

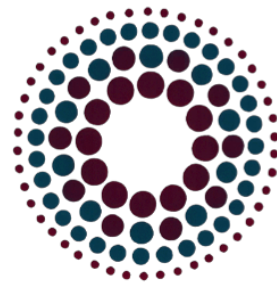
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Monday Memo



NOVA SCOTIA FEDERATION
OF MUNICIPALITIES

NSFM 2026 SPRING CONFERENCE



NSFM 2026 SPRING CONFERENCE

April 29th–May 1st, Yarmouth, NS

Don't Miss Out: NSFM's Spring Conference Is Almost Here

The NSFM 2026 Spring Conference, April 29-May 1 in Yarmouth, is shaping up to be a dynamic and timely gathering for municipal leaders from across NS. Over three days, delegates will come together to learn, share experiences, hear important provincial updates, and connect with colleagues working on the front lines of municipal governance. With a balanced program of plenary sessions, workshops, and networking opportunities, the event continues to be a key forum for collaboration and forward thinking.

This year's program features a wide range of sessions on issues that matter most to municipalities right now, including municipal success stories, emergency management, policing review updates, stormwater strategy, climate resilience, dark

relationships with peers and partners, there is something in the program for everyone. With the conference fast approaching, do not miss your opportunity to take part. Visit the [conference website](#) to view the full program and register today.

[CLICK HERE TO VIEW THE PROGRAM & REGISTER](#)

ADVOCACY IN ACTION

Public Safety Advisory Committee

Public safety remains a top priority for municipalities across Nova Scotia. [The NSFM Public Safety Advisory Committee](#) examines issues related to policing, fire prevention, and emergency preparedness. Through its work, the committee helps inform NSFM advocacy and supports municipalities in strengthening community safety, resilience, and coordinated emergency response.

To learn more about engaging with any of the five NSFM's Advisory Committees, [Click here](#)

NEW & NOTEWORTHY

Employment Opportunity

Please see below for the following job opportunity for the Town of Westville.

- Position: Chief Administrative Officer
- Deadline: April 24
- Posting Detail: [Click here](#)
- Questions: lennie.white@westville.ca

Municipal Water Resiliency & Planning Symposium

hybrid option via Teams available. This day-long session will bring together municipal leaders, planners, engineers, utilities professionals, and provincial representatives to discuss shared challenges related to water resource management, planning, climate change, and growth. Hosted by Dalhousie's School of Planning and Centre for Water Resources Studies, the symposium aims to share knowledge and strengthen climate-resilient water planning and management.

- Free registration: [here](#)
- Questions: julia.a.white@dal.ca

CCBF Program Update

In 2024, the provincial and federal governments signed a new 10-year agreement for the Canada Community-Building Fund. The new agreement places special emphasis on creating conditions for housing, while continuing to cover a full range of eligible infrastructure categories.

The agreement includes requirements around communicating CCBF projects to the public. For assistance in meeting your requirements, contact Teal Verus, NSFM's CCBF Program Coordinator

- Visit the [CCBF webpage](#)
- More info? Contact tverus@nsfm.ca

Study on Women in Local Government

In partnership with the NSFM, Dr. Rebecca Wallace, Mila Mulroney Research Chair in Women and Politics (St. Francis Xavier University) and her team are studying women's experience in municipal officeholding, with a particular focus on their tenure in and exit from politics. Women politicians are leaving office earlier than men at other levels of Canadian government, but this has not been explored at the municipal level. The research is now entering the outreach phase in which women who **currently hold municipal office** are invited to participate in confidential, open-ended interviews to discuss their experience in municipal government.

- More information: rwallace@stfx.ca

NS Quality of Life Survey

greater data for municipal planning and budgeting for years to come. Survey results will give municipalities previously unknowable information about the lives of their residents. The survey results will show how things have changed at local levels since the last survey in 2019. How to take the survey:

- Email: survey@engagenovascotia.ca or call 1-833-224-0333
- You will be provided with a **unique user code** and the **survey website link**

The survey is led by Engage Nova Scotia, in collaboration with the Canadian Index of Wellbeing, with the support from the provincial and federal governments, as well as the Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities (NSFM).

Kindly circulate to your networks.



NEWS

[30 years since amalgamation for HRM. Was it a success?](#)
[CBU development group issues tenders to build housing at Tartan Downs](#)

[New Brunswick toll plan 'unfortunate,' says Houston](#)

[N.B. toll will do more harm than good, some Nova Scotians say](#)

[Public engagement sessions for rec opportunities in Antigonish](#)

[Work on Water Street in Yarmouth to take 2 months; town](#)

[Port Hood welcomes a new fire chief & thanks former volunteer](#)

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](#).

