

## Karine Keys

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**From:** FCM Communique <communique@fcm.ca>  
**Sent:** February 3, 2025 3:53 PM  
**To:** Karine Keys  
**Subject:** FCM Voice: Municipalities' response to U.S. Tariffs | FCM on Bluesky | Board vacancies in NS and SK | and more

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February 3, 2025



**FCM VOICE**  
Canada's voice of local government



## Municipalities' concerted response to U.S. Tariffs

Municipalities are the engines of Canada's economic strength and will be amongst the first to feel the impacts of a tariff war with the United States. Across the country, municipal leaders are already leading the charge to protect Canadian businesses and communities, playing a critical role in a Team Canada approach to this economic challenge.

As part of the Big City Mayors' Caucus meeting in Ottawa later this week, FCM will be hosting a press conference to highlight FCM's upcoming trip to Washington with Doug Ford alongside the Council of the Federation delegation in response to the tariff's imposition, showcase municipal leadership and emphasize the importance of municipal perspectives in any national discussion on tariffs, retaliatory measures or direct support from other orders of government.

As we continue to champion municipal voices and initiatives in this political context, FCM will be facilitating a **Canada-wide virtual listening tour** to ensure members' concerns are heard in the municipal sector's response. Please share your questions, concerns and local initiatives with us at [canada-usa@fcm.ca](mailto:canada-usa@fcm.ca).

Follow us on our social media channels for the latest updates and live coverage of our press conference this Thursday at 12 p.m. ET.

» [READ MORE](#)

## NEWS

### NEW: FCM on Bluesky

FCM is now on Bluesky! Be sure to follow us and engage with our content at [@fcm.ca](https://bsky.app/profile/fcm.ca) and keep your eyes out for FCM-curated lists and other exciting elements on this new platform.

2025 will be an important year for municipalities in Canada. Ahead of the upcoming federal election, and in the current context of a potential U.S. tariff war with the United States, make sure the latest municipal news, resources and all things #CDNMuni are a part of your daily scroll by following FCM on your preferred social media platforms.



### The nomination deadline for FCM's Board vacancies is fast approaching

The deadline to submit your nomination for FCM's Board of Director's is just around the corner. There are currently vacancies for representatives from Nova Scotia and Saskatchewan. If you have ever considered serving on FCM's Board of Directors, we encourage you to stand for election! As a member of the board, you will have the opportunity to shape the organization's policies and ensure that municipalities have the resources they need to do what's best for Canadians. Nominations for these positions are open until February 17.

» [SUBMIT YOUR NOMINATION TODAY](#)

### GMF Council is looking for an elected official from Atlantic Canada

FCM is seeking nominations for one elected municipal official from Atlantic Canada to join the Green Municipal Fund (GMF) Council. As a Council member, you'll play a

critical role in shaping Canada's sustainable future by overseeing strategic investments in impactful municipal projects.

We're looking for a visionary leader who is a recognized champion of environmental issues within their municipality or region, with expertise in organizational governance and a deep understanding of Atlantic Canada's political, economic, social and cultural landscape.

» [LEARN MORE](#)

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## RESOURCES

### **Discover additional funding sources to support your next affordable housing project**

Building sustainable and affordable housing can be complex, particularly when it comes to financing. Many projects rely on external funding sources to implement energy-efficient retrofits or new builds. The Green Municipal Fund's Sustainable Affordable Housing initiative offers a funder list that's designed to streamline your search for financial sources at both provincial and national levels, and to serve as a strategic tool to simplify the decision-making process.

» [EXPLORE OUR LIST OF FUNDERS](#)

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### **Resource: Advancing tree diversity for a resilient community**

Did you know forests with low tree species diversity are more vulnerable to extreme weather and other challenges? From supporting biodiversity to building climate resilience, tree diversity brings several benefits to an urban forest. This factsheet explains how tree diversity strengthens urban forests and provides steps to help you promote tree diversity in your community. With real-world examples and strategies, this resource will also help you learn how different communities are integrating tree species diversity in their urban forestry plan.

» [READ OUR FACTSHEET TODAY](#)

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### **Battle of the Buildings: The race to maximize energy savings**

The City of Markham, ON, held an exciting competition to motivate community building staff to reduce electricity use. By focusing on practical, low-cost operational changes and simple behavioral shifts, the initiative sparked collaboration and learning across teams. And of course, nothing drives results like a little friendly competition—and prizes! Discover how they approached the challenge, the lessons they learned and some key outcomes, including \$100,000 in electricity cost savings in 2018.

» [READ THE CASE STUDY](#)

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## FCM IN THE NEWS

### » **B.C. business groups, politicians react to tariff announcement**

Following the tariffs announcement, business groups, politicians and organizations voiced great concern, including FCM. "Local governments have already been mobilizing," said FCM president Rebecca Bligh. "FCM, as the national voice of municipalities, has been working closely with federal and provincial partners and engaging with U.S. counterparts, including the U.S. Conference of Mayors and the National League of Cities, to defend local economies on both sides of the border."

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### » **Federation of Canadian Municipalities - FCM announces winners of the 2024 Sustainable Communities Awards**

On January 27, FCM announced the nine winners of the 2024 Sustainable Communities Awards, celebrating the most innovative sustainable initiatives across the country. The award ceremony will be held on February 11 at the Sustainable Communities Conference 2025 in Fredericton, New Brunswick.

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### » **Manitoba city launches on-demand transit pilot - Municipal World**

In November, the City of Winkler, Manitoba, launched a new on-demand transit pilot to improve the way residents can get around town. The municipality received a \$500,000 investment through FCM's Green Municipal Fund.

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### » **North Cowichan to borrow final \$11M for new RCMP detachment - Lake Cowichan Gazette**

The municipality of North Cowichan in B.C. is moving closer to the complete funding of its new \$45.5 million RCMP detachment. In 2025, North Cowichan will get a \$1.5 million grant for the project from the FCM.

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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:



**Jan 31:** Potential tariffs on Canada-U.S. trade could have significant impacts on Canadian municipalities, such as [@CityofVancouver](#). In neighbouring Surrey, BC, over 20% of businesses have direct trade ties with the U.S., as pointed out this week by [@CityofSurrey](#) Mayor Brenda Locke, alongside [@CityWindsorON](#) Mayor [@drewdiikens](#).

Local governments are the ones citizens turn to when they are facing hardship. [#CDNMuni](#) are actively taking part in a Team Canada response and have a crucial role to play in concrete actions to protect our economy.

**Feb 3:** FCM is committed to fighting anti-Black racism within our organization and in communities large and small across the country.

As this [#BlackHistoryMonth](#) kicks off, we will reflect on the many contributions that Black Canadians have made to their country and communities, celebrating the history of Black legacy and leadership in Canadian history. [#BHM2025](#)

**Feb 3:** Quebec's exports to its American neighbour support nearly 500,000 jobs across the country. [#CDNMuni](#), like [@MTL\\_Ville](#), are on the frontline of the impacts of the tariffs, which will have severe consequences on local economies across the country.

This week, FCM's President [@rebeccaleeblich](#) and FCM's Big City Mayors' Caucus will meet with key federal ministers to ensure that Canada's response protects local economies.



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