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Monday Memo



NOVA SCOTIA FEDERATION
OF MUNICIPALITIES

NSFM'S NEW FUNDING PORTAL



**FUNDING
PORTAL**

Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities

FIND YOUR FUND

One quick search to find funding that fits your project

Visit nsfunding.ca & discover how easy finding funding can be. Powerful search & filtering tools. Access from any device. Built for Nova Scotia.

- ✓ Explore 100+ grants
- ✓ Subscribe for updates
- ✓ Never miss a deadline
- ✓ Get personalized guidance

Explore the Portal

Share this post with someone who needs funding support!

The Funding Portal is Live at nsfunding.ca!

We rebuilt it from the ground up to make finding funding faster. The portal launches with 100+ programs, with more added regularly as we build toward complete

✓ Federal, provincial, municipal, and private foundation programs – all in one place

✓ Search and filter by deadline, category, eligibility, funder, or keyword

✓ Find what you need in seconds

Here's what to do:

✓ Visit nsfunding.ca and explore the portal

✓ Try the search and filtering features on the [Explore](#) page

✓ [Subscribe](#) to monthly updates

✓ Reach out anytime through the [contact form](#) or email fundnavigator@nsfm.ca

COASTAL PLANNING SUPPORT PROGRAM

Coastal Planning Support Program

This program launched and applications will be accepted until February 11, 2026. The program will fund consultants to help municipalities with coastal land use planning, including:

- Interpreting coastal and climate data to guide safe development
- Supporting collaboration and decision-making
- Assisting with public engagement and communications
- Providing guidance for coordinated implementation
- Adoption of coastal strategies and bylaws (including integration of example bylaw text provided by Environment & Climate Change)

To help municipalities learn more, NSFM will be hosting a series of **information sessions**:

- **Nov 24 | 2:30–4:30 pm**: Yarmouth, Mariners on Main, Yellow Room
- **Nov 25 | 1:00–3:00 pm**: Truro, Best Western, Salon “A”
- **Nov 26 | 9:00–11:00 pm**: Port Hawkesbury, Civic Centre, Arts & Crafts Room
- **Nov 27 | 9:30–11:30 pm**: Kentville, Rec Centre, Lower Rec Meeting Space
- **Nov 27 | 2:30–4:30 pm**: Bridgewater, Lunenburg County Lifestyle Centre, MPR

More information: coastal@nsfm.ca

Learn more and apply today: [Application Guide](#) & [Application Form](#)

Funding of \$1 million for the Coastal Planning Support Program is provided by the Government of Nova Scotia under [The Future of Nova Scotia's Coastline: A plan to protect people, homes and nature from climate change](#) and administered by the [Department of Environment and Climate Change](#) (ECC).

LUNCH & LEARN SERIES

Air Quality: Monitoring, Regulation, and Wildfire Response

Join us on Wednesday November 19 (12:00 - 1:00 pm) for NSF's Monthly Lunch & Learn. The Department of Environment and Climate Change will provide an informative session on Nova Scotia's air quality. This presentation will explore activities in monitoring and regulation, including response to the recent Long Lake wildfire, and outline plans for future air quality protection. Topics include:

- Air quality and health, including new standards and planning considerations
- Air quality monitoring across NS
- Air quality response to wildfires
- What we do in the Air Quality Unit (monitoring/regulation)
- Guest Speaker: Dr. Christina Wells, Air Quality Manager, Department of Environment & Climate Change
- [Register Here](#)

NEW & NOTEWORTHY

Amendments to Workers' Comp Act

The provincial government has announced [legislative changes](#) to strengthen support for workers injured on the job, while the Workers' Compensation Board (WCB) plans to reduce the average employer rate in 2027 – the first cut in over 30 years.

Amendments to the *Workers' Compensation Act* include:

- Increasing cost-of-living adjustments for benefits
- Expanding presumptive cancer coverage
- Modernizing the definition of "spouse"
- Extending appeals period to 90 days

injured workers and their families. Pending financial sustainability, the WCB is committed to lowering employer rates in 2027, recognizing the efforts of workers, employers, and partners to reduce workplace injuries through prevention and effective return-to-work programs.

[HR Covered](#) is a program partner of NSFM, reach out to the advisory team if you need more information on this item, as well as many other great HR resources offered at **no-charge** to municipal units in NS. More info: partnerships@hrcovered.com

HR Services

[HR Covered](#) is the largest Canadian-owned HR service provider in the country. They offer our municipal units HR experts who help make managing people and processes simple and cover all avenues, at a fraction of the cost. Backed by the extensive experience of certified and qualified HR leaders, HR Covered is the most sought after HR solution in the country. The following service offerings are available **for free** to all municipal units:

- [Register](#) for unlimited access to the HR Hub document library
- [Engaging webinars](#) on various HR related topics
- [Book a meeting](#) to get your **complementary policy manual** created today
- [Program information](#)
- More info: partnerships@hrcovered.com

HR Covered is a [program partner](#) of NSFM

2025 Federal Budget

The federal government recently tabled [Budget 2025: Canada Strong](#). FCM welcomes the recognition of local infrastructure's role in advancing housing, trade, and growth. However, of the \$51 billion Build Communities Strong Fund, a significant portion reflects existing, reprofiled commitments. While this offers early momentum, a long-term plan at scale to fund the infrastructure that makes national housing and economic goals achievable is still needed. The budget allows for only a [small the margin for error](#) as Canada navigates the perils of a trade war. Please refer to FCM's analysis of the budget: [FCM-Budget-2025-full-analysis.pdf](#).

