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Has COVID-19 forced or enabled municipalities to think out of the box?

Good day and welcome to the ACWWA - 20

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**NSCC Applied Geomatics Research Group, Team Lead,
Dr. Tim Webster. Ph.D**

(Cover Photo) Digby Neck Wind Farm, courtesy of Nova Scotia Power.

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By Acting President Amanda McDougall

Change is the only constant

I certainly didn't expect my first turn in the President's chair to be this early, but I'm definitely happy to get the opportunity! Emily has put in amazing work so far as President, I'm extremely pleased to be able to continue to build upon her legacy and continue to move the needle on all of our priorities.

In a perfect world this is where I would say "we made it!" and celebrate putting Covid-19 behind us, our renewed relationship with the Department of Municipal Affairs, and our excitement at enacting EPR legislation. So, instead, I get to celebrate the steps forward we've all taken at minimizing the virus, the amazing progress our members have made at creating a dialogue around their needs and experiences with affordable housing in their communities, and we're closer than we've ever been to seeing EPR enacted.

Speaking of steps forward, this is our first issue since the election. This year we made a statistically significant leap forward: Nova Scotia currently has one of the largest proportions of women in municipal elected positions of any province in Canada, at 38 per cent. Truly a massive leap forward for the status of women in the province, and another step closer to making parity a reality.

I've challenged myself to find ways to think forward, and find new ways to engage our women members, enlist our men as allies, and continue to drive toward

the greater goal of parity. Moving forward we can look forward to a few morning coffee chats where I'll be round tabling with women councillors (and anyone else that wishes to attend!) and finding more ways to engage and listen to our members about the issues that matter to them the most.

We're in the midst of revitalizing our relationships with each other, the province, and many of our stakeholders. After our board retreat in February, I think we had the chance to really get on board with each other, figure out what we've been doing, and what we can do to further our resolutions and statements of municipal concern. I'm quite lucky to be taking the lead from the wonderful work and progress that came under Emily's leadership. This means setting everyone up for success, and ensuring that all of our members feel heard, seen, and reflected in the values and work of NSFM.

Thank you to everyone for the late-night zoom meetings, the early mornings, and those days where you're trying to be five places (online) at once. I think I know better than most now what it's like to have to step up suddenly, and work towards immediate goals. Your work and dedication does not go unnoticed, and it's certainly beginning to show as we make continued progress towards our member priorities.



By CEO Juanita Spencer

It ain't easy being green

When discussing water and wastewater, the conversation is inextricably tied to climate change. This is a priority that our members have made quite clear—they want to be on the forefront of climate issues. While ensuring a greener, cleaner, province can be a fight at times, it's one that we are willing to wade into the deep for.

We made some moves forward with what was then the UNSM Sustainability Office, and in 2013 the requirement that all members submit a Municipal Climate Change Action Plan (MCCAPS). The issue lay dormant for a while, but has returned as our top-priority statement of municipal concern. If you consider EPR for PPP to be under the same umbrella (which it is, as an action item concerning greening our members operations) this is an area of focus that our staff spends a large amount of time dealing with.

In the intervening years since 2013, we've been through a few elections, and our member makeup has shifted drastically. This could be a good time for us as an organization to revisit MCCAPS, and see how we can enable our members to address the grow-

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ing concerns around how climate change will affect them in their communities.

As it happens, municipalities are not an island unto themselves. To make real change, like enabling EPR, we require the commitment and participation of our partners at the provincial level. At this time, I think that commitment is there.

We believe the Province and municipalities have common goals relating to the sustainability of Nova Scotia's communities. We are confident that it will benefit both the Province and municipalities to work together and share knowledge and resources regarding mitigation and adaptation strategies. Together we can do a better job of ensuring the planning and operations of the Province as well as ensuring Nova Scotia's local governments are efficient and resilient to climate change.

The big issue when faced with anything in small communities is always the idea of available resources. Even within our office at NSFPM, we are limited by our staff workload and the number of hours in a day. Of course, climate change is an extremely time sensitive issue, so we find ourselves having to use our "green lens" to see how we can work the idea of climate change into all of our actions. There is a much to be done, and equally less time to see it happen.

