

## Karine Keys

**From:** FCM Communique <communique@fcm.ca>  
**Sent:** July 14, 2025 2:34 PM  
**To:** Karine Keys  
**Subject:** FCM Voice: FCM at NaCo | Response on U. S. tariffs | Calgary Stampede | Standing committee applications | and more

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July 14, 2025



## FCM attends the National Association of Counties' Annual Conference

This past weekend, FCM's Rural Forum Chair Neal Comeau and Board Director Alysson Storey traveled to Philadelphia to attend the National Association of Counties' Annual Conference. Their visit was part of FCM's ongoing efforts to strengthen cross-border

relationships with American counterparts.

Many of today's most pressing challenges—such as housing, infrastructure, and local economic resilience—are deeply felt in rural communities on both sides of the border. During the conference, FCM engaged with local leaders from across the United States, exchanging insights and building stronger ties.

As part of the program, Board Director Alysson Storey highlighted FCM's policy and programming work to protect the Great Lakes and Canada's water sources. Her presentation sparked meaningful dialogue and laid the groundwork for collaborative action on shared environmental priorities.

This visit reinforced the importance of international cooperation in addressing rural challenges and advancing solutions for communities across North America.

» **SEE OUR TEAM IN ACTION**

## NEWS

### **FCM ready to oppose new U.S. tariffs inc. on Canadian copper**

Last week, U.S. President Donald Trump announced a new 50% tariff on all U.S. copper imports, plus broader 35% tariffs on Canadian goods that are non-CUSMA compliant, with both to be applied August 1.

Canada provides the overwhelming majority of U.S. copper imports, with mines and facilities in British Columbia, Ontario, Manitoba, Newfoundland and Labrador, Quebec and Yukon producing world-class copper and employing thousands of highly skilled Canadian workers.

Since the trade war began, FCM has stood shoulder-to-shoulder with provincial, territorial and federal leaders in opposing all unjust tariffs. In light of these new threats, we will redouble our efforts to ensure support for Canadian communities and oppose these tariffs with effective advocacy on both sides of the border.

» **LEARN HOW FCM IS REINFORCING LOCAL PROSPERITY ACROSS CANADA AMID THE TRADE WAR**

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### **On the ground at the Calgary Stampede**

Last week, FCM President Rebecca Bligh and CEO Carole Saab joined local leaders from throughout Western Canada at the Calgary Stampede.

While in Calgary, they had productive conversations and made impactful connections with many local leaders and federal politicians alike, including Prime Minister Mark Carney, several Cabinet Ministers and Conservative Party of Canada Leader Pierre Poilievre, as well as provincial associations including Alberta Municipalities and Rural Municipalities of Alberta.

On public safety, rural infrastructure, housing and ensuring resilient communities, FCM is a strong partner for our Western members. We will continue to listen and reflect local realities in our national advocacy work.

## » CHECK OUT THE HIGHLIGHTS

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### Portal re-registration required for enhanced security

FCM's Portal is where members can access membership invoices and information, corporate discounts and funding applications, amongst other tools and services. As part of broad updates to FCM systems, we will soon be introducing an upgraded Portal which includes enhanced security measures to protect your information. As a result, members with an existing Portal account will be required to re-register to access the updated system. You will receive an email from [portalregistration@fcm.ca](mailto:portalregistration@fcm.ca) with more information and guidance this week. For any technical issues or questions, please contact [portalregistration@fcm.ca](mailto:portalregistration@fcm.ca).

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### Funding now open for climate adaptation projects

Protect residents, services and local infrastructure—while reducing future recovery costs.

GMF is now accepting application for Adaptation in Action funding that helps municipalities deliver real-world climate solutions. Apply for up to \$1 million to implement projects like cooling corridors, shoreline restoration or back up power on critical infrastructure.

Planning a project? Feasibility study funding is also available with up to \$70,000 to assess the viability of proposed adaptation strategies. This funding empowers your community to act now, stretch your budget further and build long-term resilience.

» **APPLY NOW: IMPLEMENTATION PROJECTS**

» **APPLY NOW: FEASIBILITY STUDIES**

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### Apply to become a non-board member for FCM's standing committees and forums

Non-board members are invited to apply for one of up to fourteen positions to serve on select policy committees and forums that contribute to the work of the FCM Board. FCM's President makes committee appointments based on applicants' experience, expertise and interests, as well as the need for regional, community size and demographic representation on each committee. New as of this year: pursuant to the *Non-Board Committee Member Appointment Policy* passed in May 2025, all appointments will take into consideration diversity factors that will contribute to ensuring Board committees are representative of Canada.

The deadline to complete the survey is **August 25, 2025**.

» **APPLY TODAY**

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## Changes coming to FCM Voice

Upcoming editions of this newsletter may look a little different!

As FCM and our members continue to grow together, we are reenvisioning this weekly newsletter to better serve the regional needs of our membership. In the coming weeks, we will start tailoring FCM Voice to have a more regional flavour, sharing stories that are local to your region while maintaining a focus on national priorities. Keep an eye on this space for updates!

## EVENTS

### Webinar: Develop an urban forest management plan

Urban forest management plans are critical to the resilience of trees, and trees are critical to the resilience of communities. Join our webinar on Thursday, July 17 at 1 p.m. ET to learn from a panel of experts and municipal leaders as they discuss the benefits of having an urban forest management plan for your community. Find out how an urban forest management plan can build climate resilience, what makes a high-quality urban forest management plan, and how to ensure the plan is suited for your community.

