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Monday Memo



NOVA SCOTIA FEDERATION
OF MUNICIPALITIES

NEWS

2023 Fall Conference: Save the Date

Save the date for the NSFM Fall Conference, which occurs November 7-10 in Halifax.

The conference theme is **Raising the Bar on Local Leadership**. Program and registration details will be available in early September.

Extended Producer Responsibility for Printed Paper & Packaging

NSFM is pleased to advise the regulations regarding Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) for Printed Paper and Packaging (PPP) are now in place. This has been an advocacy priority of the membership since 2019.

We would like to extend our thanks to the provincial government for passing legislation in 2021, as part of *Environmental Goals and Climate Change Reduction Act*, that facilitated these new regulations. This represents a **multimillion-dollar savings** to municipalities as the responsibility for the collection and processing of blue bag waste shifts to those companies producing these materials. Perhaps most important is the added incentive for producers to create more environmentally sustainable types of packaging.

The Solid Waste-Resource Management Regional Chairs Group, led by elected officials from across the province, has worked hard to inform and track the progress of these regulations. We extend our thanks to them as well. NSFM looks forward to providing additional information to our members on key decision points as implementation gets underway. Please stay tuned and thank you for your support in continuing to create strong, sustainable communities.

[News Release](#)

Introducing NSFM's New Fund Navigator: Lucy MacLeod

We are thrilled to introduce Lucy MacLeod, the newly appointed **Fund Navigator**, a position recently created by NSFM. As the Fund Navigator, Lucy's primary responsibility is to identify infrastructure funding opportunities tailored for municipalities and to facilitate the development of strong grant applications. She is excited about the chance to collaborate with municipalities across Nova Scotia over the next several years. Together, with the support of NSFM, Lucy aims to work towards enhancing our communities and driving impactful projects forward.

You can contact Lucy at lmacleod@nsfm.ca

NSFM Carbon Surcharge Fund 2023

In 2012, NSFM's Board of Directors passed a motion to add a \$5 carbon surcharge fee to its conference registrations to mitigate the greenhouse gas emissions generated from hosting these events, as well as on its expense claims for staff and committee members to offset travel. This Carbon Surcharge Fund is collected in a special account and disbursed annually at the Fall Conference to support local, small-scale initiatives that help our municipalities reduce their energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions. This fund is meant to help initiate new projects or extend ongoing projects. NSFM is accepting applications for the 2023 Carbon Surcharge Fund from now until **August 24**. For awards information, visit <https://nsfm.ca/awards.html>.

[2023 Carbon Surcharge Fund Application Form](#)

NSFM Climate Change Leaders Award 2023

NSFM's Climate Change Leaders Award honours municipalities that have demonstrated exemplary leadership in climate change adaptation and/or mitigation through the implementation of initiatives and creation of awareness. The objectives of the award program are to celebrate successes, encourage continuous action towards climate change adaptation and mitigation, support the implementation of strategies from Municipal Climate Change Action Plans, and support collaborative efforts and the sharing of information among municipalities. This award is meant to recognize ongoing or recently completed projects. NSFM is accepting applications for the 2023

[2023 Climate Change Leaders Award Application Form](#)

Overview of July 12th Policing Meeting

Thanks to those who attended the July 12th NSFM Meeting on Policing Services. Your contributions help to confirm and further develop our understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of the different policing models. If you did not attend the meeting, you can read the overview document to see what was discussed. If you posed a question that was not answered during the meeting, NSFM endeavoured to provide answers in the overview document, which can be accessed [at this page](#).

As well, thanks to those who participated in the recent NSFM Survey on Policing.

IN THE NEWS

['All of a Sudden it's Everywhere': Graffiti a Growing Problem in Downtown Sydney](#)

[As Climate Disasters Increase, N.S. Volunteer Firefighters Need More Financial Help](#)

[Nova Scotia's Population is Suddenly Booming, Can the Province Handle It?](#)

[N.S. Premier Says Benefits of Population Boom Outweigh Challenges](#)

[See What Floodwaters Did to One Halifax Roadway](#)

FUNDING

2 Billion Trees Program Launch

This program is open to provincial government, municipal, and local governments, not-for-profit organizations, for-profit organizations, Indigenous organizations and communities, and individuals such as private landowners. All are welcome and encouraged to share their expression of interest.

