



2025 UMNB Annual Conference and AGM

October 3 - 5 | 3 - 5 octobre

2025 Conférence annuelle et assemblée générale de l'UMNB

31st UMNB Annual Conference and AGM Program

****Updated September 23, 2025: Please note that this schedule is subject to change at any time without notice.****

Friday, October 3, 2025

Time	Session	Location
8:00 - 16:00	Registration	Registration desk
10:00 - 16:00	RCMP Meetings (<i>by appointment - pre-registration</i>)	Boardroom
9:00 - 15:30	Weekend Vendors	Foyer
10:00 - 11:00	Housing in New Brunswick: Building Solutions Together <i>Housing continues to be one of New Brunswick's most pressing issues. Join this panel for a conversation on the realities of today's housing situation, the gaps that currently exist, and the opportunities for collaborative solutions between municipalities, the province, and the cooperative housing sector.</i>	Spencer
10:00 - 11:00	Civility, Respect, and Self Care: Creating space for responsible leadership <i>As we move towards the next municipal election, what can local leaders do to build space for respectful debate and protect themselves and their colleagues? This panel will discuss practical strategies for managing the workload, strategies to build a more respectful community, and talk about the action plan being developed by the UMNB, AFMNB and the Department of Environment and Local Government to address the harassment and intimidation of elected officials and municipal staff.</i>	Montagu
11:00 - 11:15	Networking Break	Loyalist and Foyer
11:15 - 12:15	Partnering for Better Care: Municipal Engagement with Ambulance NB <i>Ambulance New Brunswick (ANB) will provide an overview of the current state of provincial ambulance services, including system challenges and key initiatives underway to optimize access to services, support ANB's workforce, and transform the model through innovation. ANB will also share insights on the upcoming review of our provincial paramedic services system and highlight opportunities for meaningful engagement with municipalities.</i>	Spencer
11:15 - 12:15	Improving Digital Connectivity: A Case Study on What NB Can Learn from Western Nova Scotia's Broadband Strategy <i>Rural connectivity remains a top priority for New Brunswick municipalities as it is directly tied to public safety, health access, and economic growth. Nova Scotia's Crown Corporation Build NS has invested \$40 million toward the goal of 100% rural broadband coverage,</i>	Montagu



**2025 UMNB Annual
Conference and AGM**

October 3 - 5 | 3 - 5 octobre

**2025 Conférence annuelle et
assemblée générale de l'UMNB**

	<i>showing real progress on an issue identified by FCM as a top-five challenge for rural communities nationwide. Join us to hear from panellists from Western Nova Scotia on their experience advocating for better rural broadband and how these lessons might inform advocacy on improving cellular service in New Brunswick</i>	
12:15 - 13:00	Lunch	Loyalist
13:00 - 14:00	Locking Down Your Risk Management Practices presented by Canoe <i>This session highlights how municipalities can identify and reinforce vulnerable areas in their risk management practices. Attendees will learn practical approaches to prevent small exposures from escalating into major claims, ensuring stronger, more resilient operations.</i>	Spencer
13:00 - 14:00	From Courts to Communities: Bail Reform, Policing Pressures, and Community Impacts <i>Justice system pressures and the conversation around bail reform are reshaping communities across New Brunswick and Canada. Join this panel for an in-depth conversation on bail reform and justice system pressures at the local level, exploring the impact of bail reform policies on municipalities and policing, New Brunswick's commitment not to discharge individuals into homelessness and the growing volume of police calls tied to intimate partner violence (IPV) and mental health.</i>	Montagu
14:00 - 14:15	Transition	
14:15 - 15:30	Walking Together: Building Bridges with Respect and Intention, presented by the Joint Economic Development Initiative (JEDI) <i>Reconciliation starts with relationships. This session shares strategies for municipalities and Indigenous communities to walk together with humility and respect, building trust and culture-based connections for lasting collaboration.</i>	Spencer
14:15 - 15:30	New-Brunswick Southeast region virtual twins: Insights & goals from Université de Moncton pilot project <i>Facing growing housing challenges, municipalities and local institutions are seeking new approaches to make smarter, faster decisions at the right time. This session will begin with a 20-minute presentation on how virtual twins can simulate multiple aspects of urban planning, providing insights on affordable housing needs, biodiversity corridors, and the impact of densification on access to services and mobility. A panel featuring project partners will follow, exploring their experiences and goals, and the session will conclude with a Q&A from the audience.</i>	Montagu
15:30 - 18:00	Free Time	
18:00 - 18:30	Opening Reception <i>Join us for the official opening of the UMNB Annual Conference and</i>	Montagu



2025 UMN B Annual Conference and AGM

October 3 - 5 | 3 - 5 octobre

2025 Conférence annuelle et assemblée générale de l'UMNB

	<i>Trade Show. The evening will kick off with welcoming remarks from UMN B leadership, the City of Saint John, Green Party Leader David Coon, Local Government Minister Aaron Kennedy, and Premier Susan Holt. This is a great opportunity to connect with colleagues, meet new partners, and set the stage for an exciting and productive conference weekend.</i>	
18:30 - 21:00	Trade Show	Foyer and Marco Polo
21:00 - 23:00	Canoe Hospitality Evening <i>Join us for an exclusive hospitality event at The Country Club and meet the Canoe team. Whether you're looking to streamline purchasing, protect your community, or support your team, this is your chance to connect with the people behind our mission to support local communities from coast to coast to coast.</i>	<i>The Country Club (1 Market Square, Saint John, NB E2L 4Z6)</i>

