

Municipal Drinking Water Supply Planning Assistance Program 2008/2009

Purpose

This program is intended to assist municipalities in protecting the quality of drinking water in municipal water supply watersheds through their municipal planning documents (municipal planning strategy, land use by-law, and subdivision by-law). The program is in keeping with the provisions of the *Statement of Provincial Interest Regarding Drinking Water* and *A Drinking Water Strategy for Nova Scotia*, and supports these and other provincial policies, regulations and programs aimed at the protection of municipal drinking water supplies. This is the seventh year of this program.

Funding

Funding from Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations under the Municipal Drinking Water Supply Planning Assistance Program is for the fiscal year 2008/2009 and funds are accessible on a cost-shared basis, up to a maximum of 50% of the costs on approved municipal planning projects.

Funding available under this program is intended to serve numerous municipal planning projects across the province and hence the level of assistance provided to any one project will reflect this objective.

Eligibility

• Who is eligible?

This program is open to all municipalities, villages and district planning commissions in the province of Nova Scotia.

• What is eligible?

Components of municipal land use planning exercises relative to the protection of municipal water supply watersheds (both surface & groundwater), as envisioned by and provided for under the *Municipal Government Act* (MGA), are eligible for funding under this program. This includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- ✓ preparation of background studies and mapping relative to municipal planning documents;
- ✓ development of municipal planning documents or amendments to them; and
- ✓ public participation sessions.

Given that drinking water watersheds often cross municipal boundaries inter-municipal cooperation efforts are encouraged.

Applying for Funding

There is no formal application form to request funding under this program. Formal funding requests must be made in writing and provide sufficient detail regarding the municipal planning project so that Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations is able to make an informed decision regarding the need and project applicability.

An applicant's request should contain information regarding the project, including, but not be limited to:

- ✓ geographic area covered by the project;
- ✓ who will be carrying out the project;
- ✓ project time-frame;
- ✓ how the project relates and contributes to municipal planning documents and more particularly municipal water supply protection; and
- ✓ project costs and municipal contributions.

Where the water supply watershed extends into or is wholly located with an adjacent municipality, documentation demonstrating the support of that municipality is required.

Application Deadline

There is no specific funding application deadline. Requests for funding assistance will be considered as they are received, subject to funding availability. An early submission improves a municipality's chances that funds are still available in the program.

Funding of Approved Projects

Funding of approved municipal planning projects is provided to applicants based on claims submitted to Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations.

Contact

For more information, to submit a request for funding assistance or make a claim, contact:

Andrew Paton
Municipal Services Division
Service Nova Scotia & Municipal Relations
P.O. Box 216
Halifax, NS, B2Y 3T8

- apaton@gov.ns.ca
- (902) 424-7492