Climate change will be the defining issue of a generation, and I believe that our members recognize this, our board recognizes this, and they see it at the federal and provincial levels as well. Our members were able to shift rather quickly for everything from adopting new flood plains to adjust to

our changing planet, to finding new ways to source and conserve water to last through our summers that are becoming longer and hotter by the year.

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By Brendan Maguire
Minister of Municipal Affairs

Has COVID-19 forced or enabled municipalities to think out of the box?

Dear Colleagues:

I am incredibly pleased to have been appointed Minister of Municipal Affairs and Minister responsible for the Emergency Management Office. I look forward to working with all of you to continue to build strong and safe communities throughout our province.

Open communication is important to me and one of my first priorities as Minister has been to reach out to municipalities. I have spoken, written, and virtually connected with municipalities over the past several weeks and will continue to reach out in the coming days and weeks. Once the legislature rises, I will meet with municipal officials to discuss the issues that are important to communities. I have also had initial conversations with the NSFM.

On March 25, government introduced the 2021-2022 budget. The Department of Municipal Affairs' budget for this fiscal year is \$213 million. As you are aware,

the past year has been one like no other with the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. I know that municipalities continue to rise to this challenge to support Nova Scotians.

We continue to provide investments in our municipalities through several provincial programs, such as Community Works, Beautification and Streetscaping, and the Emergency Services Provider Fund for first responder organizations. In addition, we will continue to work with municipalities and our federal partners to support important infrastructure initiatives for the benefit of Nova Scotians.

As part of the budget, responsibility for the Regional Enterprise Network (REN) program will be moving to the Department of Inclusive Economic Growth as of April 1, 2021. The mandate of the RENs aligns with the orientation of the Inclusive Economic Growth Department. As government continues to support businesses and organizations recover from



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difficult times have
continued to provide the vital
services our communities
need.*

thank you



the impacts of COVID-19, it is more important than ever to align efforts to achieve success.

I am pleased to be introducing several pieces of legislation during this session. I recently introduced changes to the Municipal Government Act (MGA) and the Halifax

As municipal leaders, I want to hear from you. My door is open, and I look forward to working together to make sure Nova Scotians have access to the programs and services they need.

Regional Municipality (HRM) Charter to put in place the framework agreement for a code of conduct. This was recommended by the Joint Municipal/Provincial Accountability and Transparency Committee and it provides for more transparency for Nova Scotians and increased accountability by their local government. The department will continue to work with municipalities through the NSFM and AMA as we develop the regulations.

I also introduced amendments to the MGA and HRM Charter enabling local governments to

help businesses become more accessible and support Nova Scotia's goal of being barrier free by 2030. The intent of the bill is to enable municipalities, if they choose, to provide funding incentives to private businesses for the purposes of accessibility initiatives. The Province remains committed to financially supporting businesses and organizations to help make Nova Scotia accessible by 2030. This bill empowers municipalities to make unencumbered decisions regarding accessibility initiatives. The Municipal Partnership Framework guides our work on shared priorities, improving communications and being accountable for outcomes. Together, we collaborate on programs, policies, legislation, and initiatives that directly benefit the Nova Scotians we collectively serve. I look forward to signing a new partnership agreement to continue this work.

As municipal leaders, I want to hear from you. My door is open, and I look forward to working together to make sure Nova Scotians have access to the programs and services they need.

Premier Rankin has a dynamic and prosperous vision for Nova Scotia, and municipalities are at the core of that plan. We need your support to ensure our Province recovers from the economic impact of the global pandemic, and all Nova Scotians benefit from a cleaner, healthier future. I am honoured to have the opportunity to work with you to make our communities stronger, better places to live.

