

Karine Keys

From: FCM Communique <communique@fcm.ca>
Sent: September 15, 2025 4:07 PM
To: Karine Keys
Subject: FCM Voice: Build Canada Homes | AC2025 Digital Magazine | Collective webinar | and more

[View email in browser](#)



September 15, 2025



Just launched: Build Canada Homes

Yesterday, FCM's CEO Carole Saab participated to the federal government's announcement to launch Build Canada Homes (BCH). This announcement shows a clear commitment to working with municipalities and other essential partners to deliver practical, results-driven solutions that meet the urgent housing needs of Canadians.

FCM was glad to see inclusion of supportive and transitional housing for Canadians experiencing homelessness and emphasized the need for sustained federal-provincial funding to make lasting progress on homeless encampments. Through BCH, municipalities can contribute land, support modular construction, and continue leading on zoning, approvals, infrastructure, and community planning.



Reaching the federal goal of building 500,000 homes per year will require new investments in infrastructure needed to support housing, like roads, water systems and public transit through proven tools like the Canada Community Building Fund. FCM will continue to monitor and engage with the development of BCH and other housing and homelessness-related federal initiatives.

Further analysis on Sunday's announcement will be shared in coming days.

» [READ MORE](#)

NEWS

AC2025 Digital Magazine

You can now read the special Municipal World publication entirely dedicated to our 2025 Annual Conference. Produced in collaboration with FCM and published by Municipal World, this digital magazine highlights the key moments of the conference held in Ottawa under the theme *Stronger Together: Local Strength, National Prosperity*.

If you haven't already, take a moment to explore the impactful discussions, innovative ideas and municipal initiatives that shaped the country's largest gathering of local elected officials. Read the magazine and share it with your network!

» [DOWNLOAD YOUR COPY](#)



Inspiring stories of GMF's work in the Canadian Prairies

Across the Canadian Prairies, aging infrastructure and increasing costs are driving municipalities to seek out sustainable, cost-effective solutions. Since 2000, FCM's Green Municipal Fund (GMF) has supported hundreds of community-focused projects in Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba, which have helped to boost Canada's GDP and create jobs in the region.

To showcase this work, GMF has highlighted several inspiring success stories that illustrate how sustainable building and infrastructure upgrades have helped Prairie communities—and how they could benefit your own.

» [DISCOVER GMF'S IMPACT IN THE PRAIRIES](#)

Are you an elected municipal official from BC?

FCM is seeking a dedicated elected municipal official from BC to join the GMF Council and help build sustainable communities and a more prosperous Canada.

We're looking for recognized champions of sustainability to bring their leadership to help shape strategic decisions and guide high-impact municipal projects that deliver tangible, lasting results—creating jobs, fostering environmental stewardship, and strengthening community resilience. To lead the change, apply by September 29.

» [JOIN THE GMF COUNCIL](#)

Strengthening women's leadership in local government in Zambia

The Partnership for Municipal Innovation – Women in Local Leadership project is working with the Local Government Association of Zambia to strengthen women’s leadership in local government. A recent workshop with the Local Government Gender Equality Committee focused on leadership skills, public speaking and building confidence for active participation in local governance.

The Union of British Columbia Municipalities joined the Local Government Association of Zambia to support this knowledge exchange. This collaboration shows how Canadian municipal expertise can support inclusive governance and strengthen women’s leadership globally.

» [LEARN MORE](#)

International partnerships driving stronger local governance at home and abroad

Through the Partnership for Municipal Innovation – Women in Local Leadership project, our overseas partner, the National Association of Local Authorities of Ghana (NALAG), undertook a study tour to Canada last week. Four NALAG representatives took part in the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) annual conference and engaged in exchanges with peers from Ontario municipalities.

The study tour focused on sharing experiences on gender equality and social inclusion in local leadership, exploring ways to strengthen organizational sustainability through events and membership development. This collaboration highlights the value of international partnerships for Canadian municipalities—creating opportunities for shared learning and strengthening local governance at home and abroad.

» [LEARN MORE](#)

EVENTS

Last chance: Explore safe and sustainable railway operations

Our first Collective webinar of the year is tomorrow! In partnership with CN, this webinar will help community leaders to better understand the strategies and technologies used to ensure safe and sustainable railway operations. Wildfire threats are a growing reality as unprecedented hot, dry conditions persist across Canada. Participants will learn more about CN’s Fire and Suppression fleet, a custom-designed in-house fleet of five trains that can deploy firefighting resources to remote and inaccessible areas.

» [REGISTER TODAY](#)

FCM IN THE NEWS

» [Carney’s fall fiscal plan to focus on defence, housing, and infrastructure, say advocacy groups | The Lobby Monitor](#)

FCM's Executive Director of Policy and Public Affairs, Matt Gemmel, discussed the upcoming federal budget and FCM's pre-budget submissions, looking for progress on key issues, from housing to infrastructure. "The key to doubling housing construction is fixing what we feel is an outdated model for how we fund housing and the growth of the country," Gemmel said.

» **Carney unveils 'Buy Canadian' plan and canola tariff help amid trade war | Globalnews.ca**

The federal government unveiled a new "Buy Canadian" strategy. The measures announced include a \$370 million package for canola farmers, who are currently facing a 75.8 percent tariff from China. Prime Minister Mark Carney has also proposed a \$5-billion Strategic Response Fund for companies affected by U.S. tariffs.

