

Karine Keys

From: FCM Communique <communique@fcm.ca>
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To: Karine Keys
Subject: FCM Voice: Mayors call to end tariffs | AC early bird | and more

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March 31, 2025



North American mayors call for an end to harmful tariffs

Last week, FCM representatives and Canadian mayors joined the United States Conference of Mayors and a delegation of Mexican mayors for a tri-national trade summit of local leaders in Washington, underscoring the shared consequences of recent tariffs on workers, industries and communities in all three countries.

Canadian mayors shared local experiences and data on the economic toll these measures are taking. Together, local leaders issued a united call to bring an end to the damaging tariffs hurting communities across North America.

» [READ THE PRESS RELEASE](#)

NEWS

Stronger, Together: Annual Conference and Trade Show 2025

Join the more than 1,100 participants already registered for FCM's Annual Conference and Trade Show, to be held May 29 to June 1 at the Rogers Centre in Ottawa.

This year's theme, *Stronger Together: Local Strength, National Prosperity*, highlights the essential role municipalities play as pillars and engines of economic prosperity in our country. Come and:

- Network with other elected officials
- Learn industry best practices
- Connect with key municipal partners, experts and suppliers
- Discover Ottawa's capital and its unique municipal achievement
- Influence federal-municipal priorities by participating in the Board of Directors elections
- Raise your community's profile

Register by April 23 to take advantage of the early-bird discount!

» [REGISTER TODAY](#)

FCM CEO Carole Saab recognized as one of Canada's Top 100 Lobbyists

FCM CEO Carole Saab has once again been recognized by the Hill Times as one of Canada's Top 100 Lobbyists. Carole Saab's work in advocating for the needs of Canada's diverse municipalities has again earned her a place in the list of high-profile names advancing causes across diverse sectors.

The Hill Times and The Lobby Monitor gathered input for **this year's list** by reaching out to more than 30 lobbyists, including in-house representatives and consultants, producing a list of lobbyists based "on their reputation and perceived effectiveness as judged by their peers."

Commenting on her inclusion, Carole noted: "I take this recognition as a reflection of the mission I'm committed to: ensuring that local governments are heard, respected, and empowered to lead in ways that improve lives across this country. That's the job—and it's one I'm proud to do every day. Advocacy—whatever form it takes—matters deeply when it shapes better lives and stronger futures."

Advancing gender equality in local governance – Ghana

The National Association of Local Authorities of Ghana, in partnership with the PMI-WILL project, celebrated International Women's Day with an event to showcase the passage of Ghana's Affirmative Action Bill in December 2024, a key legislative effort that will increase women's representation in leadership across all sectors of Ghanaian society. Speakers explored progress and ongoing challenges in advancing gender equality 30 years after the Beijing Declaration.

The highlight of the event was the first-ever Gender Equality, Inclusion and Women's Empowerment Awards, recognizing 22 outstanding Female Assembly members for their leadership and impact in their communities.

This event is part of the Partnerships for Municipal Innovation – Women in Local Leadership (PMI-WILL) project, funded by Global Affairs Canada and implemented by FCM.

» [LEARN MORE](#)

Digital solutions for stronger local governance in Sri Lanka

The PMI-WILL team recently visited Sri Lanka to participate in the annual Project Advisory Committee meeting where local municipal leaders shared how they are transforming local governance. One success story came from Navoda Krishanthi, Municipal Secretary, Galigamuwa Pradeshiya Sabha. Their municipal council implemented digital tools like QR codes for reporting streetlight issues, online complaint tracking and a digital reservation system for municipal services after the project supported capacity building on data collection strategies to enhance inclusive, gender responsive municipal service delivery.

FCM's international projects foster innovation and knowledge-sharing, bringing back valuable insights for Canadian municipalities.

The Partnerships for Municipal Innovation – Women in Local Leadership (PMI-WILL) project is funded by Global Affairs Canada and implemented by FCM.

» [LEARN MORE](#)

EVENTS

Accelerate the transition to sustainable transportation by 2050

Thinking about electrifying your municipal fleet but unsure where to start? Join us on Thursday, April 10 from 2-3 p.m. ET for the *Moving towards 2050: Shifting transportation behaviours* webinar. Municipal leaders and electric vehicle experts will share real-world experiences, practical strategies and solutions to common challenges like funding, infrastructure and rural adoption to gain insights on how to help your community make the transition smoother and more cost-effective.

