

## Karine Keys

**From:** FCM Communique <communique@fcm.ca>  
**Sent:** December 9, 2024 2:07 PM  
**To:** Karine Keys  
**Subject:** FCM Voice: Advocacy Days | Collective webinar | Last chance for SCC early bird pricing | and more

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December 9, 2024



# FCM VOICE

Canada's voice of local government



## Readiness before Federal Election at Advocacy Days

Last week, FCM's Board of Directors convened in Ottawa for the 20th edition of our annual Advocacy Days. With a dedicated focus on boosting municipal readiness ahead of the

upcoming federal election, FCM board members were addressed by leading federal figures including Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Minister for Housing, Infrastructure and Communities Sean Fraser and CPC Shadow Minister for Housing and Diversity and Inclusion Scott Aitchison.

Alongside a range of specially programmed workshops and panels, almost a hundred small-scale meetings were held between our board members and federal parliamentarians from across party lines. These meetings ensured that Canadians' priorities and the outlooks of our municipal leaders were clearly expressed with our federal counterparts, with Canadians' priorities, including housing affordability, homelessness, infrastructure renewal and public safety taking centre stage.

During our Advocacy Days, FCM continued to advocate for the urgent need for a new Municipal Growth Framework to provide municipalities with predictable, permanent funding to tackle the issues that matter most to Canadians.

FCM ensured that our message was echoed across the country by securing media coverage. **CityNews Halifax** wrote an extensive piece on our call for a new Municipal Growth Framework and highlighted how Canadians trust municipal governments the most.

» [READ OUR PRESS RELEASE](#)

## EVENTS

### Next week: Webinar exploring residential wildfire resilience solutions

In recent years, Canadians have been confronted with record-breaking extreme weather events that have severely damaged homes, businesses and communities. Municipalities are at the heart of building climate resilient communities. In this upcoming free Collective webinar, our corporate partner, Intact Financial Corporation, will discuss its newly launched Municipal Climate Resiliency Grants, a \$2 million granting program to help municipalities better protect themselves against these extreme weather events. The session will touch on the program's guidelines and impact objectives.

» [REGISTER TODAY](#)

### SCC 2025 early bird discount ends this week

Don't miss out on FCM's Sustainable Communities Conference (SSC), Canada's leading event for proven sustainability solutions for municipalities, which takes place from February 10-13 in Fredericton, NB. Join hundreds of experts and local leaders to discover practical approaches in growing local economy, addressing housing affordability and building climate resilience.

Early bird discounts end on Friday, December 13! This is your last chance to save up to \$200 for individual registrations. Are you an FCM member? Bring your whole team and save \$235 perperson for groups of three or more from the same municipality. Hurry and register today to benefit from the early bird discount.

*A limited number of registrations will continue to be available at a lower price for students and members of small, rural, Northern and Indigenous communities. To inquire about availability, please [contact us](#).*

» [LEARN MORE](#)

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## RESOURCES

### Introducing Ship and Rail Compensation Canada

The Government of Canada launched Ship and Rail Compensation Canada—Canada’s new compensation hub for anyone affected by oil spills from ships or boats, and major rail accidents involving crude oil.

This compensation hub will combine the Ship-source Oil Pollution Fund and the Fund for Railway Accidents Involving Designated Goods into one single federal office. Under this new identity, Ship and Rail Compensation Canada will serve as an independent organization dedicated to providing fair and timely compensation.

» [LEARN MORE](#)

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### Join a climate adaptation Community of Practice

Take the lead on climate adaptation by joining one of our new Communities of Practice. Connect with peers, share knowledge and develop practical strategies to address climate risks. With access to practical resources and opportunities to learn from experts, our Communities of Practice can help your municipality accelerate their climate journey.

Our climate adaptation Communities of Practice offer free events designed to help municipalities take steps forward in building climate resilience. They support foundational planning to build resilience by providing the opportunity for attendees to connect with peers and access expert insights. Submit your application to join by January 24, 2025.

» [APPLY NOW](#)

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### A guide to energy efficiency in affordable housing

Canada’s transition to a low-carbon economy necessitates cutting-edge affordable housing solutions. If you’re an affordable housing provider who’s a novice to energy efficiency or seeking more advanced energy-saving measures, GMF’s Sustainable Affordable Housing initiative has practical, actionable steps you can take to save money, augment the well-being of your residents and strengthen the resilience of your buildings.

» [READ THE GUIDE](#)

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## Short and effective guides for community building retrofits

Learn how to optimize the energy efficiency of your community structures to lower GHG emissions, increase affordability and extend their life cycles. GMF's Community Buildings Retrofit factsheets provide essential information on starting an emissions reduction pathway, supporting new energy and climate staff, achieving net-zero indoor swimming pool centres, strategically using asset management planning and ensuring an effective measurement and verification process.

» [READ THE FACTSHEETS](#)

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## PACE financing drives economic growth in Saskatoon

**Saskatoon's energy loan program** generated \$3.5 million in local economic output, demonstrating that energy retrofits can drive both environmental and economic benefits. Programs like this highlight the potential of PACE financing to create jobs, improve housing and reduce emissions. GMF's report, *An Overview of PACE Legislation in Canada*, examines how legislation enables municipalities to launch impactful financing programs. Learn how key policy features—such as eligibility criteria and administrative models—can support equitable energy solutions.

» [CHECK OUT THE REPORT](#)

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## Pride in Pine Tree Park: New Dawn Enterprises' impact in Cape Breton

In Cape Breton, NS, New Dawn Enterprises' Pine Tree Park stands as a beacon of affordable and sustainable housing. With deep energy retrofits and the island's largest solar array, residents are saving on utilities and enjoying greater comfort. This project has fostered community pride by showing that sustainable, affordable housing is possible for everyone. Discover the story behind Pine Tree Park and how it's fostering a sense of pride in Cape Breton.

» [LEARN MORE](#)

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## SOCIAL MEDIA

### Connect with us on social media

Follow FCM on social media to keep up to date with the latest municipal news, resources, and more! Find us on:



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**Dec 5:** Canada's communities are in dire need of a new generation of

**Dec 5:** After a full three days of engagements with parliamentarians across

**Dec 6:** NEWS RELEASE | Ahead of the next federal election, FCM is calling on

infrastructure – but funding to make it happen is extremely limited. FCM is pushing for #CDNMuni to receive a fairer share of the existing tax dollar so municipalities can more effectively advance infrastructure renewal and other key local priorities.

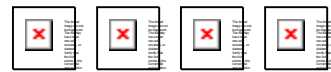
Learn more:  
<https://t.co/jW4FLaQAPa>

parties (including over 90 meetings on the Hill!), Advocacy Days 2024 has come to a close. Thanks to all members who brought local priorities to Ottawa – your engagement on a national level is vital to progress on the issues that matter most. #CDNMuni

all federal political parties to commit to giving local governments the means to intervene on top priorities to ensure quality of life in their communities.

Read:  
<https://t.co/3OnnSjhJU3>

#CDNMuni



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