» **Not fast enough: More homes are being built, but targets still far off, says CMHC | Globalnews.ca**

New data from the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation shows a slowdown in housing starts in Canada's biggest cities. The City of Toronto is on track for its lowest number of housing starts in three decades.

» **'Enough is enough': mayor pleads for bail reform after Walmart armed robbery | Winnipeg Free Press**

Winnipeg Mayor Scott Gillingham is renewing his call for bail reform, following a robbery in the city. Gillingham also raised the issue during FCM's Big City Mayors' Caucus recent meeting, saying "there's only so much municipal leaders can do to address [public safety] concerns."

» **\$235M wastewater plant gives 13 Manitoba towns ability to double their populations | CBC News**

Thirteen southeast Manitoba communities look forward to doubling their population now that bidding to construct a new wastewater plant near the Town of Niverville has closed. The wastewater project is being funded by loans and the federal, provincial and municipal governments. One consultant responsible for the new wastewater plant said he was recently invited by the Canada Infrastructure Bank to tell municipalities across Canada about the project at an FCM conference.

» **Humboldt and George Gordon First Nation embark on three-year collaborative journey | 92.9 The Bull**

The City of Humboldt and the George Gordon First Nation, Sask., have joined forces to take part in the nationwide Community Economic Development Initiative (CEDI) to enhance collaboration on economic development projects. The CEDI initiative is funded by FCM alongside Cando, the Council for the Advancement of Native Development Officers.

RESOURCES

Webinar recording: Urban forest management plan for your community

Every community can benefit from a well-managed urban forest. Watch our webinar *Develop an urban forest management plan for your community* to discover expert insights on why a strong plan matters and how to build your own. Watching this webinar will help you understand what makes a strong plan, how to ensure the plan is tailored to your community's needs and what benefits an urban forest management plan can offer to your community.

» [WATCH THE WEBINAR TODAY](#)

CORPORATE PARTNER



Learn how Indigenous led initiatives advance tourism innovation

Destination Canada invites you to Destination Dialogues 2025 on October 8—a free webinar focused on Indigenous tourism and export ready models. Learn from real examples of Indigenous led innovation and explore practical tools that can support rural, remote, and northern communities. Co-presented with the Indigenous Tourism Association of Canada, this session is an opportunity for FCM members to engage in advancing economic reconciliation. An interactive workshop will follow for hands-on learning

» [REGISTER HERE](#)

LED ROADWAY LIGHTING + EVLUMA = NEXT-LEVEL INNOVATION!

WE'VE TEAMED UP WITH **EVLUMA** TO SUPERCHARGE THE FUTURE OF SMART LIGHTING! BY COMBINING FORCES, WE'RE UNLOCKING **BOLD NEW POSSIBILITIES** IN STREET AND AREA LIGHTING — **MORE TECH, MORE SOLUTIONS, AND EVEN MORE POWER** TO SUPPORT SMART, SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES.

DON'T WORRY — BOTH COMPANIES STAY INDEPENDENT, BUT TOGETHER, WE'RE LIGHTING THE WAY FORWARD LIKE NEVER BEFORE.





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:



Sept 10: FCM's Collective webinar series is back!

These webinars—delivered alongside partners from the most cutting-edge leaders in the private sector—will help you re-examine your community's needs and develop new solutions to stay ahead of the curve.

Our first session, in partnership with [@CNRailway](#), is next Tuesday. Learn more and register now: <https://t.co/p6A3wh9BBY>

Sept 12: "You can build homes, but unless you have the water and the sewer and the wastewater as all part of that, it's not a home yet. It's just a structure."
- Joe Masi, [CityofPortage](#) councillor and FCM Board member.

<https://t.co/ACwSWspqTV>

The federal government has an ambitious goal of building 500,000 new homes per year. Municipalities are key to making that happen, but streamlined and predictable investments are needed to build supporting infrastructure like pipes, roads, bridges and more.

[#CDNMuni](#) [#cdnpoli](#)

Sept 14: FCM welcomes the federal government's Build Canada Homes initiative as strong leadership on the housing crisis. This announcement shows a clear commitment to working in partnership with municipalities to deliver practical, results-driven solutions that meet the urgent housing needs of Canadians. In particular, the carve-out to increase supportive and transitional housing to address homelessness is a direct answer to FCM's key recommendations.

This is an opportunity to work together to build the housing Canadians need. Municipalities are already delivering housing solutions,

and with the right federal tools—like infrastructure investments that keep pace with growth and proven delivery models like the Canada Community-Building Fund—we can build lasting solutions across the country. Our full response:

<https://t.co/lo0vaGWjuc>

#CDNMuni #cdnpoli



FEDERATION
OF CANADIAN
MUNICIPALITIES

FÉDÉRATION
CANADIENNE DES
MUNICIPALITÉS



24 Clarence Street
Ottawa, Ontario K1N 5P3
fcm.ca

info@fcm.ca
[Privacy Policy](#)

© 2025 Federation of Canadian Municipalities

[Unsubscribe here.](#)

24 Clarence Street | Ottawa, ON K1N 5P3 CA