Expressions of interest are open and available on the following website: [Nova Scotia's Thriving Forests - Clean Foundation](#)

To ensure your project is assessed for the first phase of planting, please submit before 11:59 pm on August 15. If you would like to stay up to date on this deadline and others please visit the webpage and join the mailing list: <https://cleanfoundation.ca/thriving-forests/>.

FCM Funding Opportunities

Stay up-to-date with funding opportunities through the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM). Visit <https://fcm.ca/en/funding> to find more information and links.

NRCan Climate Adaptation Program

Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) has opened a Call for Proposals under NRCan's Climate Change Adaptation Program, which supports Canada's National Adaptation Strategy. Up to \$15 million in funding is available to develop tools and resources to support communities, decision-makers, and natural resource-sector businesses take adaptation-informed decisions and actions. Deadline: September 22, 2023.

[Click here for more info](#)

Province Announces Disaster Financial Assistance for July 2023 Floods

In response to the communities that have been affected by the floods, the province has announced disaster financial assistance for any household, small business, and not-for-profit who sustained uninsurable damages. Nova Scotians can now apply for disaster financial assistance related to damage from the severe flooding. The program covers up to \$200,000 in uninsurable losses per household, small business, and not-for-profit organization.

Apply:

- Online: beta.novascotia.ca/disaster-financial-assistance-storm-flooding
- At Access Nova Scotia centres
- At MLA offices

What You Should Know:

- People who are not sure if their insurance covers the damage should contact their insurance broker or company, or the Insurance Bureau of Canada at 1-844-227-5422
- The disaster financial assistance application includes a form to be filled out by the applicant's insurance company confirming that insurance was not available for losses
- Applications are assessed for eligibility and losses verified by an adjuster; processing can take several months.

Additional updates on the flood recovery effort: <https://novascotia.ca/alerts/>
News Release: [Disaster Financial Assistance for July 2023 Floods](#)

Submit Applications for the Housing Accelerator Fund

Canada's Minister of Housing and Diversity and Inclusion has announced the opening of the Application Portal for the Housing Accelerator Fund (HAF). The application portal will be open until August 18 @ 11:59 pm (Eastern).

Access resources including the HAF Applicant Guide

The [Applicant Guide](#) has been developed to help effectively navigate the application submission process and portal. Visit cmhc.ca to access the Guide and other useful information and resources.

Get Answers to your Questions

CMHC is available to answer questions. Contact them by phone @ 1-800-668-2642 or email @ contactcentre@cmhc.ca

Zero-Emission Trucking Program Funding

Transport Canada's Zero-Emission Trucking Program (ZETP) has just launched a call for proposals for projects that accelerate readiness for medium and heavy-duty zero-emission freight-haul and vocational vehicles.

The objective of this CFP is to support projects (up to \$1 M per project) that develop, align, and modernize curricula, guidelines, codes, standards, and regulations to enable and accelerate the safe deployment of zero emission medium and heavy-duty trucking in Canada, as well as associated charging and refueling infrastructure. For more info, please contact ZETProgram-ProgrammeCZE@tc.gc.ca

[Click here for more info](#)

PROGRAMS

Gasboy Solutions: An NSFMC/Canoe Procurement Partner

Introducing Gasboy Commercial and Industrial Fueling Solutions as a resource for any fuel dispensing equipment or fuel management system needs that your municipality may have.

Leverage Gasboy's Sourcewell/Canoe Procurement Group of Canada FMS contract #092290-GVR for pre-negotiated discounts on fuel management solutions. A wide range of Fuel Management System solutions to assist any size fleet are available.

- Information on the Fuel Management Program: <https://canoeprocurement.ca/program/fuel-management-program/>
- What is Gasboy: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=87-W8S3r_WQ
- Gasboy products offered through Canoe: <https://info.gasboy.com/canoe-procurement-group-fueling-solutions>

For more information, contact:

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Website: www.gasboy.com

HR OnCall from People First HR

NSFM and AMANS have partnered with HR OnCall to offer municipal units, regardless of size or scope, expertise and practical solutions to meet their human resource needs. NSFM members will receive a special program rate of \$60/month (\$720 annually) for the service. Gain access to best practices and advice for your HR inquiries when you need it.

