

Karine Keys

From: FCM Communique <communique@fcm.ca>
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To: Karine Keys
Subject: FCM Voice: Rural municipal impact of U.S. tariffs | AC2025 registration opening soon | and more

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March 3, 2025



FCM VOICE
Canada's voice of local government



FCM highlights rural municipal impact of U.S. tariffs

FCM's 2nd VP Kathy Valentino, Rural Forum Chair Neal Comeau and Board member Alysson Storey are currently in Washington connecting with local leaders at the National Association of Counties' Legislative Conference.

With 25% U.S. tariffs expected to come into effect tomorrow, community leaders on both sides of the border must use their unique position to convey the true impact these tariffs will have on communities, businesses and workers – particularly those in rural, northern and remote regions.

This mission is one of a series aimed at strengthening engagement with our American counterparts. Through FCM, municipal voices are core to a coordinated, Team Canada response to the threat of a trade war and the potentially devastating impacts it could have on local economies.

» [LEARN MORE](#)

NEWS

AC2025: Registration opens March 11

Registration for FCM's Annual Conference and Trade Show opens March 11!

Don't miss out on Canada's largest gathering of elected officials, taking place from May 29 to June 1 in Ottawa. Join over 1,500 elected officials from across the country as they share ideas and perspectives on their communities' realities.

Our program includes networking sessions, learning opportunities and plenary sessions that will provide you with valuable tools and insights on how to address and embrace new challenges.

Prepare for registration by browsing the **AC section** of our website and read through our **travel resources** and **accommodation options** as you start planning your upcoming trip to our nation's capital.

Mark your calendar and take advantage of our early bird discount!

Last chance: GMF Council is seeking one municipal official from Atlantic Canada

FCM is accepting nominations for one elected municipal official from Atlantic Canada to join the Green Municipal Fund (GMF) Council. This is an exciting opportunity for an environmental leader passionate about driving sustainable change. As a GMF Council member, you'll guide the allocation of a \$2.4 billion fund to support transformative projects across Canada, helping shape the transition to resilient, net-zero communities. Don't miss this last chance and apply today to lead impactful change! Applications are open until March 9, 2025.

» [APPLY TODAY](#)

Strengthening Gender-Responsive Climate Action in Tunisia

The Inclusive Climate Action in Tunisian Municipalities (ICATM) project team invited Gabrielle Blatz, Councillor for the City of Wetaskiwin and Vice-Chair of the Green Municipal Fund Council, and Angela Danyluk, Climate Adaptation and Equity Manager

at the City of Vancouver, to participate in the FemParl Maghreb Conference, organized by the Embassy of Canada in Tunisia.

Hosted by Her Excellency Lorraine Diguer, Ambassador of Canada to Tunisia, and Her Excellency Isabelle Savard, Ambassador of Canada to Libya, the conference brought together women leaders to discuss gender-responsive water governance. Gabrielle Blatz and Angela Danyluk shared their experiences on integrating climate resilience and equity into local water management, emphasizing the key role of local governments in developing inclusive and sustainable solutions.

The ICATM project is funded by Global Affairs Canada and implemented by FCM with the aim to strengthen the capacity of Tunisian municipalities to integrate inclusive climate action into their policies and services.

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RESOURCES

GMF's Regional Energy Coaches program supports more affordable housing

The Green Municipal Fund's (GMF) Regional Energy Coaches (REC) program is an innovative initiative dedicated to enhancing energy efficiency and sustainability in Canada's affordable housing sector. In collaboration with the Community Housing Transformation Centre, the program is at the forefront of promoting healthier, more sustainable living environments. The REC initiative provides comprehensive support to affordable housing providers, including tailored guidance, strategic planning and hands-on coaching. Find out how a REC can help you plan energy-efficient retrofits or new builds.

» [LEARN MORE](#)

Deconstruction over demolition to boost sustainability and savings

Reducing construction waste is key to sustainability and cost savings. Traditional demolition often sends valuable materials to landfills, while strategic deconstruction recovers resources and lowers costs.

Our Deconstruction for Reuse factsheet outlines actionable steps to implement circular economy principles and showcases real-world success stories. Learn how communities like Grande-Rivière and Chandler are leading the way.

» [READ THE GUIDE](#)

FCM IN THE NEWS

» [Water infrastructure | "These homes need to be connected to something" | La Presse](#)

Municipal councillors across the province of Quebec are calling for more help to tackle the housing crisis and accelerate construction given that water infrastructures are outdated and underfunded.

» **Mayor Colleen Smook provides updates on the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' Sustainable Communities Conference | Thompson Online**

The Mayor of the City of Thompson, Colleen Smook, provided updates on FCM's Sustainable Communities Conference in Fredericton, New Brunswick. The mayor is glad to share that the city has completed or is working on several projects to make the community more sustainable.

» **Gondek forms advisory group in 'Team Calgary' approach to potential tariffs | CBC News**

Calgary Mayor's Jyoti Gondek laid out a plan to protect the city's economy and support local businesses amid potential tariffs on all Canadian goods imposed by the U.S. administration. Mayor Gondek also said she'll be advocating for the removal of interprovincial trade barriers through FCM's Big City Mayors' Caucus.

» **HodgePodge Lodge receives national praise | Stony Plain Reporter**

Strathcona County's HodgePodge Lodge, in Alberta, was acknowledged in the Waste category for the 2024 Federation of Canadian Municipalities Sustainable Communities Awards, which were presented at the 2025 Sustainable Communities Conference in Fredericton, New Brunswick.

CORPORATE PARTNER



Win a free pass to the 2025 FCM Annual Conference and Trade Show by completing this survey from Destination Canada

To better understand the needs of our members, Destination Canada is seeking feedback on its newly-launched collaboration with FCM. Complete this short survey to enter a prize draw for a free 2025 FCM Annual Conference registration. The Destination Canada and FCM collaboration was launched in 2023 to assist member municipalities leverage the economic, social, cultural and environmental contributions of tourism for communities.

» **COMPLETE THE SURVEY TO ENTER**

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:



Mar 1: Today, FCM Rural Forum Chair Neal Comeau spoke with the National Association of Counties Community, Economic and Workforce Development Steering Committee with an important message in the face of a potential tariff war:

need to keep working together and engaging productively – as neighbours. This is true for communities large and small, urban and rural, Canadian and American.

Our thanks for having us, [@NACoTweets](#). [#NACoLeg](#) [#CDNMuni](#) [#cdnpoli](#)

Mar 2: Collaboration is key to protecting communities of all sizes from the economic fallout that a tariff war would cause – particularly for rural communities. That’s what FCM Rural Forum Chair Neal Comeau, 2nd VP [valentinokathy](#) and Board member [Alysson4CK](#) are in Washington to discuss with our American counterparts, [@NACoTweets](#).

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Mar 2: Today in Washington, FCM had productive meetings with local leaders from across the United States about the critical role we all play in preventing a tariff war and protecting our communities, businesses and workers from the devastating impacts it could have.

Our bonds are strong. Let’s keep helping each other.

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