



NOVA SCOTIA
FEDERATION OF
MUNICIPALITIES

MUNICIPAL MATTERS

—NSFM'S E-News-Letter

October 10, 2018

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Deadline Extended—Low Carbon Communities

The deadline for the Low Carbon Communities initiative has been extended!

The original deadline for applications to be submitted for the Low Carbon Communities initiative was this coming Friday October 12, 2018. The project team has decided to grant an extension to project applicants and applications must now be submitted no later than **Friday October 19th, 2018**. This is an extension of one week.

We hope this extension allows you to finalize your exciting Low Carbon Communities applications. If you have questions about your project idea or the application form, we encourage you to reach out to us at the contact information below.

Taylor Cudney

Low Carbon Communities Coordinator

Nova Scotia Department of Energy & Mines
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902-471-1277 [\(Click here to return to top.\)](#)

Canada-Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Board Invites Public Comments on EA Scoping Document for a Potential Seismic Program News Release

September 26, 2018

CANADA-NOVA SCOTIA OFFSHORE PETROLEUM BOARD INVITES PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AN EA SCOPING DOCUMENT FOR A POTENTIAL SEISMIC PROGRAM

(Halifax, Nova Scotia) – The Canada-Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Board (CNSOPB) has received a Project Description from Multiklient Invest (MKI) for a 2D/3D seismic program that could potentially be carried out in the Canada-Nova Scotia offshore area.

Before any activity can take place, MKI would have to make application for, and be granted, a Geophysical Work Authorization. No such application has been submitted at this time. A project-specific environmental assessment (EA) would need to be submitted in support of such an application; the Project Description has been filed to initiate this process. The CNSOPB has developed a scoping document (SD) outlining requirements and key topic areas for MKI to assess within their EA.

CNSOPB invites Indigenous groups and the public to submit written comments on the draft SD, which is available at:

https://www.cnsopb.ns.ca/sites/default/files/MKI_Scoping_Document_draft.pdf. Please submit your comments to comments@cnsopb.ns.ca by October 29, 2018 at 4:00 p.m. Atlantic Time. All comments received will be considered public and will be posted in the CNSOPB EA Registry. The final SD will be posted on the CNSOPB EA Registry, once this process is complete.

About the Board

The Canada-Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Board is the independent joint agency of the Governments of Canada and Nova Scotia responsible for the regulation of petroleum activities and resources offshore Canada-Nova Scotia.

Additional Resources

Project Description from MKI:

https://www.cnsopb.ns.ca/sites/default/files/pdfs/FA0164_MKI_NS_PD-3_August_18-Final_jrcrevised26Sept2018.pdf

Overview of the EA Process Under the Accords Acts:

https://www.cnsopb.ns.ca/sites/default/files/pdfs/CNSOPB_Flow_Chart_Sept26_2018.pdf

Seismic Program Authorizations Fact Sheet: <https://www.cnsopb.ns.ca/media/featured-articles/seismic-program-authorizations>

For further information, please contact:

Stacy O'Rourke

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Canada-Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Board

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Host a Free Tax Clinic in your Community

It's important that all your citizens file taxes, even if they make little or no income. Filing taxes allows individuals to qualify for government programs, including the HST rebate program for low income people. CRA offers a program where volunteers assist individuals with modest income and simple tax situations with filing their taxes for free. You can host a session through the CRA Volunteer program. Free tax clinics can be offered by appointments, on a first-come first-serve basis during designated hours, or a combination of both. You can invest as little or as much time and resources as you wish. Simply contact CRA at this [Web Address](#). [\(Click here to return to top.\)](#)

Legislative Update: Bills 55 and 58

NSFM has made submissions to the Law Amendments Committee on two separate bills presently before the Legislature. Jeff Cantwell, Mayor of Wolfville and NSFM Towns Caucus Chair, attended the October 1st sitting of the committee to speak in support of both bills. Bill 55 concerns the amalgamation of Windsor and West Hants, and Bill 58 concerns the establishment of minimum planning standards. Read NSFM's submissions on these bills online here: [Bill 55](#) and [Bill 58](#) [\(Click here to return to top.\)](#)