Yours sincerely,

Brendan Maguire
Minister of Municipal Affairs

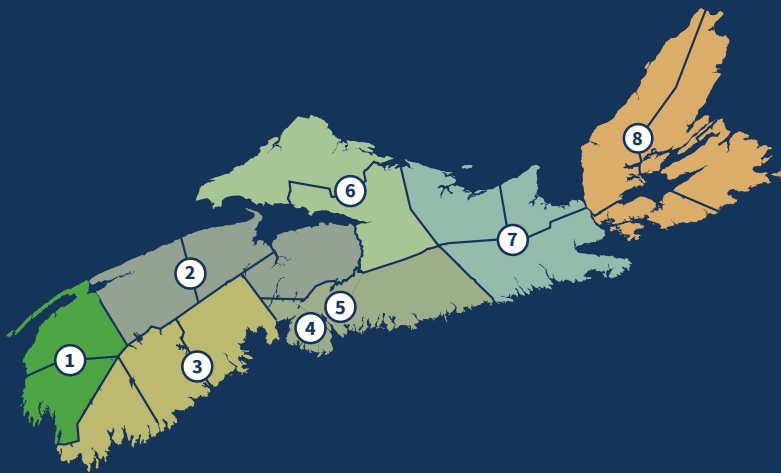
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Continuous Improvement Challenge: Bringing the local manufacturing sector together



Photo credit, Meagan Hancock Valley REN

The Annapolis Valley region has a robust and diverse manufacturing sector; producing and exporting products that range from food and beverage, biomedical, rubber, and paper (including paper industry supply). Manufacturing in the Annapolis Valley represents a significant number of jobs and a great deal of economic activity.

The manufacturing sector is an opportunity for growth; however, key issues need to be addressed to enable the continued success of the sector, which is

instrumental in creating prosperous and sustainable Annapolis Valley communities. Through the Valley Manufacturing Taskforce, the Valley Regional Enterprise Network (Valley REN) is engaging with leading manufacturers in the region to identify and address key challenges and opportunities for the sector.

The Continuous Improvement (CI) Challenge, organized by the Valley REN, is a new challenge to local manufacturers to assist other facilities in finding opportunities for improvement. Facilitated by manu-

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Photo - Troy Turple, Michelin Waterville

facturing experts who provide support, the CI Challenge is peer-to-peer knowledge sharing, to identify strategic needs, establish baselines for improvement, prioritize root causes and implement solutions. Supporting manufacturers in their continuous improvement efforts helps improve products, services, and gain efficiencies in their processes.

“It was a great opportunity to collaborate with the Valley manufacturing community and assist in resolving roadblocks. There was value to be gained by all participants, that can be applied at our sites. Helping each other in this way will make our companies and communities stronger.” Chris Burke, Weaving/Finishing Manager, Andritz.

To date, two CI challenges have taken place, with Michelin North America (Canada) Inc. (Waterville facility), who offered manufacturing expertise to the case study enterprises. During the sessions, pre-recorded video and live streams from within the facilities informed the cross-functional groups made up of staff from six manufacturing and production companies and Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (ACOA) and the Valley REN. Over two days, Michelin employees led the group through a process of mapping people and product and data flow on the defined problem and collaborating to bring solutions forward.

“We always want to make things better. How can we make things better for the operator, how can we produce more, how can we have good productivity, good quality?” Rachel Morrison, Industrial Engineer, Michelin North America (Canada) Inc., Waterville facility.

Groups focused on particular aspects of the business, as identified by the case study company.

While case study companies walked away with resources to improve deficiencies, all participants came away with a broader understanding of the processes.

“Businesses of all sizes create jobs and employ local talent, that’s why this initiative must encompass our largest employers with our small business. We’ve been connecting manufacturers to help them draw from their biggest asset, their people.” Richelle Brown Redden, Economic Development Officer, Valley REN.

Thanks to Andritz, Eden Valley Poultry, Just Us Coffee Roasters Co-op, Schoolhouse Brewery, ACOA, NSBI and Michelin for their support in making the Continuous Improvement Challenge possible.

