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Monday Memo



NOVA SCOTIA FEDERATION
OF MUNICIPALITIES

HAVE A SAFE & ENJOYABLE LONG WEEKEND



NEWS

[Cape Breton mayor looks back at 'four difficult years' as she prepares to leave office](#)
[Cape Breton Regional Municipality sparring with province over highway policing](#)
[Crowd rallies in front of Nova Scotia legislature for coastal protection legislation](#)
[Halifax considers incentives for developers who convert old offices to apartments](#)
[Halifax councillor wants to ban open fires during wildfire season](#)
[Halifax launches AI pilot program with goal of detecting wildfires](#)
[More Provincial Support for Community Climate Priorities](#)
[Province Provides Support to Several Local Climate-Change Projects](#)

NEW & NOTEWORTHY

SAVE THE DATE - New Councillor Training and Orientation - November 4 and 5, at the Halifax Convention Centre

Municipal Elections are coming this fall and as has been custom, the Department of Municipal Affairs and Housing will be offering a training and orientation program for new and returning elected officials. **Please save the dates of November 4 and 5 in your calendars.** The sessions will begin at 12:00pm noon on the 4th and conclude at 4:00pm on the 5th. To learn more [Click Here](#)

Community Partner Consultations

The Province is holding consultations with community partners to discuss feedback on proposed changes to the *Labour Standards Code* to establish job protection for employees facing a serious illness or injury and to enhance the existing unpaid sick leave provisions for general illness. A backgrounder is available, by request, in relation to proposed changes to address these issues.

- **Deadline for feedback:** May 31
- **More information, questions, responses:** cynthia.yazbek@novascotia.ca



Low Carbon Leadership Conference

This interactive workshop-style conference will explore what municipalities and community leaders need to know to proactively plan for and action community and neighbourhood scale low and zero carbon projects in NS.

- June 25 9:00am - 4:30pm
- Inn on Prince, Truro
- \$25 +HST, includes continental breakfast, lunch, and refreshments
- [Register here](#)

Presented by:

- NSFM
- Province of NS LCC Program
- FBM Architecture & Interior Design

FUNDING

Opportunities for Empowered Municipal Growth

The NSFM Funding Database is a centralized resource 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.

- [Green Municipal Fund](#) webinar for Nova Scotia Municipalities, local examples will be used.
- Please [register here](#) for the session on May 23, 11:00am.
- DMAH Programs are now open:
 - [Provincial Capital Assistance Program](#)
 - [Flood Risk Infrastructure Investment Program](#)
 - [Beautification and Streetscaping Program](#)
 - [Municipal Innovation Program](#)
 - [Emergency Services Provider Fund](#)
 - [Community Works Program](#)
- [Trail Engineering Assistance Grant Program](#) is open for applications.
- [Trail Expansion Grant Program](#) will open EOI in September.
- [Nature Smart Climate Solutions Fund](#) is expected to open this Summer. Municipalities are encouraged to propose ideas and apply.
- Capital and planning streams of [Zero Emission Transit Fund](#) are both open.
- Funding for [small craft harbours](#) in the Budget 2024.

FCM Funding Opportunities

The Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) offers grants for planning, studies, and pilot projects. Loans are available for capital projects and most recipients receive an additional grant of up to 15% of their loan amount. [More information](#)

PROGRAMS

Municipal Climate Intern Program

Environmental Leadership Canada (ELC) is a non-profit that connects interns with an interest in politics and climate related issues to municipalities looking for project and policy support. The [program](#) is planned as a locally-focused, national-scale youth leadership development program that will offer outstanding individuals, aged 18-30, the opportunity to gain experience and knowledge in municipal climate issues, solutions, local decision-making processes, cohort-based leadership, and professional development. The program also provides critical capacity to help communities advance plans and projects to mitigate and adapt to climate change. Recruitment for host municipalities in NS has commenced for the second year of the program. The ELC would like to connect virtually with interested Mayors, Wardens, and CAOs to discuss the program.

