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Monday Memo



NOVA SCOTIA FEDERATION
OF MUNICIPALITIES

DEADLINE ALERT!

Share Your Youth Engagement Success Story!

NSFM Spring Conference 2024 – May 8-10

Got a standout youth engagement win to share? Don't miss out! Submit your story for a chance to shine at our conference!

Why Share?

Inspire Others: Your success can spark action in other communities!

Learn and Connect: Exchange insights and make valuable connections!

Presentation Opportunity: Selected stories will be featured on a conference panel!

Submit by March 5, 4:30pm to: jwebber@nsfm.ca

Shape the Future: Celebrate your impact and join the conversation on community building in Nova Scotia. Act now!

Share Your Tourism Innovations!

NSFM Spring Conference 2024 – May 8-10

Got a game-changing tourism idea? Don't wait! Submit now for a chance to shine at our conference!

Why Share?

Inspire Others: Your innovation could ignite new ideas across Nova Scotia!

Gain Recognition: Selected ideas will present at the conference, boosting your municipality's profile!

Contribute to Growth: Help diversify and grow Nova Scotia's tourism industry!

Submit by March 5, 4:30pm to: jwebber@nsfm.ca

Don't miss this chance to showcase your community's brilliance!

ADVISORY COMMITTEE UPDATES

Public Safety Advisory Committee

Chaired by Councillor Fraser Patterson of Victoria County, this committee advises how municipal concerns related to public safety can be collaboratively and effectively addressed.

Key initiatives so far:

- On the recommendation of the Committee, the Board has designated the creation of a voluntary **Vulnerable Persons Registry or Registries** as an **advocacy priority for NSFM**.
- Review of membership concerns with Rural Cellphone Coverage During Emergencies.
- More information: [Advisory Committee Overview Document](#).

Municipal Autonomy Advisory Committee

Chaired by Warden Alex Morrison of Annapolis County, this committee advises how supporting municipal autonomy can aid progress toward province-wide goals.

Members needed:

- Currently two open positions for elected officials on the Committee.
- Have an interest in exploring municipal autonomy? Forward your name and a background brief to wpetite@nsfm.ca. **Deadline: March 21.**

General information on Advisory Committees:

- Scheduled meetings four times a year, with additional meetings as necessary.
- Committee reviews advocacy issues generated by NSFM member councils and emerging municipal priorities.
- Terms of Reference are available upon request.
- Learn more about Advisory Committees through regular updates via our website, newsletter, and member communications.

NEWS

[Decision to abandon Coastal Protection Act draws fire](#)

[Funding for wastewater improvements in Canso](#)

[Need for affordable homes in Cape Breton outstrips new federal funding, says prof](#)

[New N.S. coastal protection plan shifts responsibility to homeowners, municipalities](#)

[Significant Investment in Communities](#)

[What Will It Take to Save Our Cities from a Scorching Future?](#)

FUNDING

Unleash Fiscal Opportunities for Empowered Municipal Growth

The NSFM Funding Database is centralized resource is dedicated to our members to help find municipal funding opportunities. A monthly funding update will also be communicated, outlining deadlines and information sessions.

Click [here](#) to see the latest updates on the Municipal Funding Database.

- FCM updated the [Green Municipal Fund](#) programs.
 - Community Efficiency Financing [webinar](#) on March 28.
- [Rural Transit Solutions Fund](#), design and planning remains open.
 - Webinars: [English March 5](#), [French March 6](#).
- [Environmental Damages Fund](#) will re-open in March.
- [Green Jobs](#) Internship Program and Science Horizons Internship Program are open.
- Community Health Boards [Wellness Funds](#) are now open.
- The NS Dept of ECC is [seeking input](#) for the Climate Funding Navigator position.
- Please check out [this list](#) of funding programs with continuous intakes.

FCM Funding Opportunities

On February 7, Scott Pearce, president of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), announced that its [Green Municipal Fund](#) (GMF) is revising its core funding to enhance its flexibility and adaptability and maximize its impact.

[Click here](#) to find more information.

OEA Community Network Grant

The Office of Equity and Anti-Racism's (OEA) Community Network Grant program to address systemic hate, inequity, and racism. The grant program is available to registered non-profit organizations and charities.

Grants of up to \$25,000 per project are available, with total program funding of \$250,000 in 2023-24. The application deadline is March 8, 2024.

For more information: [OEA Community Network website](#).

PROGRAMS

Sports Arena Supply

The **NSFM/Canoe Sports Arena Supply Program** provides access to supplies and services from the experts specifically for sporting facilities: flooring, ice conditioning, safety, inspections, and more. The program works with local retailers for supply, service, and support.

