

## Karine Keys

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**From:** FCM Communique <communique@fcm.ca>  
**Sent:** February 2, 2026 3:32 PM  
**To:** Karine Keys  
**Subject:** FCM Voice: New campaign on homelessness | FCM's new voices initiative | Collective webinar | and more

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February 2, 2026



### **New campaign: No one should be left out in the cold**

Municipalities are on the frontlines in the response to homelessness across the country, but local governments need better funding and greater support services to meet the scale of the crisis and get and keep people housed. That's why we are calling on the federal government to make Reaching Home permanent, increase the fund to \$3.5 billion annually and index it to inflation.

FCM has partnered with the Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness on a new social media campaign calling for a stronger foundation of coordinated care and services for our most vulnerable.

Let's build a Canada where no one is left out in the cold.

» **SHARE WITH YOUR NETWORK**

# Pulse check



Take this quick survey to share insight from your municipality on homelessness and related federal funding.

[HAVE YOUR SAY](#)

## NEWS

### Last call to apply for our new voices initiative

There's still time to get your application in for FCM's new voices initiative! If you're a first-term elected official in an FCM member municipality, this is your chance to receive a free delegate registration to the 2026 Annual Conference and Trade Show in Edmonton. We're looking to spotlight fresh perspectives from across the country, with added consideration for applicants from small or remote communities and equity-deserving groups. Eligible applicants will enter a random draw, with results shared in February. Apply by February 6.

» [APPLY NOW](#)

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### From exchange to impact: Municipal learning across contexts

When Canadian municipalities take time to learn from one another, the impact goes well beyond any single project. Through the Partnerships for Municipal Innovation – Women in Local Leadership project, municipalities and PTAs from across Canada came together to exchange perspectives shaped by international experience and to reflect on how that learning continues to influence local leadership, decision-making and collaboration at home.

What emerged was shared understanding: municipal knowledge grows stronger when it circulates. Across regions. Across contexts. Across borders.

Thank you to the FCM members who engaged so thoughtfully.

» [LEARN MORE](#)

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### Deadline approaching: Apply now for a seat on FCM's GMF Council

FCM is seeking an elected municipal official in Alberta, Manitoba or one of the Canadian Territories to join the Green Municipal Fund (GMF) Council. GMF Council plays a key role in national sustainability, combining funding and capacity-building to

help municipalities implement projects with the highest potential for economic, community and environmental impact.

If you're passionate about sustainability, governance and supporting municipalities, this is your chance to help shape decisions that have already delivered strong economic outcomes and national impact, contributing \$1.53 billion to Canada's GDP and \$853 million in wages and salaries for Canadians from coast to coast to coast. Apply by February 9.

» [APPLY NOW](#)

## EVENTS

### What a national Buy Canadian policy means for local procurement

Municipalities collectively represent one of the largest public procurement vehicles in the country—purchasing even more goods and services than the federal government annually. Local governments across Canada have been introducing procurement policies to support Canadian suppliers, but challenges in fully embracing a Buy Canadian approach remain.

In collaboration with Canoe Procurement, our next Collective webinar will uncover the economic and legal implications for municipalities with the adoption of a new federal Buy Canadian policy. Join us on February 11 at 12 p.m. ET to assess how to best move forward with this approach and harness the tools to leverage it for your local economy.

» [REGISTER](#)

### Tools for valuing trees as natural assets

Do you know that urban trees are among the most valuable natural assets a community can have? Join our webinar on February 19 to learn from a panel of experts how to value trees as strategic climate and equity assets in your community. This webinar will help you discover practical ways to measure the economic and climate benefits of your community's trees. You will also learn how to use valuation tools and inventories to plan maintenance, reduce risks and make better investment decisions for your community.

» [REGISTER](#)

### Strengthen the delivery of climate adaptation projects

Successful climate adaptation outcomes depend on effective project delivery. Our upcoming virtual workshops on technical and strategic implementation support municipal teams in strengthening project management, collaboration and systems thinking. Sessions also explore nature-positive solutions that help reduce climate risks while supporting long-term resilience.

By building internal capacity to plan and deliver adaptation projects, municipalities can reduce implementation challenges and move forward with greater confidence.

## FCM IN THE NEWS

» **Affordable housing is slipping away. Here's how we get it back | The Hill Times**

FCM President Rebecca Bligh's op-ed in The Hill Times about the ongoing housing crisis across the country and the need to build more affordable housing, including modular and prefabricated homes. "Municipalities are ready to scale up these solutions, but doing so requires a federal-municipal partnership that moves as quickly as the communities building the homes," said Bligh.

» **Surrey, B.C., calls on Ottawa to declare extortion crimes a federal emergency | CBC News**

Surrey City Council has passed a motion calling on the federal government to declare a state of emergency in response to the rise in extortion cases. The request includes appointing a national extortion commissioner, deploying more specialized federal RCMP units to Surrey and expediting the removal of non-citizens who have been charged with or convicted of extortion.

» **Why rural Alberta is facing a multi-billion dollar road and bridge crisis | St. Albert News**

In Alberta, calls for a strategic rethink of provincial spending are continuing through a campaign from the Rural Municipalities of Alberta, focused on addressing the infrastructure funding gap, which the association's research estimates will reach \$33.5 billion by 2026 without adequate funding. Alberta's Municipal Affairs Minister Dan Williams said he welcomes the campaign but has yet to commit funds to the matter.

» **Regina to seek provincial permission for alternative ways to raise funds | 980 CJME**

Regina's city council is seeking approval from the province to expand its revenue-raising methods beyond property taxes. "The biggest thing is just trying to find a way to not solely rely on property taxes as a source of revenue for the city. And this is not unique to Regina—this is something that we've seen even at FCM, where we recognize that we need to explore different models, and this is a step that I think Regina, as the capital city, can take," said Regina Mayor Chad Bachynski.

## RESOURCES

**Guide: 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](#)

## CORPORATE PARTNER



### Protecting people and the environment for generations to come

Founded in 2002, the Nuclear Waste Management Organization (NWMO) is a nonprofit organization tasked with the safe, long-term management of Canada's intermediate and high-level radioactive waste in a manner that protects people and the environment for generations to come.

» [LEARN MORE](#)

## 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:



"Municipalities own about 60 per cent of the country's infrastructure, but their revenue is mostly constrained to collecting

property taxes, which @rebeccaleebly said is archaic."

<https://t.co/Cr7ahidMXQ>

Issues with aging infrastructure are not unique to Calgary. Municipalities across the country have infrastructure in need of renewal—but with limited fiscal tools to do so. FCM is calling on the federal government for an urgent increase to the community stream of the Build Communities Strong Fund so municipalities of all sizes can deliver critical public infrastructure for their residents. #CDNMuni #cdnpoli

[LEARN MORE](#)



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Ending homelessness takes all orders of government working together—to ensure people have a home and access to the supports they need to rebuild. Coordinated care and services for our most vulnerable requires a strong foundation. Together, let's build a Canada where no one is left out in the cold.

Follow us to learn more.

[SHARE THE POST](#)



We welcomed the Secretary of State for International Development, the Honourable Randeep Sarai, to FCM for a discussion with Canadian municipal leaders on the Indo-Pacific strategy, Viet Nam, and the convergence of trade and development. The exchange reinforced the importance of aligning trade and development objectives within FCM's international programming, including the new Viet Nam Climate Resilient Municipalities project, funded by Global Affairs Canada.

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**FCM** FEDERATION OF CANADIAN MUNICIPALITIES FÉDÉRATION CANADIENNE DES MUNICIPALITÉS



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