» [REGISTER NOW](#)

FCM IN THE NEWS

» **What Vancouver council wants from next federal government - Western Investor**

The Mayor of Vancouver and member of FCM's Big City Mayors' Caucus, Ken Sim, say public safety is "one of the most urgent issues facing the city." He wants whichever party that wins the federal election to make investments to keep citizens safe. Councillor Rebecca Bligh, who is also FCM's President, said that the next federal government must invest in infrastructure in Vancouver.

» **'Full court press': Ontario cities look for ways to fight Donald Trump's trade war | Globalnews.ca**

Mayors from border municipalities across Canada have issued a plea to higher orders of government, asking for help for their communities amid ongoing tariff threats by U.S. President Donald Trump. The Mayor of Kitchener Berry Vrbanovic went to Washington, D.C. twice over the past few months with FCM.

» **FCM leads the charge for sustainable communities - Municipal World**

FCM's brought together local leaders from across the country at the 2025 Sustainable Communities Conference, held from February 10 to 13 in Fredericton, New Brunswick. Tim Tierney, FCM's First Vice President, talked to Municipal World about why it is so critical that municipalities focus their efforts on sustainability.

» **Customs tariffs: Drummondville remains on the alert - L'Express**

The City of Drummondville (QC) is looking to review its procurement practices, which already favour local suppliers. Mayor Stéphanie Lacoste recently confirmed that the municipality has renewed its FCM membership.

RESOURCES

Building fairness into energy efficiency financing programs

Fairness means recognizing that not everyone starts from the same place. The Green Municipal Fund's new guide, *Integrating Equity Principles Within Community Efficiency Financing Programs: A Guide for Canadian Municipalities and Partners*, helps municipalities design energy efficiency financing programs that account for different challenges and offers solutions that truly work.

With actionable steps, inspiring examples and practical tools, this guide shows how to make financing programs more accessible, affordable and impactful to help Canadians save money, improve comfort and contribute to a sustainable future.

» **EXPLORE THE GUIDE TODAY**

Building equitable and sustainable communities with Reconciliation and AREI

Watch the webinar recording of *Integrating Reconciliation and Anti-Racism, Equity and Inclusion in GMF Initiatives*. As part of GMF's 2023–26 Three-Year Plan, this session shares practical ways to create innovative and just environmental strategies while prioritizing equity and inclusivity. Learn how GMF is guiding Canadian municipalities toward resilient, net-zero futures with inclusivity at its core. Take action and help build a more sustainable, equitable future.

» [WATCH THE RECORDING NOW](#)

Planting guide for a thriving tree canopy

Are you ready to expand your community's canopies? Our guide, *Create a tree planting plan for your community*, provides the perfect foundation for your tree planting project. Access critical information on planting design, planting technique, goal setting and maximizing impact, in addition to site, stock and species selection.

» [DOWNLOAD THE PLANTING GUIDE](#)

Revitalizing coastal resilience: Comox Valley's nature-based solution

Looking for innovative climate adaptation ideas? The Comox Valley Regional District is transforming Dyke Road Park by replacing failing infrastructure with nature-based solutions. In partnership with the K'ómoks First Nation, the project is enhancing shoreline resilience, increasing biodiversity and improving visitor amenities with minimal environmental impact. This award-winning initiative showcases Green Shores principles—an inspiring model for municipalities across Canada!

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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:



Mar 27: From municipal fiscal reform, U.S. tariffs, rural policing, infrastructure renewal and more,

Mar 28: Local leaders from Canada, the United States and Mexico are standing together as neighbours,

Mar 29: WEEKLY RECAP | Here's the top campaign announcements linked to municipal priorities

municipalities in New Brunswick are tackling significant challenges – all in the context of a federal election. FCM is a dedicated partner of NB’s local leaders. That’s the message Policy and Public Affairs Executive Director Mathieu Bélanger brought to @MunicipalNB’s Advocacy Days in Fredericton this morning.
[#CDNMuni](#)

friends and allies to call for an end to harmful tariffs.

That’s the message FCM representatives and Canadian mayors brought to today’s trinational trade summit. Local governments are leaders in tackling our country’s biggest challenges, and are ready to contribute to a more secure and prosperous Canada.

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24 Clarence Street
Ottawa, Ontario K1N 5P3
[fcm.ca](#)

info@fcm.ca
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24 Clarence Street | Ottawa, ON K1N 5P3 CA