NSFM To Hire Chief Executive Officer

NSFM's Current ED is retiring in late 2018, and on behalf of the Board of Directors and the members, we are seeking a highly-respected individual to lead the organization in its new CEO. Click here for the [Ad](#). [\(Click here to return to top.\)](#)

AMANS 2018 Conference

October 16-19, 2018, Inverary Resort, Baddeck, NS. [Click here for more information and to register](#). [\(Click here to return to top.\)](#)

[Rick Hansen Foundation Accessibility Training Program](#)

Nova Scotia's Accessibility Act was proclaimed in September 2017 with a goal to make the province accessible by 2030. Later this month, the Nova Scotia Accessibility Directorate will be releasing the Government of Nova Scotia Accessibility Strategy and Implementation Plan, outlining how the Province will achieve this goal. Once prescribed under the Act, municipalities will also be required to produce accessibility plans, within one year.

Ensuring the built environment is accessible to persons with disabilities will be a key component of municipal accessibility plans. The Rick Hansen Foundation (RHF) has developed a universal accessibility standard in the built environment through an RHF Accessibility Certification program, similar to LEED certification.

This fall, the Nova Scotia Community College (NSCC) will be delivering The Rick Hansen Foundation Accessibility Certification Assessor Training Course, and is targeting the course to municipal staff. Participants in this course will learn how to evaluate the accessibility of buildings and sites by identifying barriers for persons with physical, sensory, learning and developmental disabilities.

Recognizing the value of ensuring that municipal staff are trained to identify accessibility gaps in the built environment, the Government of Nova Scotia will be covering half (\$550) of the \$1,100 registration cost of the upcoming course (note that travel costs are to be covered by the municipality). The course will be held at the NSCC Waterfront Campus in Dartmouth.

For further information on The Rick Hansen Foundation Accessibility Certification Assessor Training Course, please visit the NSCC website [here](#). To receive an application form for the course, please email RHFAC@nsc.ca. [\(Click here to return to top.\)](#)

[Product Stewardship Institute—Webinar on Extended Producer Responsibility \(EPR\)](#)

The Product Stewardship Institute is hosting a webinar on EPR on October 31st, and registration is free. The webinar will include John Coyne, Executive Chair of the Canadian Stewardship Services Alliance (CSSA), and Vice President of Unilever Canada.

<https://www.productstewardship.us/event/Global-BMPs-Packaging-EPR-Circular-Economy> [\(Click here to return to top.\)](#)

[NSFM 2018 Conference](#)

November 6-9, 2018, Westin Nova Scotian Hotel, Halifax, NS. [Event Program and Registration Package now available.](#) [\(Click here to return to top.\)](#)

AMANS HR Module Labour Law, HR Policy and Benefits Plan

November 16th, 2018. Click [here](#) for more information. ([Click here to return to top.](#))

AMANS Financial Management 3—for Elected Officials

November 22nd – 23rd, 2018, Location to be determined. Click [here](#) for more information. ([Click here to return to top.](#))

Workshops for Integrating Climate Considerations into Asset Management Planning

The purpose of these workshops is to help municipalities incorporate climate risks into their asset management planning practices. NSFM is working with a local group – ClimAction Services – to develop the workshops, which are aimed at enhancing local asset management practices by providing municipalities with the information and tools they need to include climate considerations into their long-term infrastructure planning. Doing so will help position municipalities to take the necessary steps to proactively adapt their assets to climate risks.

Two one-day workshops are being planned:

- Monday November 26 at the Fairbanks Centre in Dartmouth
- Wednesday, November 28 at the NSCC in Middleton

In the coming weeks, more details will be provided and an announcement to let you know when registration for the workshops is open. In the meantime, please mark your calendars and stay tuned!

If you have any questions about the workshops, please contact Debbie Nielsen at NSFM (by telephone - 902 423-8312 or email - dnielsen@nsfm.ca).

These initiatives are offered through the Municipal Asset Management Program, which is delivered by the [Federation of Canadian Municipalities](#) and funded by the Government of Canada.





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