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Monday Memo

NOVA SCOTIA FEDERATION
OF MUNICIPALITIES

NSFM FALL CONFERENCE 2023

**Have you registered yet for the 2023 NSFM Fall Conference – Raising the Bar on Local Leadership?**

Don't miss out on a wealth of informative sessions, including our ever-popular Success Stories Panel. This year, we'll be highlighting three groundbreaking municipal initiatives.



Alison Graham,
Councillor
Town of Truro



Miriah Kearney,
Seek Wilderness
Accommodations



Nicole Albright,
Deputy Warden
District of Argyle



Marlene Melanson,
Recreation Director
County of Antigonish

Seek Wilderness Accommodations - Town of Truro

Seek Wilderness Accommodations offers a distinctive, experiential lodging experience right within Victoria Park, Truro. Seek beckons individuals to explore not only Victoria Park but also the Town of Truro, Colchester County, and the Northern Region, given its strategic location at the "Hub" of Nova Scotia. While Seek is a privately-owned venture, it was strategically established in collaboration with the Town of Truro and received support from ACOA to boost regional tourism. Since its opening in December 2022, Seek has warmly welcomed thousands of guests to Truro and Victoria Park, hailing from diverse corners of the globe.

A Legacy Expansion of South-West Nova - District of Argyle, Town of Yarmouth, District of Yarmouth

The expansion of the Mariners Center signifies more than just securing Federal funding—it's a testament to the spirit of cooperation and dedication from three municipal units. This project showcases the process of uniting a community and its governments to construct a new facility encompassing aquatics, fitness, and walking tracks. This venture not only enhances wellness opportunities for our residents but also serves as a valuable recruitment tool for those seeking a new place to call home.

AT Corridor - Municipality of the County of Antigonish

The Municipality of the County of Antigonish has made a resolute commitment to advance Active Transportation in our community. Our primary focus currently centers on the Antigonish AT Corridor. Once completed, this project will transform the former Trans-Canada Highway traversing Antigonish into an 11km AT pathway, forming the backbone of the County's AT network. This initiative includes the construction of a 5km multi-use pathway from Addington Forks Road to Beech Hill Road, along with 6km of paved shoulders from Beech Hill Road to HWY 316 in Lower South River. The Antigonish AT Corridor will seamlessly connect with the AT Trail being developed through the heart of the Town of Antigonish. This substantial undertaking enjoys the support of both provincial and federal governments through the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program.

VIEW THE PROGRAM &
REGISTER TODAY

PRESENTING SPONSOR**EVENTS****NSFM's Meeting on Policing – Registration Open**

This meeting will include an update from the Department of Justice, a review of NSFM's 'What We Heard Report' on engagement members, and a number of presentations on innovations in municipal policing from your municipal colleagues.

Date: November 7, from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Location: Westin Nova Scotian's Atlantic Ballroom

Register Today by [clicking here!](#) Please register by Wednesday, November 1

NSFM's 2023 Board of Directors Election Campaign

The campaign for NSFM's 2023 Board of Directors Election has officially begun (October 5-26). We invite you to acquaint yourself with the nominees, where you will

NEWS

Applications open for 2023-24 Voice of the Visitor Survey Program

Municipalities can collaborate with Tourism Nova Scotia through the Voice of the Visitor Survey Program. **Submit up to 10 tailored questions by October 25th for inclusion in an online survey.** This unique opportunity, free of charge, provides valuable insights into visitors' perspectives. Receive a detailed report with data and analysis to inform your planning. Shape your community's future with informed decisions. Apply now for a richer understanding of your visitors.

[Click here for more info](#)

Updated Guidelines for Environmental Noise Measurement and Assessment

The Department has posted the final approved Guidelines at [Air | Air \(novascotia.ca\)](#) and [Publications | Resources \(novascotia.ca\)](#), effective October 1, 2023. Noise related compliance continues to be based on the terms and conditions as written in Approvals. These terms and conditions remain applicable until such time as the Approval is updated to reflect the use of the new Guidelines.

Built Environment Accessibility Standard wants your feedback!

Nova Scotia's proposed Built Environment Accessibility Standard work is now available for review and comment! This is an important milestone in the development of Nova Scotia's first accessibility standard. The goal of this standard is to address barriers to accessibility in buildings and outdoor spaces. [To learn more.](#)

[Deadline for public feedback:](#) October 30, 2023.

IN THE NEWS

[Development in downtown Sydney quietly moving ahead, officials say.](#)

[Halifax recommends against tax relief for businesses destroyed by wildfires](#)

[Lack of fire mitigation measures may have exacerbated Halifax-area wildfire: report](#)

[Minister John Lohr talks about new legislation around development in HRM](#)

[New research device now in place to measure storm surge in Northumberland Strait](#)

[Nova Scotia Tories ignore objections to bill intended to fast-track Halifax housing](#)

[Nova Scotians living outside Halifax call on province to do more to solve homelessness](#)

[Political Scientist looks at the legislation to grant Minister John Lohr new powers](#)

[Province claims new bill will save municipalities up to \\$50M, but Cape Breton mayor skeptical](#)

FUNDING

Municipalities looking for the right researcher to support them in their innovative clean technology projects should contact Mitacs (see below). Mitacs works to circulate your opportunity throughout their post-secondary networks to find candidates who are the best fit. If a match is successful, a researcher will then complete an internship with the municipality to assist with the project, and Mitacs will contribute \$10,000 CAD towards funding the internship.

