

Karine Keys

From: FCM Communique <communique@fcm.ca>
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To: Karine Keys
Subject: FCM Voice: Advocacy Days 2025 recap | Collective webinar | Guides for local communities | and more

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November 3, 2025



FCM wraps successful Advocacy Days in Ottawa



Canada risks stalling nation-building without strong local infrastructure. That's the message that the Committee of the Whole members brought to the nation's capital last week for FCM's annual Advocacy Days, where our members held over 90 meetings with ministers, MPs, senators and senior officials.

Ahead of tomorrow's federal budget, FCM is calling for federal action to support core infrastructure by further investing in the Canada Community-Building Fund, launch the NextGen infrastructure program to advance nation-building, and protect and grow essential municipal programs that support our most vulnerable.

FCM members received a communications toolkit from FCM on Thursday, October 30, to help bring this message to your communities.

Stay tuned for FCM's budget analysis and reaction this week.

» [READ OUR ADVOCACY DAYS NEWS RELEASE](#)

EVENTS

Last chance to register: Collective webinar on accelerating new home construction

FCM's next Collective webinar is approaching fast! This Wednesday, FCM and the CSA Group are hosting a Collective webinar exploring how municipalities can unlock the full potential of modular 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.

» [REGISTER](#)

Webinar: Biodiversity strategies for resilient urban forests

Improving biodiversity is key to ensuring your urban forests thrive. If you want to learn about biodiversity-focused urban forestry practices, join our webinar on November 19 where experts will share case studies and best practices related to biodiverse urban forests. From knowledge to real-life examples, this webinar will help you understand the connections between urban forestry projects and broader biodiversity goals, and how to integrate principles that promote biodiversity into your projects.

» [REGISTER](#)

FCM IN THE NEWS

» **Trump tariff impact: Cities to feel pinch of bus industry impact | CTV News**

The Canadian Urban Transit Research & Advocacy Consortium warns that the new U.S. tariffs on buses will affect cities across North America. FCM President Rebecca Bligh said she is "deeply concerned" about the tariffs. She warned they will "directly affect Canadians by driving up the cost of public transit" and "threaten thousands" of manufacturing jobs. "Higher costs mean fewer new buses, slower progress toward cleaner fleets, and the risk of service cuts or fare hikes," she said.

» **A safer Canada demands a stronger bail system | The Hub**

This op-ed by FCM President Rebecca Bligh emphasizing the urgent need to address public safety challenges faced by municipalities across the country. It discusses the recent federal bail reform legislation and advocates for additional support to reduce court backlogs and tackle the root causes of crime.

» **U.S. Senate passes non-binding vote against Trump's tariffs on Canada | National | Global News**

The U.S. Senate recently voted on a resolution opposing U.S. tariffs on Canada. Even if it won't ultimately take effect, the 50-46 vote was the latest in a series of votes to terminate the national emergencies that U.S. President Donald Trump has used to impose tariffs on countries across the globe.

» **Edmonton's new city council to face same old issues like urban sprawl, infill and roads | CBC News**

The new Edmonton council is faced with issues that have been around for years but have intensified with Edmonton's unprecedented growth: how to do things like fix and expand roads while keeping tax increases low. Last week, the 12 councillors and Mayor Andrew Knack sat for their first council meeting after the swearing-in ceremony.

RESOURCES

Community partnerships for equitable local climate action

When it comes to advancing climate action in Canadian municipalities, community partnerships play a pivotal role. Research shows that local governments that use a partnership approach show greater progress toward achieving their climate targets.

The Municipal Net-Zero Action Research Partnership has created a new guide with evidence-based recommendations on building strong community partnerships. With data collected from 55 partners across Canada, this guide is designed to help your local government work collaboratively and effectively with the community to achieve climate targets and equity goals.

» [DOWNLOAD THE GUIDE](#)

Transitioning to electric vehicles: Leasing vs buying

The City of Kingston, Ontario, transitioned its light-duty municipal fleet to electric vehicles by introducing flexible EV leasing agreements. This approach is projected to save over \$28,000 across two vehicle types, cut maintenance costs by 25%, and reduce annual emissions by 41 tonnes of CO₂. GMF can help your community start an electric fleet with up to \$200,000 to explore your options and up to \$10 million to get started.

» [LEARN MORE](#)

A guide to energy efficiency in affordable housing

Canada's transition to a low-carbon economy necessitates cutting-edge affordable housing solutions. If you're an affordable housing provider who's a novice to energy efficiency or seeking more advanced energy-saving measures, GMF's Sustainable Affordable Housing initiative has practical, actionable steps you can take to save money, augment the wellbeing of your residents and strengthen the resilience of your buildings.

» [READ THE GUIDE](#)

SOCIAL MEDIA

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Local leaders take on Parliament Hill! FCM unites Canadian municipalities of all sizes—and this week, municipal leaders from coast to coast to coast are in Ottawa to bring local priorities directly to the federal government. Ahead of [#Budget2025](#), let's work together to build up Canada. [#CDNmuni](#)

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You can't build homes, move goods, or protect supply chains without strong local infrastructure.

Municipalities are calling for urgent federal action to modernize the infrastructure and systems Canadians rely on every day.

Read more:
<https://bit.ly/433QSAR>
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