More information, contact anika@environmentalleadership.ca

EMS Supply

The **NSFM/Canoe EMS Supply Program** provides products ranging from defibrillators to powered loaders and stretchers. The program leverages the buying power of all member organizations to provide the solutions needed to equip your organization with the emergency products you need. The program works with local retailers for supply, service, and support. **NSFM/Canoe = Local.** [More information](#)

Keep Your Municipality Rolling

From fleet to heavy equipment, and even including specialty uses, the **NSFM/Canoe Tire Program** has you covered for all your tire needs. Get quality, brand name tires for vehicles of any size, retread or brand new – all fully trade compliant and at the best pricing available in Canada. NSFM and Canoe are now partnering with **Kal Tire** to deliver excellent pricing and service. [Concerned about high costs in your transit fleet?](#) The program works with local retailers for supply, service, and support. **NSFM/Canoe = Local.**

Drone Data Enhances Sludge Surveys

Drones have ushered in a revolutionary era across diverse industries such as agriculture, construction, mining, and surveying. This transformative impact is primarily attributed to the advanced capabilities of drones, which encompass high-resolution cameras and sensors adept at capturing data from myriad perspectives. In the realm of sludge surveys, drone-generated imagery emerges as a pivotal resource, displaying critical insights into diverse facets including on-site infrastructure and attributes, offshore and inshore vegetation, sludge islands, defective liners, and elevation metrics. Hydrasurvey is a partner of the **NSFM/Canoe Procurement Program**. [Click here for more details](#) The program works with local retailers for supply, service, and support. **NSFM/Canoe = Local.**

Home Insurance Tips: Backyard Pools

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. As temperatures begin to rise it is a good signal to start preparations for getting your backyard pool ready for the warmer weather. Have a pool or thinking about one? Read the [Pool Owners Guide](#) to insurance.

When a BrokerLink group member requests a quote on car or home insurance between January 1 and December 31 they will be entered to win 1 of 4 cash prizes of

WEBINARS

Inside the Civic Chamber: Insights from Municipal Leaders on Serving and Running for Office

NSFM's public webinar is aimed at enhancing understanding of Nova Scotia's electoral experiences. May 29, 2024 from 6-7:30pm via Zoom

Key Objectives:

- Provide insights into the diverse experiences of elected officials across urban and rural regions.
- Highlight the unique opportunities and challenges of municipal politics in Nova Scotia.
- Foster dialogue and collaboration among stakeholders interested in local governance.

To Register: [Click Here](#)

Streamlining Municipal Procurement

The **NSFM/Canoe Procurement Program** presents the following webinar: **Streamlining Municipal Procurement: Compliance and Best Practices**. The webinar is tailored for CAOs and municipal procurement professionals and offers insight into developing a straightforward procurement policy framework, emphasizing compliance with key trade agreements (CFTA, NWPTA, and CETA), and effective solicitation strategies. Hosted by Stéphanie Dion, a distinguished procurement professional with 19 years of experience across diverse public sectors in Canada. She currently serves as the procurement manager for the Canoe Procurement Group. Highlights:

- **Overview:** creating a compliant, efficient, procurement policy, solicitation strategies, overview of RFPs, RFTs, etc., and choosing the right one
- **Who Should Attend:** municipal procurement staff and staff aiming for enhanced compliance, efficiency, and innovation in their processes
- **Date:** May 23 12 noon-1pm
- [Register now](#)

Canoe 101: Recording

The **NSFM/Canoe Procurement Program** provides you with cost-effective, compliant purchasing options. If you missed the recent Canoe 101 webinar, you can still access the recording. The webinar gives an overview of how the [Canoe Procurement Group](#) can save you time and money in purchasing and is offered courtesy of [Association of Municipalities of Ontario](#). To view the webinar, click [here](#).

Home & Auto Insurance: Recording

Did you miss our webinar on the **NSFM Personal Home & Auto 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. This webinar recording explains how the program works, how access works, and how you, as an elected leader or municipal staffer can benefit from lower insurance rates and value-added education on insurance products. [Click here](#).

FEATURED

Open House Dates: Offshore Wind Development

Learn about the Regional Assessment of Offshore Wind Development in NS, get answers to questions and share thoughts. Sessions are 5pm-7:30pm. Refreshments available.

- May 23 - Shelburne Community Centre, Shelburne
- May 27 - Chedabucto Lifestyle Complex, Guysborough
- May 29 - Royal Canadian Legion, Sheet Harbour
- June 4 - Pictou County Wellness Centre, New Glasgow
- June 5 - The Arts Sanctuary Centre, Dartmouth

More information, contact: OffshoreWindNS-EolienneExtracotiereNE@iaac-aeic.gc.ca

RESOURCES

[Winter Municipal Observer](#)

The magazine for the **Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities**

[Atlantic Municipal Magazine](#)

The regional magazine for the **Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities**



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