Saturday, October 4, 2025

Time	Session	Location
7:00 - 12:00	Registration	Registration desk
7:00 - 8:00	Breakfast <i>presented by CN</i>	Foyer
7:45 - 4:30	Weekend vendors	Foyer
8:00 - 8:15	Workshop <i>presented by CN</i>	Marco Polo
8:15 - 8:30	UMNB Welcome	Marco Polo
8:30 - 9:45	Fiscal Reform Update <i>provided by the Department of Environment and Local Government</i> <i>Over the past year, ELG and partner associations have worked collaboratively on new funding mechanisms for local governments. This presentation will provide an overview of the new funding model and what it means for your community, and communities across the province.</i>	Marco Polo
9:45 - 10:00	Networking Break	Foyer
10:00 - 11:00	Leading Change in Uncertain Times: A Practical Guide for Municipal Leaders <i>presented by MC Advisory and McInnes Cooper</i> <i>With municipal elections approaching and community expectations evolving, change is inevitable. But it doesn't have to be disruptive. This session offers municipal leaders practical strategies to lead through transition with confidence and clarity.</i> <i>We'll explore how to manage shifting council dynamics, support staff</i>	Marco Polo



2025 UMN Annual Conference and AGM

October 3 - 5 | 3 - 5 octobre

2025 Conférence annuelle et assemblée générale de l'UMNB

	<p>through uncertainty, and communicate effectively in high-pressure environments. The session will also offer insights on building resilience, fostering trust across teams and councils, and ensuring smooth transitions during periods of political and organizational change.</p> <p>Whether you're preparing for leadership shifts, navigating council dynamics, or just trying to keep your team grounded, this session offers a clear path forward.</p>	
11:00 - 11:15	Transition	Foyer
11:15 - 12:15	<p>Economic Impact of Municipalities</p> <p>Economist David Campbell will present findings from his report, 'Considerations on the potential impact of sharing HST revenue with municipalities.' This funding could bolster the economic impact of New Brunswick's municipal sector, strengthen the municipal workforce, support increased infrastructure investments, and support provincial targets around housing creation.</p>	Marco Polo
12:15 - 1:00	Lunch presented by JD Irving Limited.	Foyer
13:00 - 13:15	Workshop presented by JD Irving Limited.	Marco Polo
13:15 - 14:15	<p>Healthcare in New Brunswick: Collaborative Solutions for Healthcare in Municipalities</p> <p>The state of primary care, recruitment of medical professionals, mental health, and collaborative care units are key issues for our members across New Brunswick. This panel provides an important opportunity to discuss how municipalities can be supporting partners in the provincial response to local healthcare challenges.</p>	Marco Polo
14:15 - 14:30	Networking Break	Foyer
14:30 - 15:30	<p>Making regional collaboration work: Lessons from BC and Quebec</p> <p>With a review of regional service commissions on the horizon, now is an important time to look at successful aspects of regional collaboration in other jurisdictions. Panellists from British Columbia and Québec will provide insights into how their respective systems work and what examples we may be able to use in New Brunswick.</p>	Marco Polo
15:30 - 16:30	<p>Town Hall: Strengthening Regional Collaboration</p> <p>This session is designed to be a town-hall style discussion to get feedback and ideas on improving the Regional Service Commissions. Come prepared to share your thoughts on the strengths, improvements, and opportunities for regional collaboration in the province.</p>	Marco Polo
16:30 - 18:00	Free Time	



2025 UMN B Annual Conference and AGM

October 3 - 5 | 3 - 5 octobre

2025 Conférence annuelle et assemblée générale de l'UMNB

18:00 - 19:00	UMNB Reception	Montagu
19:00 - 21:00	UMNB Annual Banquet and Awards	Marco Polo
21:00 - 23:00	Night in Saint John <i>Explore the sights, sounds, and experiences that make Saint John unique! From pubs in Market Square to breweries a short walk from the SJTCC, take in the charm and energy of Saint John at your own pace.</i>	offsite

Sunday, October 5, 2025

Time	Session	Location
7:00 - 9:00	Registration	Registration desk
7:00 - 8:00	Breakfast <i>presented by Dassault Systemes</i>	Foyer
8:00 - 8:15	Workshop presented by Dassault Systemes	Marco Polo
8:15 - 8:45	National priorities and municipal voices: An update from FCM <i>An update from FCM on how national priorities are shaping municipal realities. The session will highlight the key issues communities of all sizes are facing across Canada, and how municipal voices are influencing federal decision-making through FCM advocacy efforts.</i>	Marco Polo
9:00 - 10:15	31st Annual General Meeting	Marco Polo
10:15 - 10:45	Networking Break	Foyer
10:45 - 12:00	31st Annual General Meeting	Marco Polo
12:00 - 12:45	UMNB Board of Directors Meeting (<i>Directors Only</i>)	Boardroom

