opportunities

Stay up-to-date with funding opportunities through the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM). [Click here](#) to find more information.

PROGRAMS



Launch: Preferred Insurance Rates for Elected Leaders & Staff

NSFM is pleased to launch the following program for elected municipal leaders and municipal staff.

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.

[Click here](#) to learn about the program benefits and how BrokerLink can provide you with a **free, no-obligations insurance quote**. They will take the time to answer your questions and make sure you are prepared for any situation.

Eligibility

- Municipal leaders
- Municipal staff
- Family members living in the same household, including spouse/common law spouse, dependents under the age of 21, or 25 (if attending a post secondary institution full time)
- Retirees

BrokerLink is a program partner of the Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities.

Understanding the NSFM/Canoe Procurement Program

Do you need help finding cost-effective products and services and would you like to learn more about using [Canoe Procurement](#)?

Andy Saxby joined the Canoe team as a Member Outreach Representative in January 2023 and is Atlantic Canada's direct contact for the Canoe program. He helps members navigate the cooperative procurement process by providing educational sessions and on-going support. Working with local governments and nonprofits across Atlantic Canada, Andy helps to share the ways Canoe provides time and cost saving benefits for a wide variety of municipal needs.

Contact Andy: andy@canoeprocurement.ca or (902) 417-2575.

NSFM Municipal Group Insurance Program

Benefits can be summarized as follows:

- Continued evaluation around the quality of the broker services (annual survey) and acting on the results received from participants
- Education and awareness around risk management issues (including inspections which contain hazard recommendations as well as building valuations and contract reviews)
- Guiding participants to control claims by mitigating risks in advance
- Local claims management
- Insurance products specifically aimed at municipal units and the expertise of the service team
- Leveraging the strength of the relationships within the program (insurer, brokers, program sponsor)
- Stability within an unstable landscape
- Strength in numbers

The advantages of the program are best explained by the municipal units participating in the NSFM program:

- Benefit of being part of a larger group
- Communication with fellow municipalities
- Economies of scale
- Insurance provided through a municipal lens
- Not having to tender and plan the program oneself
- Program tailored to small, medium, and large municipalities

In addition, the NSFM program offers value-added education around relevant insurance topics. Have you evaluated your commercial insurance needs recently? Questions about the NSFM program? Contact imorrison@nsfm.ca

Fireproof Your Organization

Your emergency responders are at the forefront of some of your most critical operations and keeping them safe is critical. Through the **NSFM/Canoe Firefighting PPE Program**, municipalities get preferred pricing on some of the best protective equipment available in the industry, including bunker gear, hoods, helmets, boots, gloves, and more.

[Grainger Canada](#) is a procurement partner in the program:

- Firefighting PPE, apparel, and accessories
- Cleaning maintenance equipment
- 24/7 online ordering with no minimum order
- Pre-paid freight on orders shipped via ground
- Same-day shipping on 99% of in-stock items
- KeepStock inventory management solution
- Distributor Alliance Small Business Program

More info, contact: katrina.king@grainger.ca

Heavy Construction Equipment Program

Heavy equipment plays a pivotal role on the front line. The **NSFM/Canoe Heavy Construction Equipment Program** offers access to reliable machines, such as graders, bulldozers, excavators, backhoes, loaders, dump trucks, and more, at preferred pricing and fully compliant with trade standards. The program works with local retailers for supply, service, and support.

NSFM/Canoe = Local. [More information](#)

Crosswalk and Intersection Safety Technology

ATS Traffic is a trusted supplier of the **NSFM/Canoe Traffic Supply Program** for crosswalk and intersection safety technology. Introducing the [Carmanah MX](#) series Rapid Rectangular Flashing Beacons (RRFBs). Designed for crosswalks, school zones, and stop and warning signs, Carmanah MX is the simplest, most affordable option for connected traffic beacon and signs that allows you to monitor, control, and capture data. Smart features include out-of-the box connectivity, access to the Carmanah Cloud™ and Field App™, and industry-leading solar powered batteries. [Build your custom MX system configured to your specifications today!](#) The program works with local retailers for supply, service, and support. **NSFM/Canoe = Local.**

WEBINARS

Blue Monday – Strategies for Positive Mental Health

Ready to prioritize your mental well-being? Join our exclusive webinar dedicated to navigating the challenges of what is suggested to be the 'bluest' day of the year and beyond. We will share insights, coping mechanisms, and actionable tips to boost your resilience and mental health. Transform Blue Monday into a day of empowerment and self-care.

Date: Monday, January 15 @ 11:00 am

Deadline: [REGISTER HERE](#) by Friday, January 12

Audience: Municipal employees, elected officials, HRM/HRP employees, Wellness Champions

Note: Participants will be eligible for a draw for a \$25 Walmart gift card

Contact: Melanie at wellness@amans.ca for more information

[Winter Municipal Observer](#)

The magazine for the Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities

[Atlantic Municipal Magazine](#)

The magazine for Atlantic Canadian municipalities



NOVA SCOTIA FEDERATION
OF MUNICIPALITIES



Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities
Suite #1304, 1809 Barrington Street
Halifax NS B3J 3K8
Phone: (902) 423-8331
info@nsfm.ca

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).