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Monday Memo

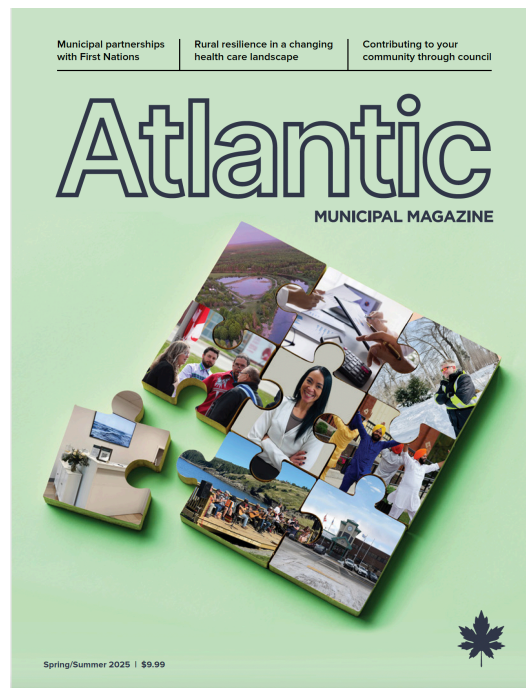


NOVA SCOTIA FEDERATION
OF MUNICIPALITIES

ATLANTIC MUNICIPAL MAGAZINE

Spring/Summer 2025 Edition Now Available!

The latest edition of the *Atlantic Municipal Magazine* has arrived. Dive into fresh insights, regional stories, and timely updates shaping municipalities across Atlantic Canada.



NSFM 2025 SPRING CONFERENCE AHEAD!

THE Changing Landscape OF Municipalities

NSFM Spring Conference
April 30 - May 2, 2025 • Truro, NS

Get ready for a couple days of innovation, collaboration, and learning at our upcoming Spring Conference! From April 30 – May 2, we welcome municipal leaders, experts, and stakeholders for engaging sessions, insightful discussions, and networking opportunities in Truro, Nova Scotia. For those registered, you'll be exploring key topics shaping our communities'. For those not attending, we hope to see you at the next one. Stay tuned for updates and announcements. We can't wait to see you there!

View the program [here](#)

Final Reminder: Complete the Code of Conduct Online Module by April 30

This is a reminder for elected officials who have not yet completed the mandatory *Code of Conduct Online Module*. The deadline to complete the module is **April 30, 2025**, as required by provincial regulations.

Please don't wait until the last minute to register and log in. Some users have encountered challenges with the login process and have needed support from NSCC. Note that NSCC staff are unavailable evenings and weekends. As we've indicated in our communications, after you register you will receive your login details from NSCC within 24 hours (Monday-Friday).

If you've already completed the module—thank you. No further action is required.

For those still needing to complete it:

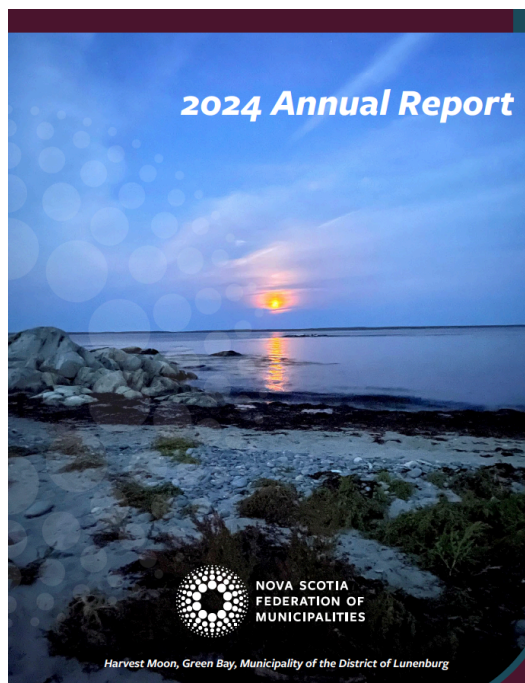
- **Register here:** [NSCC Online Registration Form](#)
Once registered, you will receive automatic emails from NSCC with instructions on how to log into the module. These were shared with all elected on March 13, 2025, and are on the [NSFM website](#).

For any login or password issues, please contact Beth McCormack at NSCC: beth.mccormack@nsc.ca (include your NSCC student ID#).

Thank you for your attention to this important requirement.

2024 ANNUAL REPORT

[NSFM's 2024 Annual Report](#) is now available — explore the highlights, accomplishments, and key priorities that shaped our year.



NEW & NOTEWORTHY

Invitation to Traffic Safety Act Information Sessions

Municipal officials are invited to participate in engagement sessions regarding Nova Scotia's proposed new approach to the Traffic Safety Act (TSA). MQO Research will facilitate the sessions on behalf of the Province to allow for full participation by provincial officials.

An overview of the TSA and its impacts on municipalities and law enforcement will be provided. All sessions cover the same material. A Q&A document will be shared after the sessions. [Register Here](#)

Working Sessions (Beginning May 15)

These smaller sessions will explore implementation, readiness, and technical impacts in more detail. Municipal and enforcement representatives are encouraged to submit preferred dates/times. [Submit Availability Here](#)

Province Announces New Fire Records Management System

The Government of Nova Scotia is investing in a modernized Fire Records Management System to better support fire services across the province. The new system will enhance data management for fire incidents, inspections, compliance, and personnel. Implementation is expected to begin this spring, with municipal engagement opportunities to follow.