- [Click here for the NSFMC Subscription](#)
- [Click here for HR OnCall Service Options](#)

Rules of Order & Meeting Processes Workshops

AMANS, in conjunction with NSFM, presents the following in-person workshop opportunity. Registration is on a first-come first-serve basis with a limit of 30 registrants per session.

This session will delve into the reasons behind the existence of rules of order and meeting processes; guiding participants on how to get your meeting started well, establishing agendas, determining quorums, the role of ex-officio members, crafting clear motions and amendments, whether to approve or not approve reports, conflict of interest protocols, changing terms of appointments, approving minutes, basic decorum, and how to better prepare yourself for the unexpected. Topics such as voting procedures, quorums, conflict of interest protocols, and basic decorum will be extensively discussed.

Throughout the session, we will explore numerous real-life examples from Nova Scotia municipalities and engage in simulation exercises to reinforce learning. The facilitator is **Chris McNeill**, former Registered Parliamentarian, Chief Administrative Officer, Municipality of the County of Annapolis.

For complete registration details, including cost of attendance, session times and locations for **administrators** and **elected officials**, click [registration info](#).

RESOURCES

[Coastal Climate Adaptation Toolkit](#)

Explore this toolkit for advice on how to best prepare for coastal climate impacts

Engaging Infographics Show How Nova Scotia Health is Connecting the Dots Between Poverty and Health

Municipalities can support residents in need and help them access necessary services by connecting the dots on poverty. Poverty results in stressful living environments and can lead to toxic (prolonged) stress for parents and children. Interruption in development between the ages of 0-5 have lasting health impacts. 90% of **child development** happens during the first five years of life. Municipalities can help **connect the dots** between poverty and health.

More information to support planning, decision making, and conversations with constituents, can be found in [this infographic](#) and resource website: <https://www.communityhealthboards.ns.ca/resources>

Municipalities can support residents in need and help them access necessary services by connecting the dots on poverty. People who have a **mental illness or use substances**, especially those struggling with addiction, face discrimination and barriers to getting help. Stigma may lead a person to avoid getting help because they are afraid of judgement or getting in trouble with work, their loved ones, or even the law. Municipalities can help **connect the dots** between poverty and health.

More information to support planning, decision making, and conversations with constituents, can be found in [this infographic](#) and resource website: <https://www.communityhealthboards.ns.ca/resources>

Equity & Anti-Racism Strategy, Health Equity Framework

The province has announced the completion and release of the first Equity and Anti-Racism Strategy. The Health Equity Framework was also released as part of the strategy. The Health Equity Framework will now act as a strategic tool that will further guide government and system partners in better addressing racism, discrimination, and inequities within the health system. The framework is one of many key tools being used to advance health equity as contained in the **Action for Health** strategy.

- Announcement: <https://novascotia.ca/news/release/?id=20230706002>
- Strategy: <https://novascotia.ca/just/publications/docs/equity-and-anti-racism-strategy.pdf>
- Health Equity Framework: <https://novascotia.ca/just/publications/docs/health-equity-framework.pdf>

For further information, contact:

- health.equity@novascotia.ca
- eric.hemphill@novascotia.ca
- john.ariyo@novascotia.ca

FCM Launches Second Cohort of its GBA Plus Course

Sector: Mini Course for Change Agents".

The 4-module course was designed to meet the needs of FCM members to support their equity goals. It will also contribute to equipping municipalities to respond to the mainstreaming of GBA Plus across federal government agencies, including funding opportunities. The course will be self-directed and each module will provide a dynamic combination of technical information, videos, readings, exercises, as well as a moderated discussion board. Municipal and community leaders, as well as individuals interested in gender equity and inclusion in municipal governance, are key target audiences for this course. [Click here](#) to register for the second cohort, starting September 15.

[Summer Municipal Observer](#)

The magazine for the Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities



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