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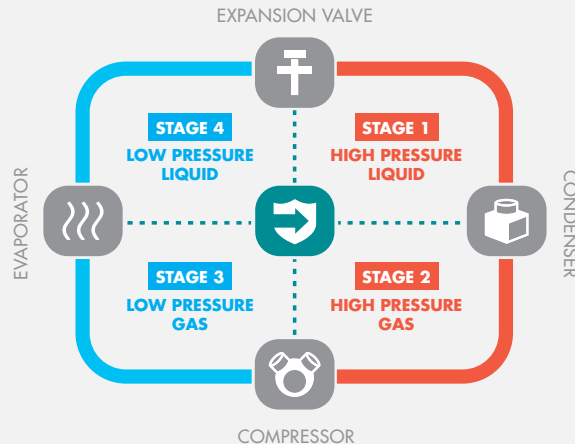
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3. RETURN

Once the leak has been resolved, the refrigerant can be transferred from the SMART Transfer back into the system.

Federal Gas Tax Fund project spotlight

The Municipality of the County of Antigonish's Market Street Water Tower & Utility Upgrade Project

Federal Gas Tax Fund contribution to project: \$1,217,648

Total project cost to date: \$1,217,648

Project completion date: 2021

The Municipality of the County of Antigonish used the federal Gas Tax Fund to make important upgrades to its water utility, which included the construction of a water tower and improvements to its distribution lines. This important investment secures the Municipality's water supply to allow for future growth and ensure adequate availability for fire-protection purposes.

The new tower serves as a reservoir to store an ample quantity of water, while ensuring it has stable distribution pressure. Built on newly-acquired municipal land, the tower is 117 feet tall and 22.5 feet in diameter. Its 340,000-gallon capacity is enough to service both the existing 800 residences in the area and projected residential and commercial growth over the next 20 years. The increased volume and improved water pressure are also sufficient to meet fire flow requirements, which is the amount of water necessary for fire protection, above and beyond what is used for other community purposes.

To improve its distribution system and reduce threats to service delivery, the Municipality looped various lines adjacent to the water tower. Looped lines have a high degree of reliability: should

a break occur, the Municipality's water utility team can isolate and repair it with fewer homes and businesses being impacted.

As a component of its asset management plan, this project is an important investment in the Municipality's core infrastructure. Not only does it provide an adequate and stable water supply for the County of Antigonish now and into the future, but it also supports sustainable service delivery, public safety and local economic growth.



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Pipe Dreams:

How Halifax Water is finding success amongst pandemics and climate change

The age-old adage, failing to plan, is planning to fail, is clearly something Halifax Water has sought to avoid. The growing utility has dodged most of the challenges facing modern water utilities through one simple move: constant planning.

“It’s a lot of long-range planning,” explained Cathie O’Toole, general manager of Halifax Water. “Now that I’ve been in this role for almost two years, I’ve recognized the importance of that planning. Be it emergency management plans, the enterprise risk management process, long range planning for capital, and how we adapt to climate change.

“Since I’ve become general manager, it’s been a bit of a roller coaster ride,” she explained. “There’s been sinkholes, a small privacy breach-type issue, tropical storms, hurricanes. Then into year two we’ve had a pandemic—it’s been a continual group of challenges. Last summer we had a scare with blue-green algae at one of our source water lakes. Every one of these unanticipated issues has driven home for me the importance of planning.”

It goes beyond planning, Halifax Water ensure that not only is something written down, but staff has been made aware of the tools and resources that have been set aside should things go south—as they often do, when dealing with the volumes of water Halifax sees in daily operations.

“In the heat of an emergency, we don’t waste time thinking ‘what am I supposed to do now?’”, said O’Toole. “Having a game plan helps to eliminate that factor.”

Operations for the utility are not all stomping out fires, either. Halifax Water plans ahead for successes, as much as it does for emergencies. Halifact 2050 represents an adaptation and mitigation plan for the entire municipality, that Halifax Water was a majority stakeholder within.

The plan is quite ambitious, identifying 46 actions that relate to water, wastewater, and storm water.

“One of the things I’m looking forward to is working with other organizations in the community,” O’Toole explained. “The municipality, the province, not-for-profits, special interest groups – they all have a hand in integrating and refining our long-range capital plans to reflect that climate lens.

