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Monday Memo

NOVA SCOTIA FEDERATION  
OF MUNICIPALITIES**NSFM FALL CONFERENCE 2023****Presenting Sponsor****Discover New Learning Opportunities**

Join us at the **Raising the Bar on Local Leadership** conference from Nov. 7 - 10 at the Westin Nova Scotian Hotel in Halifax. Explore a world of exciting sessions that will empower you to take your municipal leadership to new heights. Don't miss out on this unparalleled opportunity for networking and professional growth. Here's a sneak peek at some of the captivating sessions awaiting you:

**Supply, Preservation & Affordability: Nova Scotia's Provincial Housing Programs**

Discover how municipalities play a pivotal role in addressing housing challenges. This session will provide a comprehensive overview of the diverse housing programs available to support development and meet the needs of our citizens. [Learn more](#)

**The Impact of the Province's Population Growth Strategy**

Nova Scotia has achieved a historic milestone, surpassing one million residents since July 2021. Explore how the provincial government's Population Growth Strategy aims to foster economic expansion, with a target to double our population by 2060. [Learn more](#)

**Always a 'Work in Progress' – the Provincial-Municipal Relationship: Lessons from Ontario**

The dynamic relationship between provincial and municipal governments in Canada is both vital and inherently unequal. Municipalities, often referred to as 'creatures of the province,' grapple with constitutional and financial constraints while facing ever-expanding responsibilities and growing public expectations. Gain valuable insights from the experiences of Ontario. [Learn more](#)

For a comprehensive program overview and to explore more enriching sessions, [Click here](#)

**Don't miss your chance to be a part of this transformative experience in municipal leadership!**

**REGISTER TODAY****EVENTS****Circular Economy and Waste: Engagement**

The Government of Nova Scotia is consulting the public on ideas to encourage the province's circular economy and reduce waste. The Province has set a solid waste disposal target of 300 kg per person per year by 2030 in the Environmental Goals and Climate Change Reduction Act and has committed to developing a strategic plan by the end of 2023 that shows how we will reach this target. Your input on what should be included in this strategic plan is welcomed.

- Consultation period: August 17 to September 29
- For more info visit: [Circular Economy and Waste: Engagement](#)
- Feedback to: [SWRM@novascotia.ca](mailto:SWRM@novascotia.ca)
- Questions: Bob Kenney at [robert.kenney@novascotia.ca](mailto:robert.kenney@novascotia.ca) or 902-499-2178

**NEWS****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.

### Information Session for PSPs Proposed

#### Built Environment Accessibility Standard Work

This webinar will take place on Thursday, October 12, 2023 from 1:00 pm. – 2:00 p.m. on Zoom. Please note that this webinar is an information session and not a forum to provide feedback on the proposed standard.

We encourage you to submit your questions in advance, by emailing [Hannah.MacDougall@novascotia.ca](mailto:Hannah.MacDougall@novascotia.ca) by Friday, October 6, 2023. We will also accept questions during the session. Please [use this link to register](#).

#### UPDATE: Reducing physician red tape (Expanded Target)

The expanded target to reduce unnecessary physician administrative burden is now published (400,000 annual hours to be removed by end of 2024). The report shows that 100,000 hours of physician burden (the equivalent of 300,000 annual patient visits) has already been removed, giving physicians more time to do what they do best: care for us.

To see the 45+ initiatives identified, many of which are completed and measured, to achieve the target here:

[Reducing red tape for physicians: Office of Regulatory Affairs and Service Effectiveness - Government of Nova Scotia](#)

#### Prompt payment and dispute resolution for the construction industry: engagement

The Province of Nova Scotia has provided an update on engagement regarding [prompt payment and dispute resolution for the construction industry](#). Regulations are being developed to support legislative amendments related to construction projects that local governments may be involved in.

#### Nominations open for the 2023 Board of Directors Election

The 2023 Nominations Committee is now accepting nominations for the following positions:

1. President
2. Vice President
3. Regional Representatives for each NSFM Electoral Region

Nominations will be accepted until September 28. [Click here for more information](#).