» [REGISTER TODAY](#)

### Webinar: Community partnerships for equitable local climate action

Research shows that local governments that use a community partnership approach to advancing climate action show greater progress toward achieving their climate targets. The Municipal Net-Zero Action Research Partnership is offering support with a set of evidence-based recommendations on building strong community partnerships. Join us Thursday, July 24, at 2 p.m. ET for a free webinar about how your local government can work collaboratively to achieve climate targets and equity goals.

» [REGISTER TODAY](#)

## RESOURCES

### Discover 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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## **Understanding climate budgeting: A guide for Canadian communities**

Climate action in local government takes planning and teamwork. Climate budgeting guides decision making on budgets and policies, and it distributes ownership, knowledge and accountability across departments and staff within your organization and in the community. The Municipal Net-Zero Action Research Partnership has created a new guide to support Canadian municipalities as they incorporate climate commitments into their decision making. The guide is designed to help municipal leaders and staff at a range of knowledge levels, as well as organizations and advocates in the community.

» [DOWNLOAD THE GUIDE](#)

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## **Canada, Naturally –Celebrate Community Culture**

Cultural tourism is a powerful force, strengthening local economies and fostering social connections while celebrating Canadian heritage. By showcasing unique traditions and stories, communities thrive. Explore Destination Canada's toolkits for actionable strategies and support. Let's collaborate—reach out to help build a vibrant, community-based tourism plan that highlights the richness of Canada's culture and benefits residents and visitors.

» [DOWNLOAD THE TOOLKITS](#)

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## **FCM IN THE NEWS**

### **» Parksville councillors return from Ottawa with call for modern funding tools | Parksville Qualicum Beach News**

Two Parksville, B.C., elected officials attended FCM's 2025 Annual Conference and Trade Show to meet with counterparts and advocate for a new funding model for municipalities. "FCM provides municipalities with a loud voice that is built on a respectful discussion and providing data that helps back up local appeals to senior levels of government," said Coun. Sean Wood.

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### **» Bill C-5 could open doors, but Ottawa needs a seat at the table: Tierney | Compass News**

FCM's First Vice-President and Ottawa City Coun. Tim Tierney spoke with Compass News about Bill C-5 and the importance of municipalities being part of the solution when it comes to national projects. Coun. Tierney also discussed FCM's latest missions to the U.S. to engage with counterparts.

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### **» Trump says 50 per cent copper tariff coming | CTV News**

U.S. President Donald Trump announced his intention to impose 50% tariffs on copper imports, without specifying a date for their implementation. Canada's Finance Minister, François-Philippe Champagne, sent letters to the provinces, territories and FCM, urging them to support domestic steel and aluminum industries through “reciprocal procurement policies.”

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» **Housing: Montreal increasingly unaffordable, despite a lull | CityNews**

Tenants in the Montreal region are paying more and more for rent, according to a new report by the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC).

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» **From rivals to allies: Steinbach and Winkler unite to tackle municipal challenges | SteinbachOnline.com**

Manitoba elected officials from the City of Steinbach welcomed local leaders from the City of Winkler for a day of collaboration and discussion on shared challenges, including wastewater infrastructure, development approvals, and housing. The visit was sparked by conversations that took place earlier in Ottawa, when both councils attended FCM's Annual Conference and Trade Show.

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» **Canmore council to endorse sister city agreement with Sedona, Arizona | Rocky Mountain News**

Canmore, B.C., and Sedona, Ariz., will officially be designated as sister cities. Mayor Sean Krausert said Canada-American relations are of “utmost interest and concern at this time” and praised an FCM panel that featured U.S. mayors. “They were talking about arrangements together and the importance of working together and the silver lining of this whole tariff debate is that relationships between municipalities in the United States and Canada have never been stronger.”

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» **Chatham councillor elected to key FCM role | Simcoe Reformer**

At FCM's recent Annual Conference and Trade Show, Chatham-Kent Coun. Alysson Storey was elected as vice-chair of the board's Ontario Caucus. Earlier this year, Coun. Storey was part of an FCM delegation to Washington, D.C., to represent local governments and participated in the bilateral meeting with the National Association of Counties at FCM's Annual Conference.

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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:



**Jul 1:** Canadians are bold and ambitious. We are builders and innovators—and we are stronger together. This Canada Day, we celebrate Canada’s journey of resilience—and the people, industries and communities that keep our national fabric strong. Stock Media provided by IMAGO, Reuters, EPA\_Image, roiboos / Pond5  
[#CanadaDay](#)  
[#HappyCanadaDay](#)  
[#CelebrateCanada](#)

**Jul 6:** "We are at the Calgary Stampede, representing our prairie members, the issues that they care about: public safety, rural infrastructure, making sure that we're growing a strong local economy with resilient communities, and addressing the challenges related to housing and homelessness." FCM President [@rebeccaleeblich](#) and CEO [@carolesaab](#) are in Calgary, hearing from local leaders and ensuring Albertan priorities are reflected in our advocacy. [#CDNMuni](#) [#cdnpoli](#) | [@CptGandam](#) [@JyotiGondek](#)

**Jul 14:** "If we can learn from the solutions and the challenges they're working on here in the U.S. or vice versa, that benefits all of us." – [@Alysson4C](#), Councillor, Chatham-Kent, ON. <https://ctvnews.ca/windsor/article/trade-tariffs-top-chatham-kent-councillors-talk-with-us-counterparts/> Last week, FCM's Rural Forum Chair Neal Comeau and Board of Director Alysson Storey traveled to Philadelphia for [@NACoTweets'](#) Annual Conference as part of our ongoing work to build stronger cross-border relationships. [#CDNMuni](#) [#cdnpoli](#)



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