“Right now, we’ve got all of our capital projects in the future going through that climate lens,” “Instead of doing a project the way it would’ve been done five years ago, what do we need to be planning for in terms of climate change adaptation or mitigation. The other thing we’re formally doing this year is a climate change action plan specific to Halifax Water—that will look at issues with respect to setting more aggressive targets for our greenhouse gas emission reductions.”

Halifax Water has already been operating a program that has been reducing their greenhouse gas emissions each year, however a lot of the focus has been on energy-related projects like lighting and energy-intensive pumps. This newer plan will look at more sweeping organizational changes, like employee behaviour and how they deliver service—like the amount of fleet vehicles, and how they are used.

“There are a lot of culture changes that need to be done if we want to get to being as best as we can on climate change mitigation,” said O’Toole.

The Halifax 2050 plan was created with that mitigation in mind. It contains facts about the rising sea level, increased rainfall amount and intensity, increased periods of drought—which impacts safety and quality of source water. Also, things like pumping stations and overflow stations which tend to be on the edges of bodies of water.

“We need to invest a lot more money in upgrading our major water treatment plants to ensure that we have the type of systems and processes in place to deal with the changes in source water quality that we’re anticipating,” she explained. “Basically, we know it’s going to be tricky to deliver not only water service, but also storm water and wastewater. Increased storm events will impact the storm and wastewater side of the business, and climate

change will impact source water quality. I don't think there's any part of our business that isn't going to be impacted or changed by the effects of climate change."

The great irony with climate change is that not only will it bring an excess of water through storm events and increased precipitation, it will also increase periods of drought as the planet warms. This means that alongside finding ways to mitigate the onslaught of water, Halifax Water has invested significant time into ensuring that users of the water utility also decrease their consumption to lessen the burden on the utility.

"The last 20 years has seen fairly steadily decreasing consumption," said O'Toole. "Our long-range planning is based on the assumption that consumption continues to decrease. Our customers are blessed in that we do not have any supply issues, and we're not envisioning those in the future. There have been a couple of years where we've had unusual things going on in our system, but capital projects have addressed those challenges, so we don't see any supply issues with the water production side.

"We're more concerned with the impact drought will have on the quality of water remaining in the lakes that we're using to produce water," she added.

Happily, no matter the size, utilities don't have to go it alone. There are numerous professional associations that O'Toole believes are the key to success for those in the industry.

"Don't reinvent the wheel," she said. "There are really good industry associations—it's an industry where people are really anxious to share their knowledge and help each other. If smaller utilities participate in the associations, and become engaged, we can better help them. They can see what others are doing,

they can keep up with practises, and they can make contacts who are more than willing to pick up the phone and answer any questions they might have about water."

As for things the average person usually overlooks about the success of Halifax Water? The utility worker comes to mind first for O'Toole. Halifax Water has employees that work through all conditions to ensure the water supply flows and goes as necessary. This includes during a global pandemic that has shut down operations for most of the western world.

"They're public servants, they're front-line workers—hydration and sanitation needs didn't go away during the pandemic," she explained. "Most of our employees don't have the luxury of working from home. There's been a lot of appreciation for other front-line workers, but very rarely do you hear something about the water and wastewater workers, and municipal employees who are keeping things running. It's a 24/7 business."

Another common misconception about Halifax Water, likely due to its size and scope, is that it operates as not-for-profit. When compared to the other major utilities in the province, it can be easy to conflate the two. However, they are still a municipal body, and their mandate is still to provide the best value for ratepayers.

"I think it's critical right now that everybody starts to think and plan for Climate Change," concluded O'Toole. "Everybody needs to do their part—whether it's conserving water, or reducing waste, or reducing trips in their car."

With that in mind, Halifax Water launched an online customer portal in the fall. Any customer can login online and monitor their water consumption, billing, and get notices based on consumption. As customers try to green their habits, this will help to ensure they're on the right track—while also preventing surprise spikes in bills.

Manage all of your Halifax Water accounts in one place.

Sign up for Customer Connect today at: halifaxwater.ca





Good day and welcome to the ACWWA

Let's begin with the basics: What is ACWWA?