#### Code of Conduct Recommendations and Framework Survey

Individual elected officials and senior administrators are requested to complete the following [Survey](#) before end of day **Monday September 25, 2023**.

[To learn more about the recommendations](#)

#### Engagement: Modernizing Environmental Assessment Process

The government has begun public engagement on modernizing its environmental assessment process. Environmental assessment is a planning and decision-making tool used by governments globally, supporting sustainable development by allowing consideration of overall project impacts at an early stage.

The last major update to Nova Scotia's environmental assessment regulations was over 15 years ago (in 2008). The world has changed in the last 15 years, and it continues to change quickly. This is why, as part of the [Environmental Goals and Climate Change Reduction Act](#), Government has committed to modernizing environmental assessment in the Province, by 2024.

**Engagement:** Ends October 6. [For more info visit](#) and [Press Release](#).

#### Rules of Order & Meeting Processes In-person 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.

Join our transformative workshop to unlock the secrets behind successful town and municipal council or village commission meetings. Don't miss out on the chance to elevate your governance skills and ensure your meetings run seamlessly.

#### Exclusive Incentives Await You – Early Bird Advantage

- Enroll before the early bird deadlines for a chance to win a complimentary registration for your selected session!
- Secure a Certificate of Completion upon workshop fulfillment.

[Click here for more info](#)

## IN THE NEWS

[Housing developers say they can't keep up with population growth in N.S. without big changes](#)

[Proposed Senate bill would make feds responsible for Chignecto Isthmus work](#)

[Halifax faces repair bills of more than \\$20M after year of hurricane, wildfire, floods](#)

[Meeting in Windsor, N.S., to discuss fallout from recent floods](#)

[Cape Breton councillor wants Donkin Mine to reopen](#)

[Halifax council to consider Ottawa's tweaks for housing money.](#)

## FUNDING

### Opportunities Closing Soon!

#### Zero Emission Vehicle Awareness Initiative

Deadline: September 26 [Click here for more info](#)

#### New Horizons for Seniors Program- Community-Based Projects

Deadline: September 28 [Click here for more info](#)

#### Zero-Emission Trucking Program

Deadline: October 3 [Click here for more info](#)

#### 2 Billion Trees

Deadline: October 12 [Click here for more info](#)

### FCM Funding Opportunities

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

## PROGRAMS

### New Help Understanding NSFMC/Canoe Procurement Program

Do you need help finding cost-effective products and services and would you like to learn more about using [Canoe Procurement](#)?

**Andy Saxby** is here to help. Since January, Andy has been working as the member outreach representative for Nova Scotia municipal units. He is your direct contact for the Canoe program.

In his role, Andy helps local governments and non-profits find time and cost-saving benefits on a wide variety of municipal needs. He also provides educational sessions and support to help members navigate the cooperative procurement process.

Contact Andy at [andy@canoeprocurement.ca](mailto:andy@canoeprocurement.ca) or 902-417-2575.

### NSFM/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, wall coverings, 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.

[NSFM 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](#)

## WEBINARS

### EPR for PPP Regulation Overview

NSFM and the Regional Solid Waste Chairs are pleased to present an overview of the recently announced EPR regulations. This session will assist local elected officials in understanding the implications these regulations will have for their municipality. This session will be delivered online via Zoom. Click the date below to register:

- [September 27, 4:00 p.m.](#)

### Webinar: Canoe 101

NSFM and the Canoe Procurement Group want to ensure your purchases are quick, easy, and regulation compliant. Join us for a 'back to basics' look at how Canoe Procurement works and how it can save you time and money. About [Canoe Procurement](#).

### Gordian: Job Order Contracting

Job Order Contracting (JOC) is a procurement process that is relatively new in Canada and is most suitable for repairs, renewal, alteration projects, and emergency work. Instead of conducting multiple procurement processes, JOC allows for a variety of projects to be completed through a single contract that is competitively awarded. Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities and Canoe Procurement supplier Gordian will discuss how this process can help to make your renovation and construction projects run smoothly.

October 11, 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. (AST) [Register Here](#)

About: [Canoe Procurement](#)

## 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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