

HONOURARY LIFE MEMBER



Dave Wood

**The Municipal Group of Companies
CANS 2025 Honourary Life Member**

With nearly four decades of experience in finance and infrastructure, David Wood has built a career defined by leadership, financial acumen, and commitment to the construction industry. As Vice-President and Chief Financial Officer of The Municipal Group of Companies, David has been instrumental in guiding the organization through sustained growth.

His professional journey began at the accounting firm Doane Raymond (now Doane Grant Thornton), where he developed a strong foundation in financial analysis and auditing. In 1988, he joined The Municipal Group, where he continues today. He earned his Certified Management Accountant designation in 1994, transitioned to Chartered Professional Accountant in 2016, and was recognized in 2023 with the Fellow Chartered Professional Accountant designation for his contributions to the profession.

Beyond his corporate responsibilities, David has been a dedicated contributor to the broader industry. He is past

Chair and former board member of the Construction Association of Nova Scotia, where he helped advance policy and collaboration across the sector. Nationally, he has served on the Canadian Construction Association's Civil Infrastructure Council and Audit Committee.

Drawing on his decades of experience, David is optimistic about what lies ahead for Nova Scotia's construction sector. "I think we're on the right track," he says. "The pipeline of projects for Atlantic Canada is unprecedented. The opportunities for growth throughout Atlantic Canada are high." While he acknowledges the region still faces an infrastructure deficit, he sees momentum building. "We're attracting new businesses and business segments, including wind farms and offshore development opportunities. I think we've got a really good opportunity to take the amount that's built up over the last few years and carry that into the future."

At the same time, he is candid about the challenges of attracting the next generation of workers. "We've got a big stigma in our industry, particularly for younger people," he says. "We host events for younger people that we're trying to attract into our industry. But students go home saying they want to get into the construction industry, and their parents say, 'No, I don't want that career for you.' But our industry has so many wonderful opportunities and positions for people and really good careers."

For David, meeting these challenges means modernizing and promoting the sector. "We all have to do a better job of promoting the industry and getting out there and letting people know that the sky's the limit for the industry and careers," he says. "It's a fast-changing world, and how we hire people a number of years ago, is totally different today. Social media, technology has changed all those things. So, we've got to adapt and modernize our business practices and really get the word out that there are opportunities in this industry."

David also reflects on the role of industry associations in driving change. "CANS can't do it all on their own," he notes, emphasizing the need for industry to have a consistent voice at the table with government, the private sector, and other stakeholders. While CANS has opened doors, it is often companies themselves that push them

wider, bringing the perspective of employers who power Atlantic Canada's economy. For David, the path forward demands collaboration. "Through the Association and teamwork with the private and public sectors, we can be a real force," he says.

His sense of responsibility doesn't stop at business and industry leadership—it extends deeply into his community involvement. A strong advocate for professional development, David has mentored emerging talent in the accounting field, underscoring his belief in the power of education and mentorship.

David has been an active supporter of fundraising efforts for the Canadian Cancer Society's Relay for Life and the IWK Health Centre's capital campaign. "As an industry, we've built roads, schools, hospitals, legacy projects in our communities, and I feel like giving back is just the right thing to do," says Wood. "And it feels good to do it, too, whether you're volunteering your time or monetary donations, you're involved, and you're going to get so much more back than you actually give of time and money."

David's career reflects the values of integrity, service, and leadership. His influence spans corporate management, industry organizations, and community initiatives, making him a respected figure in both the financial and construction sectors. From boardrooms to community campaigns, he has contributed to the growth of an industry that continues to play a vital role in Nova Scotia's future. These qualities, combined with his dedication to advancing the industry and supporting his community, exemplify the spirit of the Construction Association of Nova Scotia's Honorary Life Member Award.

INDUSTRY TESTIMONIALS

“**Even though Dave and I represent competing civil contractors here in Nova Scotia, our time together volunteering on boards and committees has shown me the measure of his character. Dave is deeply committed to the industry, consistently stepping up as a thoughtful and effective champion for the issues that matter most to contractors.**”

– John Flemming (Ocean Contractors)

“**To say that his leadership and community involvement in industry has been irreplaceable would be an understatement.**”

– Brendan Nobes (rcs construction)

RECENT HLM RECIPIENTS

2024	Larry Gibson
2023	Earl Casey
2022	Royce Williston
2021	Tom Vincent
2020	John O'Connor and Tim Jones
2019	David Wilson

CANS has been recognizing individuals with Honorary Life Membership since 1992. For a full list of recipients, visit: www.cans.ns.ca/honourary-life-member/

CANS Honorary Life Membership

Since 1992, the Construction Association of Nova Scotia has been honouring individuals in the construction industry with Honorary Life Membership. Through this designation, CANS wishes to honour individuals who, through their deeds and actions, have significantly contributed to the betterment of the Association, the industry, and attainment of CANS' goals and visions.