

Aug 20-22, 2025

Dartmouth,
Nova Scotia

PROGRAM '25

Atlantic Asset Management Conference

*The Future of Our
Infrastructure :
Tough Choices for
Municipal Services*



Pre-Conference Workshop

August 20, 2025

For Municipal Staff & Council
From Strategy to Reality

9:00 AM -
12:00 PM

SENIOR LEADERSHIP & COUNCIL: LEADERSHIP LAB

Infrastructure gaps aren't just a planning issue. They are a political and generational reckoning. In this leadership lab, senior leaders and elected officials will dig into why the funding gap exists, face the hard truths about expectations versus affordability, and practice how to explain tough choices while still earning public trust. Participants will work through real-world cases and build skills to lead through uncertainty without losing sight of political realities. Legacy is not just what you build; it is also what you choose not to.

9:00 AM -
12:00 PM

ENGINEERING, PUBLIC WORKS, OPERATIONS: PRIORITIZING WHAT MATTERS

Too many assets. Not enough people, time, or money. This hands-on session tackles a hard truth: many municipalities are carrying more infrastructure than they can afford to operate, maintain, or replace. Through real-world examples and discussion, participants will learn how to assess service risks, set priorities, and manage the gap between expectations and available resources. The focus is not on doing more with less, but on doing what you can with purpose, backed by evidence and clear risk-based decisions.

1:00 - 4:00 PM

JOINT SESSION: PULLING IN THE SAME DIRECTION

After a morning in separate sessions, leadership and operations will come together to tackle the real challenge: delivering services with fewer resources and higher expectations. This session builds real conversations across the staff-council divide, without the pressure of real-time decisions. Mixed-municipality teams will use quick discussions, real-world case studies, and low-stakes role-play to surface hidden risks, unpack assumptions, and start sketching a roadmap for "right-sizing" back home. You will leave with a draft plan to build on, and the confidence to keep tough conversations moving. The only thing worse than a tough decision is making it alone, without the right conversations first. If you're serious about keeping your community strong, you need to be in the room. The real work starts here.

6:00 - 8:00 PM

MEET & GREET IN EXHIBITION SPACE

Kick off the conference with live music, great conversation, and a relaxed atmosphere. Casual games will be on hand if you feel like jumping in, or just sit back, unwind, and enjoy the evening.



Conference Day 1

August 21, 2025

8:00 - 9:00 AM *Breakfast & Registration*

9:00 - 9:30 AM WELCOME

Conference Introduction & Housekeeping

9:30 - 10:15 AM COLLABORATIVE CONVERSATION: STATE OF INFRASTRUCTURE

Our Executive Director, Matt Delorme will guide participants through a conversation on the current state of infrastructure in Atlantic Canada. Together, we'll explore the tough choices ahead, reflect on what service delivery really means, and set shared intentions for the conference.

10:15 - 10:30 AM *Exhibitors Break*

10:30 - 11:00 AM KEYNOTE SPEECH

11:00 - 11:15 AM *Transition*

Collaboration

11:15 - 11:45 AM TECHNICAL PRESENTATION

Collaboration

11:45 - 12:15 PM TECHNICAL PRESENTATION

Collaboration

11:45 - 12:15 PM WORKSHOP

12:15 - 1:15 PM *Lunch & Exhibitors*

Back to Basics

1:15 - 2:45 PM TECHNICAL PRESENTATIONS and/or WORKSHOP

Financial Planning

1:15 - 2:45 PM TECHNICAL PRESENTATIONS and/or WORKSHOP

2:45 - 3:00 PM *Break*

3:00 - 4:15 PM ROUND TABLES

4:15 - 4:30 PM *Transition*

4:30 - 4:15 PM TECHNICAL TOUR: NATURAL SHORELINE

Join us on a tour led by our host community. Hop on Halifax Regional Municipality's new electric bus to visit three shorelines. Topics include flood risks to lake and coastal shorelines; the co-benefits of naturalization for flood mitigation and biodiversity; the role of community partners in shoreline protection; and the challenges and successes of nature-based solutions.

- Penhorn Lake — Newly established lakeshore naturalization project
- Birch Cove — One-year-old lakeshore naturalization project
- Shore Rd — In-progress living coastal shoreline project

6:45 - 8:00 PM FAMILY / SOCIAL EVENT

Join us for a for social time with your peers at a local restaurant.

Conference Day 2

August 22, 2025

8:00 - 9:00 AM *Breakfast & Registration*

9:00 - 9:30 AM AIM COMMUNITY UPDATE

Join AIM Technical Committee Chair, Ian Tenhaaf to learn more about the work going on at AIM Network, new tool offerings to use in your work, and ways to get involved.

9:30 - 10:00 AM SUSTAINING ASSET MANAGEMENT

Support your asset management program under current funding structures. This session will offer strategies to prioritize work, integrate with current funding programs and keep planning on track.

10:00 - 10:45 AM *Exhibitor "Rapid Networking"*

10:30 - 12:15 PM SPECIAL PANEL: NAVIGATING TOUGH CHOICES THROUGH ASSET MANAGEMENT

When needs outstrip means, how do communities choose wisely? This must-attend panel brings together municipal leaders and practitioners tackling real-world trade-offs through asset management. Hear firsthand how they're managing aging infrastructure, surging costs, shifting demands, and climate uncertainty; and the hard-won lessons they're applying to build more resilient futures.

12:15 - 1:15 PM *Lunch & Exhibitors*

Council & Community Engagement

1:15 - 2:45 PM TECHNICAL PRESENTATIONS and/or WORKSHOP

Data Management

1:15 - 2:45 PM TECHNICAL PRESENTATIONS and/or WORKSHOP

2:45 - 3:00 PM *Conference Wrap Up & Door Prizes*

3:00 - 5:00 PM FUN IN NATURE

Join us for a relaxed afternoon at Shubie Park with access to walking trails and paddling on the historic canals & lakes. Everyone welcome, including family members and guests.

