
NEWS RELEASE

For interviews or more information, contact:

Deputy Warden Jimmy MacAlpine, President
Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities
cell: 902-245-8746 Office: 902-423-8673
Email: jmacalpine@municipality.digby.ns.ca

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

UNSM to meet with Provincial MLA's during Advocacy Days

Halifax, May 1, 2012: Municipal politicians from across the province are in Halifax on May 2nd and 3rd for Advocacy Days. During these sessions, the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities' (UNSM) Board of Directors will be meeting with a number of MLA's from all political parties over a two day period to discuss important municipal issues. The purpose of Advocacy Days is to build relationships between provincial and municipal elected officials, look at how the Province and municipalities can work together to better serve the interests of all Nova Scotians, and to minimize the collective tax burden.

"This is the first time the UNSM has undertaken Advocacy Days", stated UNSM President Deputy Warden Jimmy MacAlpine. "This will provide an excellent opportunity for our Board members to meet with a large number of MLA's in order to improve communication between our two orders of government and to ensure that important municipal issues get on the provincial radar", MacAlpine further stated.

The main points municipal politicians want to emphasize is that both orders of government serve the same taxpayer, municipalities are a true order of government and should not be treated like a stakeholder group, and to encourage municipal-provincial cooperation on infrastructure and other programs that impact communities.

Advocacy Days is modelled on a similar event organized by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities at the federal level.

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