PROGRAMS

New Canoe Outreach Rep

Do you need help finding cost-effective products and services and would you like to learn more about using [Canoe Procurement](#)? Stephanie Morris the new member outreach representative for Nova Scotia municipal units and is your direct contact for the Canoe program. In this role, Stephanie helps municipal units and non-profits find time and cost-saving benefits on a wide variety of municipal needs. She also provides educational sessions and support to help members navigate the cooperative procurement process. The program works with local retailers for supply, service, and support. **NSFM/Canoe = Local.**

- Contact: stephaniem@canoeprocurement.ca or (343) 344-4162

Report: State of Public Facilities in Canada

[NSFM/Canoe Procurement Program](#) provides a diverse range of support options for our members, including [Gordian](#), an approved program supplier. Gordian's has prepared its first State of Public Facilities in Canada Report, which is a deep dive

into the condition and governance of Canada's vital public infrastructure. The report offers critical, data-backed insights that remain highly relevant right now, especially

as budgets tighten and renewal demands grow. [Download your free copy here.](#)

Traffic Supply

Through the [NSFM/Canoe Traffic Supply Program](#), municipalities can work with leading traffic sign suppliers to procure a comprehensive range of signage, from essential basics to specialized equipment. Municipalities can access the signage they need at competitive prices, while exceeding both compliance with industry standards. The program works with local retailers for supply, service, and support.

NSFM/Canoe = Local.

Workplace Violence: A Compensable Psychological Injury

The NS Workers' Compensation Appeals Tribunal upheld a compensable psychological injury claim filed by an Educational Assistant who was sexually assaulted by a student at work. Read the [case study](#).

The employer argued that managing aggressive behaviour was inherent to the role and that the incident was not the predominant cause of the worker's condition due to prior trauma. The Tribunal disagreed and found that while challenging behaviour may be expected in certain roles, sexual assault is not simply "part of the job." It also concluded that the workplace incident was the predominant cause of the worker's psychological injury, even though there was a prior history of trauma. High-risk roles do not provide blanket protection from psychological injury claims.

[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

HR Services

[HR Covered](#) is the largest Canadian-owned HR service provider in the country. They offer our municipal units HR experts who help make managing people and processes simple and cover all avenues, at a fraction of the cost. Backed by the extensive experience of certified and qualified HR leaders, HR Covered is the most sought after HR solution in the country. The following service offerings are available **for free** to all municipal units:

- [Complementary policy manual](#)
- [Program information](#)
- More info: partnerships@hrcovered.com

HR Covered is a [program partner](#) of NSFM

Top Four Common Causes of Car Accidents

Car insurance coverage is great when things go wrong, but avoiding the accident is where the real savings begin. Saving money, protecting loved ones, and avoiding premium hikes all start with safer driving. Read about the [top four common car accident causes in Canada](#) and how to avoid them.

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.

Park'N Fly Discount

The [NSFM/Park'N Fly Discount Program](#) is available for elected municipal leaders and municipal staff within the broader municipal sector. Did you know that travel expenses are among the highest costs for many organizations? Reserve your next stay and save. Plus, earn valuable Aeroplan points on every eligible stay. **Park'N Fly offers a discount of up to 20% on airport parking and if you use the discount code, parking is 40% cheaper than parking in the airport lot.**

NSFM Launches Krown Discount

NSFM is pleased to announce the following discount program for elected leaders and staff working within the broader municipal sector in Nova Scotia. [Krown](#) and NSFM present the following discount program on services:

- 15% off discount on all Krown Vehicle Products
- Offer valid for all elected leaders, staff, and their friends and family
- Presentation of the Dealer Promo Code required

Click [Krown Discount Program](#) for more program information, including the Dealer Promo Code to access your benefit.

2026 Marketing Campaign: “Your Nova Scotia Playlist”

The 2026 Tourism NS marketing campaign “[Your Nova Scotia Playlist](#)” is now live in all markets. This year, the campaign is play on words with “Canada’s Ocean Playground”. We are encouraging travellers to find their ideal playlist including compelling experiences and attractions, set to the sounds of NS’s musical talent. To learn more about this year’s marketing activities and how you can get involved, join our annual industry webinar on April 22 @ 10 am where we will share campaign details and programming opportunities for partners across the province.

- [Register here](#)
- More information: Joann.Fitzgerald@novascotia.ca

Canada's Approach to Online Harm Policy

As online harms continue to impact communities, Canada’s approach to addressing these challenges spans multiple policy, legislative, and regulatory pathways. This webinar will provide an overview of the broader federal policy and governance landscape around online harms, including illegal and harmful content, behaviours, and the ways online platforms and technologies can amplify or enable harm. The session will draw on applied examples of digital policy approaches and regulatory models from other jurisdictions and support a shared understanding of how municipalities navigate this federal policy landscape, given their proximity to community-level impacts and their jurisdictional and resource constraints.

- April 22 @ 2 pm (Atlantic)
- [Register here](#)

Presented by the [Strong Cities Network Prevention Academy Canada](#)

Mental Health in Municipal Leadership - Webinar Series

The [Municipal Wellness Program](#) was established in 2014 and encourages Nova Scotia municipalities to create healthy workplace environments and promote positive health and wellbeing for all municipal employees and elected officials. Join us during **Mental Health Awareness Month** for an engaging series of one-hour webinars focused on mental health in municipal leadership.

- [Register here](#)
- More info: spellerin@amans.ca

Recap: Home & Auto Insurance

Did you miss our webinar on the **NSFM Personal Home & Auto Insurance Program**? BrokerLink is proud to provide quality insurance products, expertise, and solutions to our sector. Their dedicated group of insurance advisors will compare your coverage options and help get you the most comprehensive coverage at the best value. This webinar recording explains how the program works, how access works, and how you, as an elected leader or municipal staffer can benefit from lower insurance rates and value-added education on insurance products. [Click here](#).

RESOURCES

[Winter Municipal Observer](#)

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

[Fall/Winter Atlantic Municipal Magazine](#)

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



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