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April 2025 • Issue 4

New Brunswick Senior Citizens Federation

www.nbscf.ca



NBSCF: Working for You!

At the **New Brunswick Senior Citizens' Federation (NBSCF)**, we are dedicated to improving the quality of life for seniors across the province. Here are two key benefits available to our members:

Exclusive Home & Auto Insurance for NBSCF Members

Did you know that the **New Brunswick Senior Citizens' Federation** has a partnership with **Mitchell McConnell Insurance** to offer the best possible rates for home and auto insurance through a group plan with our group insurance coordinator, Gary Connell?

For nearly 100 years, Mitchell McConnell Insurance has been helping people with their insurance needs. Their talented team of experts and support staff provides full-service brokerage options, including coverage for:

- Home & Tenants Insurance
- Auto & Motorcycle Insurance
- RVs, ATVs & Cottages
- Boats & More!

They have built a strong reputation in insurance and risk management,

offering customized coverage tailored to individual needs. Not only do they maintain a broad international presence, but they also remain deeply rooted in our local community, ensuring personalized service that puts people first.

How is pricing determined?

The cost of personal insurance varies based on several risk factors. **For automobile insurance**, factors include the type of vehicle, its use, the number of drivers, and their claims history. **For property insurance**, key factors include the type of structure, fire protection measures (such as proximity to hydrants), and past claims experience.

Many NBSCF members who have switched to Mitchell McConnell Insurance have shared positive experiences, citing excellent customer service, efficiency, and respect. Some members have even saved up to 1/3 of their previous insurance costs!

The **Office of the Consumer Advocate for Insurance in New Brunswick** often refers senior callers to the NBSCF for this

valuable insurance partnership. With NBSCF membership at only **\$10 per year**, this insurance benefit alone can lead to significant savings!

Interested? Call the NBSCF office (1-800-453-4333) to become a member and start saving now!

Success! High-Dose Flu Vaccine Now Available for Seniors

Through our advocacy efforts, **seniors aged 65 and over in New Brunswick now have access to the high-dose flu vaccine—completely free of charge.** This enhanced vaccine provides stronger protection against influenza, reducing the risk of severe illness and complications. Ensuring access to this vital healthcare measure is an important step in supporting seniors' well-being.

We are proud to continue working on behalf of New Brunswick seniors to enhance benefits, services, and advocacy efforts that make a real difference in your lives.



Follow us, Like our page and Share!

Smart Meter Myths: What's Fact and What's Fiction?

A new series from NB Power to answer your questions and clear up common misconceptions.

At NB Power, we know that new technology—like smart meters—can raise questions and even a bit of uncertainty. That's why we've created this series to share information with you as we move forward with smart meter installations across New Brunswick.

Over the past year, we've heard from many of you about your concerns, your questions, and the stories you've seen or heard from friends, neighbours, or online. We understand that this change can feel unfamiliar for many customers—especially those who have been with NB Power for decades.

That's why we're launching this new series in partnership with the **New Brunswick Senior Citizens' Federation: Smart Meter Myths – What You Need to Know.**

In each article, we'll tackle a different topic—everything from safety and health concerns to privacy, billing, and more. Our goal is simple, to give you the facts in plain language so you can feel confident and informed about what smart meters mean for you.

So, what is a smart meter?

A smart meter is a digital electric meter that sends your usage data directly to NB Power over a secure wireless network—so there is no need for manual meter readings. You can think of it like this: A smart meter is to a traditional meter what a smart phone is to a regular telephone. They both do the basics, but the smart version gives you more tools and helpful insights.

Smart meters offer many customer benefits, such as online tools to help you track and understand your electricity use, which may help you lower your monthly bills.

In the long term, smart meters will help us detect outages faster and restore power more quickly. Because they enable so many service improvements, smart meters are now the standard for over 80% of Canadians.

Why are we upgrading the grid?

We are upgrading New Brunswick's electrical grid to make it more reliable and better prepared for the future. As more people add electric vehicles or solar panels to their homes, we need a smarter grid to support these changes. Just as important is making sure that you—our customers—feel heard, respected, and supported throughout this change. That's what this series is all about.

Do you have a question or something you'd like to share about your smart meter experience?

Send us a note at ami@nbpower.com. We may feature it in a future article.

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