👉 [Read the full letter from Minister Lohr](#)

Community Health Boards Launch 2025–2029 Provincial Plan

Nova Scotia's 35 Community Health Boards have released a new five-year Community Health Plan (2025–2029), shaped by feedback from over 6,700 Nova Scotians. Priorities include access to daily essentials, mental wellness, active living, inclusive environments, and improved service navigation.

CHBs will work with partners—including municipalities—to address housing and food security, promote inclusive public spaces, and support culturally appropriate services. The plan underscores the vital link between social factors and health outcomes.

To learn more, visit: communityhealthboards.ns.ca/current-community-health-plans

Advisors, Vendors, and Education

Are you familiar with the Learning Development Supply Arrangement (LDSA) or Flextrack? Did you know that municipalities can take advantage of the province's standing offer for services in a variety of areas.

Need advice or expertise on topics such as DEI, mindfulness, decision making, or conflict management? The **LDSA** can provide you with a list of course information and available vendors that have an established standing offer with public service bodies.

Flextrack can provide a list of vendors for a variety of service areas which municipalities can contact and award either directly or through a statement of work process. Service areas include learning development, managed business services, and executive search.

Both of these initiatives are approved for use by public service bodies in NS. For more information, please contact staci.macaskill@novascotia.ca or visit [here](#).

2025 Property Tax Policy Conference

The **2025 Property Tax Policy Conference**, organized by the International Property Tax Institute (IPTI) and Property Valuation Services Corporation (PVSC), will be held in Halifax on September 16 & 17. This event will share experiences from around the world on what works and what does not work. International experts will talk about various aspects of the property tax including administration, legislation, tax policy, and valuation. This is a great opportunity for municipal elected officials and administrative staff to discuss this crucial revenue source for local governments and the ongoing challenges that often prevent property tax systems from reaching their full potential.

- More information? Contact RebeccaVorstermans@pvsc.ca

NEWS

[Cities can now use templates to create coastal protection by-laws](#)

[Does Nova Scotia's hiked deed transfer tax help or hurt housing?](#)

[Greenwich, Wolfville fire departments will not merge, despite years of talks](#)

[Halifax gets failing grade for fiscal accountability in national report](#)

[I Didn't Know So Many NS Towns Had Their Own Flags! Check It Out](#)

[N.S. government will oversee recovery of abandoned tidal turbine](#)

[Nova Scotia moves forward with plan for municipalities to protect coastlines](#)

[N.S. moves forward with plan to force municipalities to protect coastlines](#)

[Tax rates stay put in Municipality of Shelburne](#)

FUNDING

Opportunities for Empowered Municipal Growth

The NSFAM 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**.

If you use these grant updates, please fill out the [feedback survey](#).

- [Accessible Transportation Assistance Program](#) is open, deadline May 9
- [Nova Scotia Transit Research Incentive Program](#) is open
- [Active Communities Fund](#) is open
- [Science Horizons Internship Program](#) is open, deadline May 6
- [Grant Application Tips](#) a resource for positioning your project for success
- Registration for the 2025 [ParticipACTION Community Challenge](#) is open
- Special mention for community groups [HCi3 Fund](#) is open

FCM Funding Opportunities

FCM has you covered with the right type of project funding. Review the [grant page](#) for funding opportunities available for planning, studies, and pilot projects.

PROGRAMS

Staples Professional: Office Supply

The [NSFM/Canoe Office Supply Program](#) is a one-stop shop for all office supplies. [Staples Professional](#) offers products that are Canadian-made and perfect for home or office use. The program works with local retailers for supply, service, and support. **NSFM/Canoe = Local.**

Heavy Construction Equipment

Heavy equipment plays a pivotal role on the front line. The [NSFM/Canoe Heavy Construction Equipment Program](#) offers access to reliable machines, such as graders, bulldozers, excavators, backhoes, loaders, dump trucks, and more, at preferred pricing and fully compliant with trade standards. Read about shovel ready deals from approved supplier [Case Construction](#). The program works with local retailers for supply, service, and support. **NSFM/Canoe = Local.**

Grounds Maintenance

industry leaders to bring innovative solutions to your landscaping challenges. The program works with local retailers for supply, service, and support. **NSFM/Canoe = Local.**

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 of insurance advisors will compare your coverage options and help get you the most comprehensive coverage at the best value. 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.](#)



Travel Insurance 101



WEBINARS

The Canoe Way: Recording

NSFM and **Canoe Procurement Group** recently hosted a webinar outlining Canoe's operations and its role in public procurement, how suppliers can find opportunities with Canoe, details about Canoe's RFP process, compliance requirements, the benefits for both members and suppliers, and the support provided to approved suppliers post-contract award. Missed the webinar? The [recording](#) and [presentation slides](#) are now available to view.

RESOURCES

Winter Municipal Observer

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

Spring/Summer Atlantic Municipal Magazine

The magazine for the **Atlantic Region of Municipalities**



**NOVA SCOTIA FEDERATION
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Suite #1304, 1809 Barrington Street

Halifax NS B3J 3K8

Phone: (902) 423-8331

info@nsfm.ca

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