



Poster Contest

This contest can be divided into categories for

different ages. Have a poster contest with the winning poster placed in the school library, public library, or municipal office. Have the students do a painting, collage, or any other creative project.



Short Essay Contest

This contest may be done in cooperation with local schools. Hold separate contests for high school, junior high, and elementary school levels.



Trivia Contest

Include questions on local facts about different

people, historical events, and landmarks in your community. Whoever gets the most answers correct wins a prize. Have students design a trivia game, where each student in class comes up with one question.

Other Tips

- Designate a member of council as your local Municipal Awareness Week chairperson to coordinate activities.
- Allocate a small budget to allow you to purchase things like prizes, snacks and promotional materials.
- Contact the media in your local community early, outline your plans, and invite them to participate by covering local events.
- Get other members of your council involved in heightening local government awareness. The more people involved, the more success you will have in raising municipal awareness.
- Look for assistance from service clubs, seniors and other groups. Invite them to think of their own activities that promote municipal government. Ask them to name a representative to work with your Municipal Awareness Planning Committee.



Municipal Awareness Week



November 21-25, 2016

Municipal Awareness Week is a public awareness campaign aimed at:

- promoting the importance of municipal government in peoples' daily lives;
- encouraging citizens to participate in municipal government—including attending council meetings, public hearings or joining an advisory committee—in a way that is inclusive to all Nova Scotians;
- increasing voter turnout rates during municipal elections.



For more information: www.unsm.ca, www.amans.ca, <http://www.gov.ns.ca/snsmr/municipal/default.asp>, www.ns-municipal-elections.ca
email: lgoldberg@unsm.ca or call (902) 423-8331

Getting Started

Set Up a Committee:



The first step in planning an effective Municipal Awareness Day is organizing a

committee. This committee should consist of municipal elected officials, municipal staff, local organizations, and members of the general public.

The more support the better!

Organizations you may want to contact include businesses, social clubs, schools or other community-based organizations.

Tips:

- Get Mayor/Warden to sign proclamation
- Get schools involved
- Seek support of local media
- Seek support from local business
- Make activities as accessible as possible

Ideas for Public Activities



Invite the public to tour municipal facilities such as the town hall, fire department, public works department, or police station. Show them what their tax dollars support.

Municipal Displays

This is a great way to promote municipal events in your community. A colourful attractive display booth located in a popular location would gain plenty of attention. Be creative!



Municipal Outdoor Celebration

This is usually a great attraction, and may be considered with community family day activities. Have live local entertainment, recognize your longest serving councillor, oldest resident, or some other notable individual. For younger children, you may wish to organize craft and colouring activities.

School Activity Ideas



Class Visits

Arrange a class visit to your fire department, town hall or municipal building. Have a mayor, warden or councillor visit a local school to discuss municipal issues with students.



Mock Council

Have a mayor, warden or councillor facilitate a mock council meeting in a local school. Have the students vote amongst themselves for mayor, deputy mayor, council, CAO and other municipal staff positions. Prepare an agenda and debate the issues similar to a council meeting.

Shadow a Councillor or Municipal Employee for a Day

This can be a fun activity that gives the public a look at what a mayor, warden, councillor, or municipal employee accomplishes for their community.