

NSFM Monday Memo Summary Sheet

February 21 – March 20, 2023



1. NSFM Spring Conference

The 2023 NSFM Spring Conference will take place from May 3rd – 5th at the Digby Pines Resort.

[CLICK HERE](#) to access the conference website. The full program, registration and accommodation details are found on the site.

The keynote session will be by Danny Graham of Engage Nova Scotia and there will be sessions on climate action projects, municipal success stories, evaluating your CAO and more.

2. Areas of Municipal Interest for NSFM Advisory Committees

Following NSFM's Special Meeting of the Members in January, where members approved changes to our By-laws, the Board is moving ahead with striking Advisory Committees. The advisory committees will be based on the following areas of municipal interest. These definitions are meant to give an idea of what these committees will engage in and are not definitive.

Public Safety – Public Safety is an indispensable service area that comes at a high cost to municipalities. This Advisory Committee will address issues brought forward to NSFM related to policing services, fire prevention, and emergency response.

Climate Change – Municipalities can play a pivotal role in mitigating and adapting to climate change. This Advisory Committee will address issues brought forward to NSFM related sustainable development, energy production, biodiversity, and adaptation planning.

Municipal Finance – Municipalities have access to a handful of revenue generating tools despite the wide range of responsibilities they hold. This Advisory Committee will address issues brought forward to NSFM related to new sources of revenue, current funding streams, and financial management.

Infrastructure – Municipalities are charged with building and maintaining a majority of Canadian public infrastructure. This Advisory Committee will address issues brought forward to NSFM related to asset management, infrastructure deficits, and maintenance costs.

Municipal Autonomy – Municipalities need to be able to make creative use of resources within their jurisdiction to serve public interests as best they can. This Advisory Committee will address issues brought forward to NSFM related to municipal discretion, capacity, and collaboration.

Ad hoc committees will also be struck for requests and concerns that don't fit within these broad categories.

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NSFM is seeking membership input prior to March 29 on these suggested committees. They ask elected officials to email NSFM with their input.

Calls for Expressions of Interest will be sent out in April. Those interested in serving on these committees will be asked to provide a brief statement outlining their relevant skills and qualifications including an explanation of what they can offer the committee.

Information on how municipal councils can submit requests and issues of concern to these committees will also be circulated in the near future.

3. Service Exchange Renegotiation and Municipal Government Act Review Update

On March 14, NSFM sent out an update that they are currently awaiting feedback from the province, including next steps and information on member consultation. They will keep us informed as they learn more.

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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/>.