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Monday Memo



NOVA SCOTIA FEDERATION
OF MUNICIPALITIES

Nova Scotia's Draft Critical Minerals Strategy

Through the Environmental Goals and Climate Change Reduction Act, Nova Scotia has committed to 80% of Nova Scotia's energy to be supplied by renewable energy by 2030 and achieving net-zero by 2050. Nova Scotia is preparing a strategy on Critical Minerals, which are essential components in the technologies used to achieve these environmental goals.

Nova Scotia's Critical Minerals Strategy, in conjunction with The Canadian Critical Minerals Strategy and existing Federal and Provincial policy and legislation, is intended to provide the framework to help guide the Province of Nova Scotia as we move toward net-zero.

The objective of this strategy is to provide a framework to help guide the Province of Nova Scotia to complete the following:

- Provide a stable supply of critical minerals for Nova Scotia and Canada required for clean technologies and transitioning to net-zero by 2050.
- Increase our understanding of Nova Scotia's geology, as it relates to critical minerals, and provide this information to the stakeholders and interested parties in a useful manner.
- Promote and clearly communicate Nova Scotia's commitment to responsible mineral resource development.
- Support the involvement of the Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia in opportunities related to critical minerals.
- Create and/or support sustainable economic opportunities within Nova Scotia through job creation, economic growth, and increased competition.
- Incentivize innovative research & development to strengthen exploration, mining, mid-stream processing, and clean technologies.
- Enhance public education regarding the environment, geoscience, critical minerals, and geoscience literacy.
- Work collaboratively with stakeholders, the Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia, governmental departments and agencies to advance the intent of this strategy.

The specific actions to meet the objectives noted above are expected to be released as part of action plans under the strategy, and these action plans are intended to be the mechanism to support specific work. The reason for using action plans to detail specific work is to allow for better alignment of work with the required resources – this is where details of the strategy will be located.

The intention of this email is to provide information regarding the development of this Draft Critical Minerals Strategy. **If there are questions, to please provide them in writing by May 13, 2023 through the following email: GMB@novascotia.ca.**

Retroactive Pay for RCMP officers

NSFM continues to engage with both the federal and provincial orders of government over retroactive payment costs for RCMP officers. NSFM has communicated with Public Safety Canada on behalf of municipalities with a Municipal Policing Service Agreement, calling on the federal government to reverse its decision to provide much-needed financial assistance.

NSFM has also engaged the Nova Scotia Department of Justice about their plans for the retroactive costs incurred on the Provincial Policing Service Agreement and received the following response:

"Public Safety Canada informed all provinces, territories, and municipalities on March 29, 2023, that it will invoice the retroactive salaries of the RCMP labour contract settled on August 6, 2021, and delivered invoices on March 31, 2023. The Nova Scotia Department of Justice has responded to Public Safety Canada, taking the position to dispute the invoices for the retroactive salaries on the basis that the Province was not privy to the collective agreement negotiations."

NSFM will keep all members apprised of further developments.

NSFM FREE WEBINAR: Women in Municipal Politics

June 2nd, 2023 - 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Via Zoom

In writing her book *On Their Shoulders: The Women Who Paved the Way in Nova Scotia Politics*, **Sarah Dobson** learned that many of the first 50 women elected provincially in Nova Scotia got their start in municipal politics. This led her to inquire into the statistics regarding gender in municipal politics in Nova Scotia, comparing the number of women candidates and elected women municipally and provincially. This presentation will cover what we can learn from the statistics, what we can do to encourage more gender parity in municipal government, and what municipal elected officials across Nova Scotia consider their greatest barriers to equality.



Sarah Dobson, Lawyer, Cox & Palmer: Sarah is a lawyer working at Cox & Palmer in Halifax. She graduated from Dalhousie University with a degree in Political Science and Economics in 2016 and with a law degree from the Schulich School of Law in 2020. Sarah and co-author Grace Evans wrote *On Their Shoulders: The Women Who Paved the Way in Nova Scotia Politics* profiling the first 50 women to serve as a Member of the Legislative Assembly in Nova Scotia. The proceeds from the book started a scholarship at Dalhousie University awarded to two female political science students a year. Sarah worked as a law clerk at the Nova Scotia Court of Appeal before returning to Cox & Palmer in their litigation group.

[Register Here](#)

[Message from the Healthy Communities Team of the Nova Scotia Health Authority.](#)

Healthy Communities Teams in Public Health are committed to improving knowledge of the risks and harms associated with alcohol use and working with partners to raise awareness of current data and how factors in our social, economic and physical environments influence the impact on individuals and communities.