NSFM/Canoe = Local. [More information](#)

Strength In Numbers

Read how public procurement is evolving quickly, especially group purchasing programs, such as the **NSFM/Canoe Procurement Program**. Thanks to the pandemic, an opportunity arose for procurement to gain more attention and have a seat at the table. Canoe Procurement Manager, Stephanie Dion, shares her thoughts on the changes to public procurement in the [December issue of Supply Professional](#). The **Canoe/NSFM Procurement Program** works with local retailers for supply, service, and support. [More information](#)

Stop. Look. Read.

The **NSFM/Canoe Traffic Supply Program** enables municipalities to partner with major traffic sign suppliers to provide everything from the basic essentials to specific use equipment, this program ensures members get the signage they need at a competitive price and always trade compliant. The program works with local retailers for supply, service, and support. **NSFM/Canoe = Local.**

[How the program works](#)

ATS Traffic is a traffic supply partner of NSFM/Canoe

[IRD -International Road Dynamics](#) | [Brands](#) | [ATS Traffic Product Catalog](#)

Preferred Insurance Rates for Elected Leaders & Staff

Did you know that you can receive exclusive insurance discounts on your **personal home and auto insurance** through BrokerLink's group insurance program? BrokerLink is proud to provide quality insurance products, expertise, and solutions to our sector. Their dedicated group insurance advisors will compare your coverage options and help get you the most comprehensive coverage at the best value.

[Click here](#) to learn about the program benefits and how BrokerLink can provide you with a free, no-obligations insurance quote. Thinking about travelling soon? [Travel Tips & Insurance](#).

between January 1 and December 31, 2024, they'll be entered to win 1 of 4 cash prizes of \$5,000. Don't miss your chance to save on insurance and win some cash in the Grand Group Giveaway. Learn more at www.BrokerLink.ca/contest-rules

Contact BrokerLink: Call 1-833-998-3798, or visit BrokerLink.ca/municipalities-NS

BrokerLink is a program partner of the Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities.

WEBINARS

Climate Related Funding

In December, the province released its Climate Action Plan, outlining 68 measures to help cut greenhouse gas emissions to 53% below 2005 levels by 2030 and achieve net-zero emissions by 2050. The Province seeks feedback and ideas on how to better serve communities. To participate in a conversation aimed at the challenges and opportunities to strengthen the climate funding process register for the following webinar on March 6 @ 10:30 am: [NS Climate Related Funding](#)

HR OnCall Program

NSFM in partnership with HR OnCall offers HR support for municipal units in Nova Scotia. Get access to a dedicated team of professionals that can help guide you through the challenges of leading people and building an HR infrastructure with HR OnCall. This webinar explains how the program works, how access works, and how you can benefit from HR guidance, expert consultation, reduce risk, gain peace of mind, and save time and money.

- March 20: 2:00 pm-3:00 pm (AST)
- [Register Here](#)
- After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting

FEATURED

BuildGreen Atlantic Conference & Tradeshow

Wednesday, March 27 at the Halifax Convention Centre

Tuesday, March 26 Pre-Conference Training Day & Building Tours (Limited Space)

Brings together over 450 building industry delegates from across the region to explore the path to net zero buildings in Atlantic Canada. The conference attracts architects, engineers, designers, trades professionals, policymakers and students.

For Conference Info, Agenda, and Registration links: www.buildgreenatlantic.ca

FCM 2024 Budget Submission

FCM has submitted recommendations to the Standing Committee on Finance ahead of Budget 2024. Recommendations are focused on addressing the key issues impacting Canadians today: housing and infrastructure, homelessness, climate change, community well-being and safety, issues specific to our rural and northern regions, and development of a Municipal Growth Framework.

[FCM 2024 BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS](#)

Amplifying Climate Awareness

The [Canadian Centre for Climate Services](#) is a division of Environment and Climate Change Canada and a key partner and contributor to [ClimateData.ca](#). This easy-to-use data portal was developed by the nation's leading climate scientists that highlights the risks and challenges associated with climate change in Canada. Find both historical and future climate data; search by location, sector, or variable to extract and customize climate analysis on this website. Through [ClimateData.ca](#), you can access several outreach channels including social media, a monthly newsletter, regular blog posts, and more. Gain insight into how this data may foster an understanding of these changes and encourage informed discussion on mitigation and adaptation strategies. More information: Frances.Delaney@ec.gc.ca

Healthcare Recruitment & Retention

The Office of Healthcare Professionals Recruitment (OHPR) two-day conference will bring together community groups and other partners to discuss and learn more about strategies, tactics, and resources available to attract and retain healthcare professionals and explore the factors that influence why a healthcare professional might wish to make their life in Nova Scotia. Express your interest in the conference, stay informed on registration details:

- [Healthcare Recruitment & Retention Community Conference](#)
- April 23 & 24
- Inn on Prince Hotel & Convention Centre, Truro

RESOURCES

[Winter Municipal Observer](#)

The magazine for the Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities

[Atlantic Municipal Magazine](#)

The magazine for Atlantic Canadian municipalities



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