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Monday Memo



NOVA SCOTIA FEDERATION
OF MUNICIPALITIES

NSFM 2026 FALL CONFERENCE



**STRONGER TOGETHER:
LEADERSHIP, TRUST &
TRANSFORMATION**

2026 NSFM CONFERENCE

Nov 3 - 6 • Halifax, NS

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

The full program and registration details are found on the conference site.

The Countdown is on – Don't Miss the 2026 NSFM Fall Conference

The 2026 NSFM Fall Conference is fast approaching, taking place November 4-6 in Halifax. The program is packed with timely sessions and valuable discussions for municipal leaders across Nova Scotia.

Delegates will hear from keynote speaker, former MP Celina Caesar-Chavannes, and take part in a wide range of sessions covering Governing for Everyone with an EDIA lens, Safe Public Meetings, the Economic Outlook and more. Updates from the

With networking events, exhibits, and opportunities to connect with colleagues from across the province, this year's conference promises to deliver meaningful learning and collaboration.

If you haven't registered yet, now's the time. [Visit the conference site for full program details and registration information.](#)

2026 BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION

NSFM's 2026 Board of Directors Election Campaign

The campaign for NSFM's 2026 Board of Directors Election has officially begun. We invite you to acquaint yourself with the nominees, where you will discover their backgrounds, aspirations, and dedication to serving our communities. [Click here for more info.](#)

EDUCATION - NEW SERIES

Natural Resources & Energy Education Series

NSFM is pleased to introduce this new series of online sessions designed to create opportunities for municipalities to connect with provincial departments and other partners working in Nova Scotia's energy and natural resources sectors. **Upcoming sessions:**

- **Critical & Strategic Minerals Atlas Tutorial:** [October 19](#) or [October 28](#), 12:00-12:45 PM

Additional sessions will be announced as details are confirmed.

Learn more and register: [Natural Resources & Energy Education Series](#)

MUNICIPAL CONSULTATIONS

NSFM is consulting with members on the development of new requirements for orientation training for newly elected councillors. In person and online consultation sessions will be held across the province this month. The purposes:

- Help identify current municipal orientation practices, opportunities, and barriers
- Inform an orientation framework that is accessible, equitable, and realistic for municipalities and newly elected councillors

[View the consultation details and register](#)

NEW & NOTEWORTHY

Municipal Wellness Program Update

The [Municipal Wellness Program](#) was established in 2014 and is dedicated to fostering healthy workplaces for Nova Scotia's municipal employees and elected officials. At the end of November, operations for the program will officially transition from AMANS to NSFM. AMANS and NSFM are already working hand-in-hand to make this changeover as smooth as possible. NSFM is deeply invested in the future of this program and its benefit to our entire sector.

As part of this new chapter, NSFM welcomes Erin Flett as our full-time Municipal Wellness Program Coordinator. Erin stepped into her role on October 13 and will be busy coordinating the transition with AMANS ahead of a **virtual launch event** on **November 30**. More details to follow. Contact information: eflett@nsfm.ca.

Municipal Exchange

Municipal Exchange is a listserv designed as a shared space for municipal news, resources, and discussion to connect and support Nova Scotia's broader municipal sector. Participation is free and open to municipal leaders and staff across the province. You can sign up for the listserv [here](#). Read the listserv [guidelines](#).

Indigenous Language Learning Courses

The [Outdoor Learning School & Store](#) is offering courses that municipal leaders and staff will find valuable and interesting, especially as many organizations move along a path towards truth and reconciliation.

- o Starts in November
- o Early bird registration closes October 30
- Winter 2027: [Mi'kmaq Conversational Course](#)
- More information: info@outdoorlearning.com

Municipal Awareness Week

The week of November 1-7 has been proclaimed as **Municipal Awareness Week** in the province. [Resolution no. 589](#), designating the week, was introduced in the Legislative Assembly on September 17. NSFM is encouraging municipalities and residents to celebrate the week by recognizing local leaders and staff, sharing community success stories and memories, and highlighting initiatives that are making a difference. Connect with our social channels and share your stories.