This memo to municipal officials includes contact information for Public Policy and Social Action Consultants in each region. This memo also provides information on the topic of the Canadian Centre on Substance Use and Addiction's [Canadian Guidance on Alcohol and Health](#).

ECCC Seeking Feedback

Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) is seeking your feedback on a [Proposed Regulatory Framework](#) that outlines the key requirements under consideration for new federal regulations to reduce methane emissions from Canadian landfills. Information on previous engagement and consultation on the development of these regulations can be accessed at this [webpage](#).

You can send your comments on the Proposed Regulatory Framework to ges-dechets-ghg-waste@ec.gc.ca. **Please submit your feedback by May 19, 2023.**

Join FCM's Board of Directors

The nomination process is open for FCM's 2023-2024 Board of Directors. The FCM Board champions change on a national scale, helping communities across Canada thrive.

Visit FCM's [Board of Directors page](#) to learn more about running for a Director position, as well as to find nomination and consent forms. Elections will take place during FCM's Annual Conference and Trade Show, May 25-28, 2023, in Toronto, ON.

ballot for the board of directors.

» [LEARN MORE AND RUN AS A CANDIDATE](#)

Department of Municipal Affairs and Housing Funding Application Launch 2023-24

Municipalities can now apply for the following provincial funding programs administered by the Department of Municipal Affairs and Housing.

The deadline for applications is June 7th, 2023. Application Forms and supporting documentation must be submitted to respective program emails by deadline. Applications received after the closing date may not be considered for funding.

2023-24 Applications and Program Guides can be downloaded from the following program websites:

[Provincial Capital Assistance Program \(PCAP\)](#)
[Flood Risk Infrastructure Investment Program \(FRIIP\)](#)
[Municipal Innovation Program \(MIP\)](#)
[Beautification and Streetscaping Program \(BSP\)](#)
[Community Works Program \(CWP\)](#)

If you have any questions or need help, feel free to contact DMAH.

CMHC Housing Accelerator Fund (HAF) Resources

- [Housing Accelerator Fund Highlight Sheet](#)
- [Pre-application Reference Material](#)
- [Housing Needs Assessment At-a-Glance](#)

PEOPLE FIRST

HR SERVICES

A division of People Corporation

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 NSFM Subscription](#)
- [Click here for HR OnCall Service Options](#)
- [Click here for HR OnCall FAQs](#)



Upcoming Events

Office of Healthcare Professionals Recruitment Community Fund Conference

The Office of Healthcare Professionals Recruitment (OHPR) is planning a Community Fund Conference for May 10 & 11, 2023 in Halifax, NS. This day and a half event will bring together community groups and other partners working to attract and retain healthcare professionals to their regions.

If you aren't already connected with Office of Healthcare Professionals Recruitment but would like to learn more about the conference or the Community Fund, please reach out to OHPR Project Manager Ian Mullan (Ian.Mullan@novascotia.ca).

Revised OEA Engagement Schedule for Municipalities and Villages Re: Equity and Anti-Racism Plans

[To register for engagement sessions please email OEEngagement@novascotia.ca](mailto:OEEngagement@novascotia.ca)

Members may register as individuals or as groups. If you are not available for a session in your area, you are welcome to join a session for a different area.

Available Sessions:

May 15th 10-11AM – Western 1
May 15th 2-3PM – Northern 1
May 16th 10-11AM – Central 1
May 16th 2-3PM Central 2
May 18th 2-3PM – Western 2
May 19th 10-11AM – Northern 2

HR OnCall Webinar May 18, 10 a.m.

NSFM and AMANS have partnered with People First HR Services to offer an informational webinar for municipal leaders on the HR OnCall service on May 18 @ 10 am. This endorsed service is a support service for NS municipalities to gain access to a dedicated HR professional who can provide expertise and advice on the following:

- Creating a respectful workplace
- Disability management consultation
- Discussing requirements for
 - CAO evaluations
 - Employee discipline or termination
 - Employee relations
 - Legislation and best practices
 - Policy development
 - Workplace procedures

This session will provide:

- An overview of the HR OnCall Service
- How to access the service
- Q&A

To join the webinar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81671847549?pwd=ODQ0dUorazE0dUJ3VVZTOGZGVdhwUT09>

For more information, contact jmorrison@nsfm.ca



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