Procurement Fair

(PAC) Atlantic Region is hosting the [Small and Medium Enterprise Procurement Fair](#). The event will feature government booths, one-on-one meetings with buyers, presentations on procurement strategies, and the new Buy Canadian Policy.

- November 27
- Shearwater Aviation Museum
- [Register here](#)

Indigenous Language Learning Courses

The [Outdoor Learning School & Store](#) is offering an introductory online [Mi'kmaw Introductory Language Course](#) starting in January. Learn more about other [Indigenous language learning opportunities](#). Courses are offered by Indigenous instructors and are open to everyone.

- Early Bird Registration deadline: December 14
- More information: info@outdoorlearning.com

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

NSFM Job Opportunities

NSFM is hiring for the position of **Director of Advocacy & Policy**. Refer to the posting detail [here](#). NSFM is also hiring for the position of **CCBF Program Coordinator**. Refer to the posting detail [here](#).

NEWS

[Airbnb pitches success stories to Nova Scotia municipal leaders](#)

[Annapolis considering waiving building fees following disasters](#)

[Bridgewater Mayor David Mitchell elected as new NSFM President](#)

[Digby councillor confronts Nova Scotia Power CEO on late payment to contractor](#)

[Mayors of Halifax and Boston celebrate ties despite Canada-U.S. trade conflict](#)

[Nova Scotia Power CEO has fireside chat with municipalities](#)

[N.S. municipal affairs minister promises communication on natural resource projects](#)

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. The Municipal Funding Database is now a full **Funding Portal**. Visit the new portal: nsfunding.ca.

New Funding Opportunities Added to the Portal:

- [Community Sport Fund](#): Provincial funding up to \$5,000 supporting quality, sustainable community sport programs through equipment purchases, programming enhancements and leadership development.
 - o Deadline: Year-round acceptance (six bi-monthly intakes)
- [Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Accessibility \(EDIA\) Funding](#): Provincial funding supporting traditionally underrepresented communities' participation in community-based sport programming across Nova Scotia. Partnership between sport organization and community service organization is mandatory.
 - o Deadline: Contact Regional Sport Consultant for current intake periods
- [Low Carbon Communities](#): Provincial funding up to \$75,000 for preparatory work supporting cost-effective clean energy and low carbon solutions in buildings, electricity and transportation sectors. Supports community energy plans, feasibility studies, energy assessments and clean energy education.
 - o Deadline: Closed. Next call for proposals TBD

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.

Smart City Solutions Program

From adaptive traffic systems to smart infrastructure design, the [NSFM/Canoe Smart City Solutions Program](#) helps municipalities and other public sector organizations use technology to improve mobility, communication, and public safety. By turning data into insight, these solutions help public leaders plan smarter, respond faster, and build stronger connections that enhance everyday life. The program works with local retailers for supply, service, and support. **NSFM/Canoe=Local.**

NSFM/Canoe Supplier List: November Updates

[NSFM/Canoe Procurement Program](#) provides a diverse range of procurement options for our members. View the updated list of [new and approved vendors](#). Approved suppliers are selected through an open RFP process that follows a successful proposal evaluation and contract award. The program works with local retailers for supply, service, and support. **NSFM/Canoe = Local.**

Food Recycling Program

Good food and shared dining experiences bring people together. Partnering with Sysco, one of the largest food distribution companies in Canada, the [NSFM/Canoe Food Recycling Program](#) provides food services to members across Canada. The program gives your organization access to a huge catalogue of produce, custom cut meats, and dairy, all delivered directly to you. The program works with local retailers for supply, service, and support. **NSFM/Canoe=Local.**

Insurance Tips: Protect Your Home While Away

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. [More information.](#)

Going away and leaving your house for extended periods of time can be risky, especially if you do not take proper precautions. To keep your home safe and secure

NSFM REGIONAL PROFILE

The **Southwestern Shore** is one of seven regions represented on the NSFM Board. This region consists of the following municipalities:

- District of Argyle
- District of Barrington
- District of Clare
- District of Digby
- District of Shelburne
- District of Yarmouth
- Town of Yarmouth
- Town of Digby
- Town of Clark's Harbour
- Town of Shelburne
- Town of Lockeport

The representatives on the Board of Directors for this region are:

- Councillor Belle Hatfield belle.hatfield@townofyarmouth.ca
- Councillor Phil Mooney phil@munyarmouth.ca

WEBINARS

EFAP for Elected Officials

While we often have the skills to manage our daily lives, unexpected challenges can arise that require additional support. Do you know that NSFM offers an **Assistance Program** that elected leaders can access? Find out what the Assistance Program (EFAP) covers and how to access its services. This one-hour webinar will provide an overview of program offerings, along with a live demonstration of the website and app. In addition to this, learn more about the Municipal Wellness Program, which is

- November 19 @ 6:30 pm
- [Register here](#)

RESOURCES

[Summer Municipal Observer](#)

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

[Fall/Winter Atlantic Municipal Magazine](#)

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



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