We are the Atlantic Canada Water and Wastewater Association. ACWWA is comprised of over 550 water and wastewater professionals from Atlantic Canada. Membership in ACWWA provides the training and information needed to keep current in the fast-changing water profession. The association is comprised of the board of directors, committee chairs and an executive director who all work together to make the best decisions for the ACWWA and its members.

We are a section of the American Water Works Association (AWWA), an international non-profit scientific and educational society dedicated to the improvement of drinking water. AWWA is the largest association of water professionals in the world with over 50,000 members, representing every part of the water profession.

The Water Environment Federation (WEF) is an association focused on preserving and enhancing the global water environment. WEF has over 35,000 members and works to provide its members, public officials and the general public with the necessary tools to engage in, or learn ways, to improve quality of life through the sustainable management of water resources, water protection and water and wastewater environment.

Having membership in either/both of these associations grants you membership in the ACWWA.

Our vision:

To be recognized as the leading resource on water and wastewater in Atlantic Canada

Our core principles:

- To protect public health
- Safeguard the environment
- Enrich the expertise of water professionals
- Advance Inclusion, Diversity and Equity
- Connect water professionals
- Pursue excellence
- Act with integrity
- Provide value

Our Mission:

To be dedicated to promoting excellence in stewardship, management and operation of vital water and wastewater systems

Membership is the cornerstone of ACWWA, and its diverse nature creates the unique community we are.

Our members represent the water and wastewater industry from a number of disciplines including system design and consulting, utility management and operations, academics and students, and service providers and contractors.

Membership benefits include being informed, and access to training/networking opportunities with like-minded professionals.

The ACWWA has a strong education program. We provide technical training, as well as education courses – both in person, and more recently, a strong virtual offering – both as live presentations and take-at-your-own-pace offerings. ACWWA has collaborated with the BCWWA, MTS, WWOTC and MPWWA, and industry partners to extend the training offerings to our members. CEU offerings are an integral part of the education offering. The online content covers the same material as the in-class course, and earns the same number of continuing education units (CEUs).

We stock a strong resource library to provide the resources necessary to support our members. These resources are available to borrow, as well as purchase.

There is also support for youth and consumer initiatives. There are resources available to those in the community (educators, community-based groups) who wish to carry out projects in their classroom, or within a group environment.

Our largest education initiative each year is the annual conference. A typical conference is held over a

period of three days, and the location would vary by city and province within Atlantic Canada. There would be a balance of approximately 30 technical presentations, a trade show component hosted by the ABEA (our host supplier association), opportunities to network, and a YP component (Young Professional) of technical sessions, fresh ideas presentations, and the culmination being a social event. However, 2020 brought its own challenges, and we presented our first virtual conference (Dec. 2020) which was deemed to have been a great success. We are now planning our second virtual event, hosted by St. John's, NL.

ACWWA provides applicable awards each year to recognize those in the industry that have made notable contributions. The awards are those provided by the AWWA, WEF and ACWWA, such as the Volunteer of the Year, Project of the Year, Operator of the Year, and the Beddell, McNab and Fuller Awards.



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SPONSORED CONTENT

How much is corrosion costing you to fix?

In 2002, NACE in partnership with the FHWA in the USA authored a report after conducting a two-year study which surveyed many municipal, state, federal departments and private sector businesses to approximate how much money was being spent annually to address corrosion.

For the purposes of their analysis, the United States economy was divided into five major sector categories: infrastructure, utilities, transportation, production and manufacturing, and government. The five major sectors were then further sub-divided into 26 sub-sectors. In total, they estimated that corrosion was costing upwards of \$276B US dollars per year or equivalent to 3.1 per cent of USA GDP.

In 2016, a subsequent study by NACE concluded that the costs of addressing corrosion are closer to 3.4 per cent of a Country's GDP. Drinking water and sewers systems were categorized under the utilities sector and in 2002 it was estimated that corrosion was costing this sector \$36B USD per year, well ahead of any other sub-sector. The next closest sub-sector was for motor vehicles at \$23B followed by defense at \$20B, which then dropped to \$8.3B for highways and bridges.