NEWS

[Bridgewater Police warn of phishing email using department name](#)

[Celtic Colours set to kick off 30th music and fall colours festival](#)

[Federal government improves safety for pedestrians and cyclists in Bridgewater](#)

[Kentville mayor worried after bullets placed in doorway of his business](#)

[Mayor says no parking spaces removed near Kinsmen Field](#)

[New modern traffic laws to help make roads safer: N.S. government](#)

[N.S. government spending \\$100K on upgrades to North Preston Day Care Centre](#)

[Port Hawkesbury residents look for answers: few were on the table](#)

[Province provides \\$180,000 of funding for Argyle volunteer firefighters](#)

[Province releases new Traffic Safety Act regulations](#)

[St. Peter's Firefighters Praised After Devastating Fire](#)

[Traffic Safety Act Regulations Released](#)

FUNDING

Opportunities for Empowered Municipal Growth

applying for grants easy and efficient — so you can focus on building stronger communities. nsfunding.ca.

[Rapid Adaptation Projects: Adaptation in Action](#): Federation of Canadian Municipalities – Green Municipal Fund (GMF) provides up to \$75,000 to help small and rural communities implement immediate climate adaptation projects that reduce wildfire, flood, heat, and infrastructure risks.

Deadline: November 10, 2026

[Implementation Projects: Adaptation in Action](#): Federation of Canadian Municipalities – Green Municipal Fund (GMF) provides funding for municipalities to implement climate adaptation projects that reduce risk and protect communities from the impacts of climate change.

Deadline: November 10, 2026

[Age-Friendly Communities Grant](#): NS Department of Seniors and Long-term Care supports community projects and planning initiatives that help older adults stay active, healthy, connected and engaged in their communities.

Deadline: November 19, 2026

[Community War Memorials Capital Projects](#): Veterans Affairs Canada funds remembrance initiatives and community war memorial projects that honour Canadians who served in war, military conflict, and peace since Confederation.

Deadline: December 1, 2026

[Climate-Ready Plans and Processes](#): Federation of Canadian Municipalities – Green Municipal Fund (GMF) supports municipalities in developing climate-ready plans and processes to strengthen local capacity for adaptation and integrate climate resilience into municipal systems.

Deadline: December 8, 2026

[Food Hub Program](#): Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada supports investments in food hub infrastructure, equipment and logistics to connect local food producers with markets and strengthen regional food supply chains.

Deadline: December 11, 2026

[Food Terminal Fund](#): Housing, Infrastructure and Communities Canada provides funding for large-scale wholesale food terminal infrastructure to strengthen Canada's food distribution networks and improve access to fresh, affordable food.

Deadline: December 11, 2026

NSFM/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 is the member outreach representative for Nova Scotia municipal units and 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

NSFM/Canoe Playground Supply Program

Recreation spaces knit communities together. The [NSFM/Canoe Playground Supply Program](#) can help find quality products and competitive prices for every municipal unit. [Learn how the Town of Huntsville](#) Ontario partnered with Outdoor-Fit to install the area's first outdoor fitness park, leveraging Outdoor-Fit's expertise and playground supply program to move the project forward efficiently, on time, and on budget. The program works with local retailers for supply, service, and support. **NSFM/Canoe = Local.**

HR Spotlight: Calendar Year-End HR Checklist

Year-end planning is more manageable when it starts before December. This [calendar year-end checklist](#) helps employers review vacation accruals, payroll changes, benefits, records, and upcoming HR priorities before the final weeks of the year compete for attention. Your takeaway: Assign owners and deadlines now for payroll, vacation, benefits, and records tasks. A short October checklist can prevent a much larger January clean-up.

[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

Recap: Assistance Program for Elected Officials

Did you miss the webinar presented by NSFM and AMANS on the **Assistance Program for Elected Officials**? The webinar discussed how to access and navigate the programs and services offered and provided an overview of the new website and app. The program features an extensive number of tools and resources of benefit to elected leaders. You can view the webinar [here](#).

RESOURCES

[Summer 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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