



NOVA SCOTIA
FEDERATION OF
MUNICIPALITIES

MUNICIPAL MATTERS—

NSFM'S E-News-Letter

September 12, 2018

ChangeUp Grants are Now Open—Apply by September 26th

Inspirit's \$10,000 ChangeUp grants support people from across the country to lead creative, solutions-focused projects that address discrimination and prejudice in their communities. Project teams should be led by individuals aged 18-34 with lived experiences of the issues and communities the project is focused on. We are looking for projects that implement strategies to open minds and shift attitudes that perpetuate prejudice and exclusion based on ethnicity, race or religion; and/or create spaces for communities to deepen capacities and develop solutions that build resiliency. We seek to support the development of effective, connected, and influential change leaders.

Please reach out to [Sanaa Ali-Mohammed](#) if you have questions about your eligibility or application.

[Visit the Website for more information.](#) [\(Click here to return to top.\)](#)

FCM's Green Municipal Fund Delivers Results and Builds Capacity

FCM's Green Municipal Fund (GMF) 2017–2018 Annual Report shows how GMF helps cities and communities of all sizes across Canada reach their sustainability goals, enhance the quality of life of their residents, and provide cleaner air, water and land. Learn how GMF supports municipalities through funding, training, knowledge-sharing and more. [Read the annual report.](#) [\(Click here to return to top.\)](#)

Low Carbon Communities Launched to Help Municipalities Save Money and Reduce Emissions

On Monday September 10th, the Nova Scotia Department of Energy and Mines launched Low Carbon Communities, a new flexible funding initiative that will help local groups create new ideas for clean energy.

The Low Carbon Communities initiative has been designed to help jump-start projects and activities by funding the development of feasibility studies and plans, engagement activities, and the demonstration of a variety of low-carbon initiatives.

The program is now accepting applications from municipalities, Mi'kmaw communities and not-for-profit organizations that work directly with community groups. The deadline to submit your complete application is end of day October 12th, 2018.

Successful applicants will receive up to \$75,000 to a maximum of 75 per cent of project costs. Provincial funds can be used to leverage additional funding.

[A full description including project eligibility, funding guidelines, a list of potential funding partners and the application is available here.](#)

We have been informed the province is hoping to offer another round of funding in the future.

For more information, contact:

Low Carbon Communities Coordinator

NS Department of Energy and Mines

lowcarboncommunities@novascotia.ca [\(Click here to return to top.\)](#)

[Nova Scotia Asset Management Program Update to Announce the Availability of Data Collection Tools and Resources](#)

Since the data from the first Nova Scotia Asset Management Pilot Project was collected, the Department of Municipal Affairs has been working with its consulting partners to improve/update the associated tools and resources based on feedback received through the sister registry project.

As a result, the linear data collection tools and resources developed from the first Pilot Project are now ready/available for use!

These tools and resources (including a linear data collection spreadsheet and an accompanying standard operating procedure (SOP) with a preliminary condition assessment guide) are intended to support Nova Scotia's municipalities with infrastructure planning by providing guidance for collecting asset data in a standardized way, which is the first key step towards effective asset management.

To receive the linear data collection package/associated instructions (including, additional program background information as well as contact details for interim technical support), please contact:

Jennifer Duncan (Engineer, Department of Municipal Affairs):

jennifer.duncan@novascotia.ca [\(Click here to return to top.\)](#)

[Bill 10 to End Liquor Prohibition Plebiscites](#)

Bill 10 was introduced in the Nova Scotia Legislature yesterday. It will amend the *Liquor Control Act* to remove the need to use plebiscites to end liquor prohibition in Nova Scotian communities. After the change, municipalities will be able to change liquor laws by council vote and will retain the ability to place restrictions on the sale and consumption of alcohol through zoning and bylaws.

Communities were given the option to stay dry when province-wide prohibition ended in 1929. Since that time, hundreds of communities have used the plebiscite mechanism to give up their dry status. But no community has voted to stay completely dry in over 20 years. The last

three plebiscites were held this May, and cost between \$6,000 and \$15,000 each. ([Click here to return to top.](#))

Model Expense and Model Hospitality Policy

The Association of Municipal Administrators, NS is pleased to announce the [Model Expense Reimbursement Policy](#) and [Model Hospitality Policy](#). These model policies have been reviewed by the Department of Municipal Affairs (DMA) to ensure that they conform to provincial regulations. They have also been reviewed by municipal solicitor Charles Thompson of Burchell-MacDougall.

These policies will guide municipalities as they report the expenses of elected officials online. ([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.](#))

Atlantic Mayors' Congress

October 17-19, 2018, St. John's, NL. Please mark you calendar for St. John's NL. It has been a while since we have met in Newfoundland and Labrador. It is great to be returning to the capital.

Mayor Breen and the host committee are putting together an exciting event and engaging agenda. If you have an item for our agenda please pass it along with your recommendations for presentation. We begin with a reception Wednesday evening followed by a full day agenda Thursday, a keynote dinner Thursday evening and a half day meeting on Friday.

We will be meeting in the St. John's Convention Centre. We have booked a block of rooms at the adjoining Delta Hotel. Here is contact information to book your room.

Direct link [Book your group rate for Atlantic Mayors Congress](#)
Our hotel contact is Kim Finley 709-570-1608 or kim.finley@whg.com

Your RSVP to Mark Kerrigan, Executive Director, will be a great help: atlanticmayors@gmail.com ([Click here to return to top.](#))

National Trust Conference 2018

The 2018 National Trust Conference is headed to Fredericton later this year (October 18-20, 2018) and it features many workshops/sessions of interest to government officials of all levels. Here is just a sampling:

- Keynote by Glen Murray (Current Executive Director of the Pembina Institute, Former Mayor of Winnipeg and Ontario Minister of the Environment) on how capitalizing on historic buildings and districts makes social, economic, and environmental sense
- Plenary session with Daniel Abramson (Boston University) and Annmarie Adams (McGill University) on turning the tide on our culture of disposable buildings

- Sessions featuring developers, planners, and elected municipal officials on the roles of the public and private sectors in heritage development
- Special workshops on Implementing Digital Heritage Inventories and Surveys, and Downtown Revitalization

Visit our website to see the full schedule: www.nationaltrustconference.ca. [\(Click here to return to top.\)](#)

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 a 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 to the course, please email RHFAC@nscc.ca. [\(Click here to return to top.\)](#)

Canadian Rural and Remote Housing and Homeless Symposium 2018

October 24-26, 2018, Canmore, AB. [Click here for more information.](#) [\(Click here to return to top.\)](#)

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.](#))