

1. Update on Retroactive Pay for RCMP Officers

NSFM continues to engage with both the federal and provincial orders of government over retroactive payment costs for RCMP officers. NSFM has communicated with Public Safety Canada on behalf of municipalities with a Municipal Policing Service Agreement, calling on the federal government to reverse its decision to provide much-needed financial assistance.

NSFM has also engaged the Nova Scotia Department of Justice about their plans for the retroactive costs incurred on the Provincial Policing Service Agreement and received the following response:

“Public Safety Canada informed all provinces, territories, and municipalities on March 29, 2023, that it will invoice the retroactive salaries of the RCMP labour contract settled on August 6, 2021, and delivered invoices on March 31, 2023. The Nova Scotia Department of Justice has responded to Public Safety Canada, taking the position to dispute the invoices for the retroactive salaries on the basis that the Province was not privy to the collective agreement negotiations.”

NSFM will keep all members apprised of further developments.

2. Call for Expressions of Interest

Audit and Finance Committee

NSFM is seeking an elected official to join the Audit and Finance Committee. The Committee is responsible for providing oversight of financial reporting related to the organization and its various programs. For more information, please see the Terms of Reference. Please note that beginning this year, the committee will meet one additional time per year to review financial statements related to the NSFM Health & and Benefits plan.

Qualifications: Accounting experience or equivalent knowledge and experience with financial statements and reports, able to analyze financial information and advise of its impact on the organization, able to make recommendations to the Board of Directors related to the financial position of the organization and its programs, able to advise on financial policies, internal controls, and audit preparation.

Please send an Expression of Interest that briefly outlines your qualifications related to the Audit and Finance Committee to info@nsfm.ca by Friday May 26, 2023.

Housing Committee

The NSFM Board of Directors is accepting applications to the Joint Municipal Housing Committee.

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NOVA SCOTIA FEDERATION
OF MUNICIPALITIES

This committee will review the results of the provincial housing needs assessment and develop an action plan to ensure the Department of Municipal Affairs and Housing and municipalities work collaboratively to address the housing needs of Nova Scotians.

This committee will also identify best practices in policy and programming, host events to share best practices, and support initiatives across the province that expedite housing development and affordable housing initiatives.

If you're interested, please read the Terms of Reference and submit a resume along with a brief statement outlining your relevant skills and qualifications to info@nsfm.ca by Friday, May 26, 2023.

If you have previously submitted an Expression of Interest, please contact the office to indicate you would like your name to stand again.

3. Revised OEA Engagement Schedule for Municipalities and Villages Re: Equity and Anti-Racism Plans

The Office of Equity and Anti-Racism Initiatives (OEA) is hosting virtual engagement sessions for municipalities and villages this month.

During the sessions they will:

- Discuss your requirements under the Dismantling Racism and Hate Act.
- Share what supports they will be providing to help you meet requirements.
- Answer your questions.

To register for engagement sessions please email OEAEengagement@novascotia.ca

Members may register as individuals or as groups. If you are not available for a session in your area, you are welcome to join a session for a different area.

Available Sessions:

- May 16th 10-11AM – Central 1
- May 16th 2-3PM Central 2
- May 18th 2-3PM – Western 2
- May 19th 10-11AM – Northern 2

4. 12-Month Notice Letter

We received our 12-month notice letter which is sent every year by the NS Department of Municipal Affairs and Housing and outlines any provincial legislation, regulation, or

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administrative actions that could have the effect of decreasing revenues or increasing the required expenditures of municipalities.

I do not think there is anything in the letter that you are not aware of but it will be reviewed in detail by both Leah and I and we will advise of any discrepancies or anomalies.

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A reminder that Monday Memos are sent each Monday to NSFM members by email. The memo has noteworthy items, event highlights, upcoming meeting reminders, media mentions and member messages in one weekly package. Articles and updates from the NSFM Monday Memos can also be found here: <https://www.nsfm.ca/table/news/monday-memo/>.