Almost 20 years has passed since that original report and there have been some improvements in addressing corrosion since then, but the focus now should be about why it is costing drinking water and sewer systems sub-sector so much money to address and fix corrosion compared to others? Part of the reason has had to do with it being "out of sight, out of mind". The combination of indifference and corrosion makes a misunderstood phenomenon, alongside other major contributors.

Unfortunately, no NACE-equivalent study exists for Canada, but it is very easy to extrapolate using simple math. As of 2019, the GDP of Nova Scotia was \$37.4B

CAD. At 3.4 per cent of GDP, corrosion as a whole is potentially costing the province of Nova Scotia approximately \$1.27B.

If we were to assume a similar ratio to the US, the potential cost to the province of Nova Scotia is approximately \$163M a year to fix corrosion in the drinking water and sewer systems sector alone. Do note that this isn't what the actual cost to the province is, however, if left unchecked the province could be spending a lot of money fixing infrastructure on an annual basis.

With that in mind, what can be done to reduce the costs of fixing corrosion? As it relates to drinking water and sewer systems, it means taking a fundamentally more proactive approach, versus the current methodology of simply reacting. At a high level, this involves improving the language in the provincial design guidelines around when corrosion (or infiltration) should be addressed by the proponent. It would also involve municipalities developing standards or specifications on how they want corrosion (or infiltration) to be addressed specifically in their communities, taking into consideration requirements like quality, performance, historical efficacy and product availability.

Lastly, it means changing the "I'll fix it later" mindset. The cost to proactively address corrosion during design and construction pales in comparison to the cost of fixing a now-buried leaky pipe, valve, joint, etc, after the fact.

What is your Municipality doing?

EXPERIENCING MATERIAL LOSS ON YOUR ROADS OR CORROSION ON YOUR EQUIPMENT?

With decades of proven product performance, contact us to learn how we can help make your assets last a lot longer.

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'Step-by-step' to get to better procurement

Imagine there was a trade compliant, non-for-profit Buying Alliance, with 5,000+ active members that offers competitively priced, lower administration, and procurement flexibility; all with no membership fee. Here's the kicker, **there is!**

Simply visit <https://www.nsfm.ca/trade-programs.html> to learn about the NSFM-RMA relationship, and how your municipality can begin to use member trade programs!

Here are the steps, to use your programs as tools to better procurement.

1st step

Complete the opt in form and return to Tim Elms to organize account set up 'next steps' with some of the key vendors, Staples, Grainger, Napa etc., as well as all billing (this is really is only for shipment and accounting purposes)

2nd step

Create your municipality's declaration, copy and paste (annually) onto a document with your municipality's letterhead and post it to their designated tendering website.

See below for 'the notice of intent sample' to satisfy the requirements of the CFTA.

[Insert Municipality Name] intends to participate in one or more procurements conducted by the Nova Scotia Federation Municipalities-RMA between [insert one year period including month/year]. For further information and access to Nova Scotia Federation Municipalities-RMA tender notices, please review the Nova Scotia Procurement website at www.procurement.novascotia.ca or the MERX website at www.merx.com. For further information on the Nova Scotia Federation Municipalities please visit the website at www.nsfm.ca.



Once that's complete the process is as easy as 1 2 3:

About the Program

RMA are a group of municipal associations from nearly every province across the country – representing the vast majority of cities, towns, villages, counties, and other types of municipalities – creating one of the largest and most influential public sector buying groups in Canada! Due to the governmental and not-for-profit nature of the group, other public sector entities and not-for-profit groups may also be eligible to join.

We have been operating since 1936 and manage tendering, vendor relations, legal considerations, accounting, and communications on behalf of members across Canada.

As we exist to support our member municipalities, we are not-for-profit, working instead to connect members and suppliers in mutually-beneficial relationships.

Reach out to Tim Elms at NSFM with the filled out, included, form to begin your procurement journey.



Tim Elms serves as the client relations manager for RMA – Nova Scotia. He is ready to help with all of your procurement needs

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Working with local municipal associations across the country, the Canadian cooperative procurement group, not-for-profit, and public sector organizations secure preferential pricing and service by combining the purchasing power of its entire membership to create an economy of scale.