Clean technology projects are expected to involve the research, development, or novel implementation of innovative technologies or processes to positively impact land, air, or water. This includes key areas in the following sectors: transportation, energy generation and storage, waste, and sustainable materials, built environment, agriculture, and food services.

Contact Mitacs to discuss your potential project before developing your proposal: [Special calls | Mitacs](#)

FCM Funding Opportunities

Stay up-to-date with funding opportunities through the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM). [Visit](#) to find more information.

PROGRAMS

NFSM/Canoe Paint Supply Program

We live in a colourful world, so why limit your projects to shades of grey? With the **Canoe Paint Supply Program**, you can access a wide range of architectural and commercial paint, wallcoverings, and tools that will help you get the job done right. Our program is fully trade compliant, cuts through the administrative hassles, and gives you exclusive access to preferential pricing and services.

[NFSM Canoe Paint Supply Program information](#)

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](#)

Canadian Cybersecurity Study

CDW Canada's 2023 Cybersecurity Study provides insights into Canadian cybersecurity trends. The study sheds light on evolving threat landscapes, vulnerable attack types, and mitigation efforts. It also delves into industries like government, education, healthcare, finance, and small businesses. Here are some industry highlights from the report:

- Government faces a cybersecurity skills gap affecting incident prevention and IT modernization
- Education lags in cyber incident response times
- Healthcare suffers data breaches with 72% reporting exfiltration

[Get CDW Canada's 2023 Canadian Cybersecurity Study](#) to learn how organizations are combating cybersecurity threats and attempting to minimize their impact. Learn about the increasing risks organizations face from an ever-expanding threat landscape and the types of cyberattacks Canadian businesses are most vulnerable to.

CDW Canada is an industry partner of the **NSFM/Canoe Procurement Program**.

September was the hottest on record by a large margin

Blair Feltmate, head of the **Intact Centre on Climate Adaptation** discusses a warm fall and the importance of adaptation strategies to mitigate risk against severe weather.

The Intact Centre for Climate Adaptation is an education partner of the **NSFM Municipal Group Insurance Program**.

[New data finds September to be the hottest on record by a large margin | CBC.ca](#)

NSFM/Canoe MRO Supply Program

Nuts and bolts. Hammers and wrenches. Safety goggles and construction wear. Cleaning supplies and sanitation solutions. Maintenance, repair, and operations (MRO) supplies are diverse and widely-used throughout nearly every corner of nearly every organization. With great suppliers offering enormous catalogues, the **NSFM/Canoe MRO Program** gets you access to what you need.

[MRO Supply Program - Canoe Procurement Group of Canada](#)

Reminder: Accessibility Foundations Train the Trainer Opportunity

The Accessibility Directorate is pleased to share an opportunity to engage in our Accessibility Foundations Train the Trainer program this fall.

The Accessibility Foundations train the trainer program includes a 2-module, live, facilitated, virtual workshop series. You **must** be available to attend **both modules**.

[For more information](#)

Application deadline is Wednesday, November 1 @ 4:00 pm

Module 1- Thursday, November 30, from 1:00 pm - 3:30 pm

Module 2- Thursday, December 7, from 1:00 pm - 3:30 pm

[Click here to apply](#)

WEBINARS

Cybersecurity Awareness Month

Local governments are the first line of service and support for Canadians across the country. Join the Federation of Canadian Municipalities for a free webinar, Cyber risks and municipalities: What leaders need to know, part of FCM's Collective webinar series. Learn how municipalities can protect against these threats, including AI-driven cyber threats, costs of recovery, legal liability for breaches, awareness training, and emergency preparedness. Presented in collaboration with the [Canadian Internet Registration Authority \(CIRA\)](#). **October 31 @ 1:00 pm (AST)** [REGISTER NOW](#)

Gilbarco/Gasboy: Fuel Management in Ontario Municipalities

Safely managing fuel can be a challenge in an active public works depot. Join Gilbarco as they share case studies on recent fuel management projects in Southwestern Ontario and provide details on new technology options coming to market. Gilbarco is a fuel management partner in the NSF/Canoe Procurement Program and their experience in the Ontario market can be beneficial here in Nova Scotia. **October 26, from 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm (AST)** [Webinar Registration - Zoom](#)

Transport Canada – Grade Crossings Information Session

You are invited to attend an information session by Transport Canada (TC) regarding the requirements of the Rail Safety Grade Crossings Regulations (GCR) and the changes that were made in November 2021 to the GCR compliance deadline.

Email: Cassandra Boulay cassandra.boulay@tc.gc.ca

November 9, from 1:30 pm - 3:00 pm (EST)

RESOURCES

[Summer Municipal Observer](#)

The magazine for the Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities

[Atlantic Municipal Magazine](#)

The magazine for Atlantic Canadian municipalities



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