

Karine Keys

From: FCM Communique <communique@fcm.ca>
Sent: March 4, 2026 12:03 PM
To: Karine Keys
Subject: FCM Voice : Registration for AC2026 now open | New Voices Initiative | Upcoming webinars | and more

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March 4, 2026



AC2026: Registration now open!

**Building the
future *together***

ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND TRADE SHOW
Edmonton • June 4-7, 2026



Registration is now open for FCM's 2026 Annual Conference and Trade Show! Join us in Edmonton from June 4 to 7 for this year's event. Centered under the theme of *Building the*

future together, AC2026 will highlight the power of unity and the role local governments play in shaping resilient, thriving communities.

Expect our most comprehensive program yet, with content tailored to municipalities of every size and reality. This year's lineup features dedicated workshops for rural and northern communities, alongside signature events that bring our network together.

As you register, make sure to reserve your spot on one of our interactive study tours and check out our many family-friendly companion tour options.

Book now and take advantage of Early Bird pricing!

» [REGISTER NOW](#)

NEWS

New Voices Initiative: Recipients announced

This year, the New Voices Initiative was created to bring fresh perspectives into Canada's largest gathering of municipal leaders by giving newly-elected officials the opportunity to receive a free registration to FCM's 2026 Annual Conference and Trade Show. We invited first-mandate elected officials to apply, with special consideration for those from remote regions and equity-deserving groups.

The response was strong from our members across Canada, underscoring municipal leaders' interest in participating in our signature event. After a thorough review and random draw, 22 winners from FCM member municipalities across every province and territory were selected. We look forward to welcoming this diverse group in Edmonton and extend our sincere thanks to every applicant.

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Advocacy update: Responding to extreme weather

Last week, Salmon Arm Councillor and Vice Chair of FCM's Environmental Issues and Sustainable Development Committee Louise Wallace Richmond presented to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Environment and Sustainable Development on municipal priorities in protecting Canadians from extreme weather events. In her remarks, Councillor Wallace Richmond noted that the most cost-effective path forward on climate adaptation is to invest in resilient infrastructure now, rather than shouldering the cost of repairs down the line. She reiterated FCM's call for an immediate \$2 billion investment, followed by an additional \$1 billion annually for the next ten years, to protect our communities.

» [WATCH HERE](#)

New national polling shows Canadians wants public transit funding protected

A new Nanos survey for the Canadian Urban Transit Association (CUTA) has shown that 77% of polled Canadians expressed concern after learning of the federal

government's \$5 billion cut to the Canada Public Transit Fund (CPTF), and 72% supported restoring the dedicated funding announced in 2024.

FCM has called for the reversal of this cut to the CPTF in a direct submission to the federal government. With every \$1 invested in public transit generating \$2.40 in economic activity, the federal government must recognize the need to sufficiently fund the CPTF as a standalone fund to get cities moving, new homes connected and the economy growing.

» [READ THE CUTA SURVEY RESULTS](#)

Co-building local climate action in Tunisia

In Tunisia, we saw how international municipal cooperation can translate into concrete local action, as part of the Inclusive Climate Action for Tunisian Municipalities (ICATM) project, funded by Global Affairs Canada. Through co-creation workshops, Tunisian municipalities, Canadian municipal partners and civil society representatives worked together on inclusive climate action grounded in community priorities and local realities.

In Dar Chaâbane El Fehri, Chouachi and Djerba Midoun, these exchanges helped advance the implementation of pilot municipal projects. These exchanges highlighted practical lessons on how sustained engagement, mutual learning and locally-led approaches can help inform efforts toward more resilient and sustainable communities.

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EVENTS

Women in leadership: Breaking barriers and building support

On March 11 at 12 p.m. ET, join FCM and the Canadian Labour Congress for a Collective webinar exploring how generosity, mentorship, and shared experience strengthen women's leadership in local government. We'll be joined by elected officials who have taken part in FCM's Partnerships for Municipal Innovation—Women in Local Leadership (PMI-WILL) program to reflect on the realities of women's leadership in municipal governance.