To join, please fill out the information below and return it to your local Client Relations Manager. All fields are required. There is no minimum purchase required.

If your organization has existing accounts with approved suppliers in good standing, you can transfer those accounts over to your cooperative procurement account for improved discounts. Talk to your Client Relations Manager for more details.

BILL-TO

FULL NAME:	DATE:
POSITION:	PHONE #:
EMAIL:	
ORGANIZATION:	
FULL ADDRESS:	POSTAL CODE:

SHIP-TO

FULL NAME:	DATE:
POSITION:	PHONE #:
EMAIL:	
ORGANIZATION:	
*FULL ADDRESS:	POSTAL CODE:

*Please provide a physical address. Orders cannot be shipped to PO boxes.

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED INDIVIDUAL

(By typing your full name into the digital signature field above, you confirm the information on this form is accurate and binding.)

PRINTED NAME OF AUTHORIZED INDIVIDUAL

POSITION / TITLE

DATE



Planning for an affordable, clean energy future

It is an exciting time for NS Power, our employees and customers. The groundwork has been laid. We are in the process of transformative change. Together we can build a cleaner, greener Nova Scotia.

Nova Scotians are telling us they want a cleaner energy future for themselves and their children and our customers expect us to do our part to reduce our carbon footprint. They want to see us move off fossil fuels and offer clean energy solutions. Customers also expect and deserve reliable and affordable energy. We are committed to delivering all three.

Our transition to clean energy started over 15 years ago. Today, we are a Canadian leader in carbon reduction and a North American leader in percentage of wind power on our system. Since 2005, we have cut carbon by 34 per cent, well ahead of the national goal of the 30 per cent reduction by 2030. Over the past decade, we have tripled renewable energy output from 9 per cent to 30 per cent of our energy mix. And we are on track to supply approximately 60 per cent clean energy by 2022.

This progress has been made by staying focused and by listening to our customers. It is also a result of the partnerships with customers, all levels of governments, energy advocates and energy entrepreneurs in the private sector - sharing the vision and investing in a cleaner energy future. Our 2020 Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) filed with the NS Utility and Review Board in November, is a great example of this. We collaborated with stakeholders and over 50 organizations across the province. This contributed to developing a stronger, better plan.



The IRP is a 25-year planning tool that will help inform what our future power generation and energy resources will look like. All of the key themes that emerged in the report are centered on the need to continue to plan for a lower carbon future - including looking at ways to accelerate an affordable transition away from coal. We know Nova Scotians want more clean energy and we are exploring ways to make that happen faster. But it must be affordable for customers.

There is no question coal has been an important part of our history in Nova Scotia, but it is not part of our long-term future. The percentage of electricity generated by coal in our province has decreased 43 per cent since 2005 and will continue to decrease until it is eliminated from our energy mix. In 2005, coal represented 73 per cent of our total energy supply; this is forecasted to decline to approximately 35 per cent as energy becomes available from Muskrat Falls.

The Federal government has communicated support for provinces in their transition away from coal; including projects like the Atlantic Loop that would create new transmission connections to clean power sources in other parts of Canada. That support aligns well with the findings in our IRP. In every scenario that emerged from the planning model, it's clear we need to continue to plan for a lower carbon future, including looking at ways to accelerate an affordable transition away from coal.

We look forward to building on these partnerships and creating new ones, as we continue to accelerate an affordable transition to clean energy, together.




THE FUTURE IS LOOKING CLEAN

We're on track to
reach 60% clean
energy by 2022.

To find out more, visit
nspower.ca/clean

HEATHER HOLLAND
DIRECTOR, ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

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Essential to the Economy

Serving exporters, importers, retailers, farmers and manufacturers, CN's transportation services are integral to modern life, touching the lives of millions of Canadians every day.

\$250B

WORTH OF GOODS TRANSPORTED

25%

OF WHAT WE TRANSPORT IS EXPORTED

24,000

RAILROADERS

\$3B

CAPITAL INVESTMENTS (2021)

