

Karine Keys

From: FCM Communique <communique@fcm.ca>
Sent: October 20, 2025 3:03 PM
To: Karine Keys
Subject: FCM Voice: Upcoming federal bail reform legislation | Collective webinar | Funding opportunities | and more

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October 20, 2025



New federal bail reform legislation upcoming

Last week, the federal government indicated upcoming measures to strengthen Canada's Criminal Code and address challenges posed to public safety by violent and repeat offenders. Set to be tabled this week, this new legislation will be a direct response to FCM's strong advocacy for urgent reform to Canada's sentencing and bail system. Alongside a commitment to invest in federal policing capacity with the hiring of 1,000 RCMP personnel in the forthcoming budget, this marks an important step toward addressing public safety challenges communities are facing.

FCM will continue to monitor developments and advocate for further measures to support public safety in our communities—including an appearance at the Standing Committee on Justice and Human Rights tomorrow. Stay tuned.

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EVENTS

Modular momentum: Accelerating new home construction

As Canada faces an urgent housing crisis, modular and prefabricated construction methods are gaining attention as scalable, cost-effective solutions to rapidly build new homes. Despite their promise, these approaches face persistent barriers—from fragmented regulations and inspection standards to financing challenges and public misconceptions.

On November 5, join FCM and the CSA Group for this timely Collective webinar exploring how municipalities can unlock the full potential of modular construction.

» [REGISTER](#)

Advancing climate goals with organic waste-to-energy

Explore how your municipality can convert food and yard waste into useful products through anaerobic digestion. Join us on Thursday, October 23 at 2 p.m. ET with Azura Associates for an introductory webinar that will provide guidance for municipalities on evaluating project opportunities. We will also share operational examples from other municipalities that outline implementation costs, timelines and partnership models.

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FCM IN THE NEWS

» [Carney says bail reform bill coming next week | National Post](#)

Last week, Prime Minister Mark Carney announced that the federal government will introduce a bill in the coming days aimed at strengthening the bail system. FCM, which represents mayors and local governments from across the country, welcomed Carney's announcement to toughen bail access. "Local police are repeatedly arresting the same individuals, emergency services are stretched thin, and residents are feeling the impact," Rebecca Bligh, a Vancouver city councillor and FCM's President, said in a statement.

» [Canada, U.S. crime rates in past 25 years: StatCan report | CTV News](#)

A new Statistics Canada report comparing crime trends in Canada and the U.S. over the last 25 years highlights modest increases in Canada, partly attributed to major assaults. In 2023, Canada's police-reported violent crime rate stood at 252 incidents per 100,000 people, compared to 334 in the U.S. – a 33 percent difference. Fifteen years ago, the gap was 77 percent.

» [Carney needs half a million workers by 2030 | Toronto Star](#)

A new report from Deloitte shows that the country will need to mobilize half a million skilled trade workers by 2030 to meet the federal government's housing and infrastructure goals. The Building Industry and Land Development Association is doubtful of the federal government's "ambitious" housing plan to double Canada's rate of residential construction to 500,000 homes a year over the next decade, saying "we'll be lucky to stay in the 200,000 range."

» **Premier expects N.W.T. will break ground on \$1.65B Mackenzie Valley Highway in next two to three years | CBC News**

Following a week of meetings in Ottawa, Northwest Territories Premier R.J. Simpson is confident that the Mackenzie Valley Highway project will be built. Simpson said the territory's major projects, which also include the Taltson hydro expansion and the Arctic Economic and Security Corridor, are being received very well by the federal government.

» **Bridal recaps successful trip to Ottawa | SwiftCurrentOnline.com**

Swift Current's Mayor Al Bridal recently participated in meetings in Ottawa with other Saskatchewan mayors to discuss infrastructure funding partnerships. The delegation, led by two provincial ministers, presented a funding proposal asking the federal government to contribute one-third of the cost for major infrastructure projects—matching contributions from both the province and municipalities. Bridal also plans to attend FCM's Annual Conference next June in Edmonton.

RESOURCES

GMF's 2024–25 Annual Report: An inspiring success story in Quebec

In Quebec City, GMF's Local Leadership for Climate Adaptation initiative is helping turn ambitious ideas into real, lasting change. Four schools are transforming their yards with green infrastructure to reduce flooding and heat, improve air quality, and create welcoming spaces for learning and play. Over 120 students are gaining a hands-on experience with water management and climate challenges, building an awareness they'll carry into the future. This is how we strengthen resilience to climate impacts and help communities become safer and healthier.

This is one of many examples of the impact GMF is making across Canada. Read the GMF 2024–25 Annual Report to discover more inspiring success stories and see how we're helping communities thrive.

» **LEARN MORE**

GMF's impact: Community building upgrades

From hockey arenas to libraries, GMF has helped municipalities plan and deliver energy upgrades to their community spaces. Since 2020, the Community Buildings Retrofit (CBR) initiative has allocated over \$90 million to 199 projects across nine provinces. This includes 51 buildings undergoing upgrades such as solar panels, HVAC upgrades, improved insulation and the electrification of gas equipment. Submit your full CBR application by December 19, 2025.

» **LEARN MORE**

New funding to ensure your urban forests are resilient

The journey to a healthy and resilient urban forest starts with a plan. Your municipality can access up to \$175,000 through our new *Urban forestry plans and studies* funding to ensure your community's trees are resilient and can withstand risks like extreme weather. Whether you're updating a tree planting strategy, developing a new urban forestry policy or analyzing canopy cover, this is your opportunity to build on the work you're doing.

» [APPLY TODAY](#)

LOCAL DATA

Canada at a Crossroads: Resiliency, Adaptability and Change

Join Statistics Canada on October 28 for a free in-person event at Glendon College, **Canada at a Crossroads: Resiliency, Adaptability and Change**. Chief Statistician André Loranger and expert panelists will explore key economic trends—from inflation to urban growth—and their impact on Canadians, with a focus on Toronto and Ontario. Seats are limited, so be sure to register early.

» [REGISTER TODAY](#)

SOCIAL MEDIA

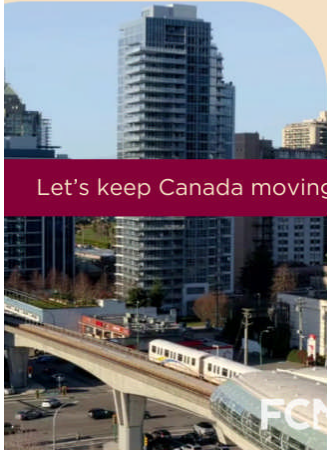
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“Bail reform is an important step [...] Local police are repeatedly arresting the same individuals, emergency services are stretched thin, and residents are feeling the impact.” - [@rebeccaleeblich](#)

**Public transit
powers
possibility.**

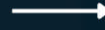


Let's keep Canada moving.

[WATCH THE VIDEO](#)

**STRENGTHENING
THE CRIMINAL CODE
IS AN IMPORTANT STEP
TOWARD ADDRESSING
THE PUBLIC SAFETY
CHALLENGES
COMMUNITIES ARE
FACING.**

Today's announcement on bail reform is a welcome signal that the federal government is listening to the concerns of municipalities.



FCM

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Municipalities are ready to work with federal partners to build safer, healthier communities, and we look forward to reviewing the legislation once it's tabled next week. [#CDNMuni](#) [#cdnpoli](#)

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