» [REGISTER](#)

Advancing flood resilience with municipal insights

Join us on March 12 at 2 p.m. ET for the webinar *From Assessing Flood Risks to Taking Action*. This session will explore how municipalities can move from understanding flood risk to taking climate adaptation action. Through applied tools and real-world examples from the City of Kitchener, you'll learn how flood resilience can be integrated into municipal plans and projects.

This session is relevant for both urban and rural municipalities and is not coastal-specific.

FCM IN THE NEWS

» **Canada's big city mayors see opportunity in Carney meeting | Municipal World**

FCM's Big City Mayors' Caucus Chair and London Mayor, Josh Morgan, told Municipal World in a one-on-one interview that the recent meeting between Prime Minister Mark Carney and BCMC members was productive and set a collaborative tone for federal-municipal relations. Morgan made clear that infrastructure is the foundation of every other national priority, and discussed other FCM priorities, such as housing and public safety.

» **Finance minister unveiled Ottawa's 'follow the money' plan to tackle extortion | CityNews**

Finance Minister François Philippe-Champagne announced a series of new federal initiatives he said will make it easier for police across the country to "follow the money" and dismantle criminal networks. The federal government said that Canada's Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Centre of Canada will allocate new resources to combat extortion.

» **Edmonton Mayor Andrew Knack warns of 'significant infrastructure deficit' | Edmonton Journal**

Edmonton city council learned that without a significant increase in infrastructure funding, assets could fall into disrepair and jeopardise essential services. Mayor Andrew Knack has said that the city's infrastructure renewal shortfall is approximately \$1.5 billion.

RESOURCES

Planning climate-resilient community facilities

Community facilities are essential gathering locations during climate disruptions. The Resilient Community Facilities Toolkit helps municipalities assess climate risks, work through key planning questions and identify adaptation options. It supports informed decision-making by clarifying vulnerabilities, priorities and next steps. It also helps councils prepare for future planning, budgeting and investment discussions with greater confidence.

» EXPLORE THE TOOLKIT

GMF's impact in small and rural communities

Since 2000, GMF has invested over \$346 million in rural, northern and remote communities across Canada—funding innovative projects that reduce energy costs, strengthen local economies, increase affordable housing and more. Explore quick stories of lasting change in small communities and resources to help your work.

» [FIND IDEAS FOR YOUR NEXT PROJECT](#)

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2025 PARTICIPACTION REPORT CARD ON PHYSICAL ACTIVITY FOR ADULTS

HOW CAN MUNICIPALITIES HELP ELEVATE PHYSICAL ACTIVITY IN CANADA?

We have the tools, resources and recommendations for municipalities to improve adult physical activity levels.

[Access Tools & Resources](#)



Municipalities can improve Canada's physical activity levels

The ParticipACTION Report Card on Physical Activity for Adults is the most comprehensive assessment of adult physical activity in Canada. Getting more Canadians moving can create a stronger, healthier nation, but doing so requires collective action. Municipalities can help drive the change. Want to help inform the next Report Card? Answer [this five-question survey](#) for the chance to win a \$50 [Everything Card](#) gift card!

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SOCIAL MEDIA

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Yesterday, #Budget2025 passed in the House of Commons. Our focus remains on delivering key infrastructure projects this



Local governments and infrastructure are essential to Canada's security and sovereignty.

<https://t.co/mhSvPU1DxM>

construction season. Looking ahead to the Spring Economic Statement and next Budget, municipalities must receive federal infrastructure funding at the pace and scale necessary to achieve the federal government's objectives on trade diversification, economic growth, housing affordability and national defense.

Municipalities are essential delivery partners on these priorities, and we hope to see further progress on these critical files.

[READ MORE](#)



Before the medals and the heart stopping showdowns, there's a community rink and early morning ice time in local arenas.

[WATCH THE VIDEO](#)

Mayors Solomon Awa, Kirk Cameron and Ben Hendriksen understand what their communities need to thrive and they deliver the infrastructure and services that their residents need. Yet, northern municipalities are being called to respond to challenges that Canada's outdated municipal fiscal model can't fully support—from aging infrastructure and housing shortages to climate disasters and emerging foreign threats.

All orders of government must work together for a stronger North—and a stronger Canada.

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