

Karine Keys

From: FCM Communique <communique@fcm.ca>
Sent: March 9, 2026 1:18 PM
To: Karine Keys
Subject: FCM Voice: FCM Board of Directors March meeting recap | Board nominations now open | FCM Award nominations | and more

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March 9, 2026



FCM Board of Directors advance local solutions at March meeting



Last week, FCM's Board of Directors gathered in St. John's, NL, for the annual March Board meeting, where they examined local solutions to the geopolitical forces reshaping trade, security and economic stability, and advanced actions that help communities reinforce the infrastructure and services that keep Canada competitive. The Board emphasized the essential role local governments play in supporting the systems that move goods, protect economic activity and maintain daily life for Canadians.

As the federal government prepares its Spring Economic Update, FCM will continue bringing forward practical guidance from communities on the front lines of economic change.

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NEWS

FCM's Board of Directors nominations are now open

Are you motivated by influencing and driving change on a national scale? Are you interested in defining municipal priorities? If so, submit your nomination to join FCM's Board of Directors today!

Our member-elected body sets the organization's policy priorities, ensuring that municipalities have the tools they need to do what's best for Canadians. Board directors meet in person and/or virtually at least three times per year, with some committee meetings in between.

This year, elections for FCM's Board of Directors will take place alongside our Annual Conference and Trade Show from June 4-7, 2026, in Edmonton. For more details on the nomination process, [election changes taking effect this year](#) and all required submissions, please visit our website.

» [SUBMIT YOUR NOMINATION TODAY](#)

Trade Diversification Corridors Fund and Arctic Infrastructure Fund calls for proposals open

Last week, the Minister of Transport announced the launch of the calls for proposals for both the \$5 billion Trade Diversification Corridors Fund and the \$1 billion Arctic Infrastructure Fund. These funds respond to FCM advocacy for investment in municipal infrastructure in the North and across Canada to enhance trade diversification. FCM will continue to examine the details of these funds and to advocate for the prioritization of municipal infrastructure projects. See Transport Canada's website for the announcement and program eligibility details.

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FCM Awards nominations are now open

Help us celebrate outstanding leadership and innovation in local governments across Canada. The FCM Awards include five categories, each recognizing excellence: municipal leadership, emerging talent, equity and international cooperation. Eligibility

varies by category, so take a moment to explore each award's criteria and consider nominating someone whose work is making a difference in the municipal sector.

Award recipients will be celebrated during the Host City Closing Gala and Awards Show at our 2026 Annual Conference and Trade Show in Edmonton, taking place June 4-7. Recipients will receive free admittance to AC2026 but will be responsible for their own travel costs. Nomination deadline is April 7.

» [SUBMIT A NOMINATION NOW](#)

Renew your FCM membership for 2026–2027

Have you renewed your FCM membership for the 2026-2027 year? FCM is the national voice of local governments, ensuring your priorities are heard where decisions are made. Whether it's strengthening rural connectivity or supporting northern infrastructure, we're advancing priorities that matter most to your communities.

For 125 years, we've turned local solutions into national progress—delivering tangible wins and practical tools to help communities thrive. Renew your membership today and keep driving change across Canada.

» [LEARN MORE](#)

EVENTS

Women in leadership: Breaking barriers and building support

When municipalities remove barriers and create safe, supportive conditions for women in all their diversity, including women of colour, Indigenous women, and 2SLGBTQI+ women, to participate in public life, communities gain stronger leadership, better decision making and more resilient democratic institutions.

To mark International Women's Week, join FCM and the Canadian Labour Congress on March 11 at 12 p.m. (ET) for a Collective webinar exploring how generosity, mentorship, and shared experience strengthen women's leadership in local government.

» [REGISTER](#)

Prepare or repair: How climate proofing local infrastructure pays off

The Canadian Climate Institute's newly released report on adaptation shows that by investing upfront in adapting public infrastructure, governments could limit climate impacts and save between \$5 and \$10 billion each year.

Join us on March 25 at 12 p.m. (ET) for a Collective webinar to explore the report and the importance of this research, what it means for FCM's advocacy going forward and how we can better support Canadian communities in becoming more resilient to climate change.

FCM IN THE NEWS

» **FCM President Rebecca Bligh talks infrastructure deficit | Taking Stock | YouTube**

FCM President Rebecca Bligh discussed Canada's infrastructure gap and its effect on municipalities across the country on the show *Taking Stock*. She explained FCM's call for stable, long-term funding on the issue and said that property taxes do not provide municipalities with enough revenue to properly maintain infrastructure.

» **The Federation of Canadian Municipalities met in St. John's | St. John's Morning Show | On Demand | CBC Listen**

FCM President Rebecca Bligh spoke to CBC Radio while in St. John's, N.L., attending FCM's Board Week. She highlighted the main concerns facing Canadian municipalities. Bligh also discussed how tariffs are affecting municipalities, infrastructure and the housing crisis.

» **Tariff war: Canadian municipalities need support, says the FCM | OHdio | Radio-Canada**

FCM Vice-President and Mayor of Dorval, Marc Doret, spoke with Radio-Canada about FCM's Board of Directors week. Doret highlighted the organization's work with American counterparts and the impact of tariffs on Canadian municipalities. He also discussed the infrastructure deficit across the country.

» **Despite big infrastructure needs, Alberta municipalities to receive less funding | CBC**

Alberta's new budget cuts funding for Municipal Affairs by \$18 million, a one percent decrease compared to last year. Alberta Municipalities' President, Dylan Bressey, expressed concern about this funding reduction, especially considering the need for increased infrastructure investment.

RESOURCES

Planning wildfire adaptation projects at the local level

Wildfire exposure affects municipal infrastructure, land use and service delivery. Our Community Wildfire Resilience Toolkit helps municipalities plan wildfire adaptation projects by providing project examples and templates for budgeting, RFPs and next steps. It also helps improve project readiness and strengthens the foundation for future planning, procurement and investment discussions related to wildfire adaptation.

» EXPLORE THE TOOLKIT

Door-to-door public transport in Winkler, Manitoba

With GMF support, the City of Winkler, Manitoba, launched a pilot carpooling program that lets residents book rides in an eight-passenger vehicle through an app. This on-demand transit system aims to reduce GHG emissions by 30.8 tonnes annually, better understand residents' transit needs and improve access to jobs and services for people without cars or with mobility challenges.

From the smallest townships to the largest cities, local governments are using GMF funding to improve the day-to-day lives of residents in the Prairies.

» FIND INSPIRATION IN PRAIRIE SUCCESS STORIES

SOCIAL MEDIA

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Follow FCM on social media to keep up to date with the latest municipal news, resources, and more! Find us on:



In the face of global uncertainty, worrying impacts of climate change, the urgent need to renew vital infrastructure and more, strong local leadership matters now more than ever.

And that's exactly what you see around the FCM Board of Directors table—leaders who are ready to continue working hard to deliver for all Canadians and meet the moment.

Municipalities are united, and they have the solutions to Canada's most pressing challenges. The work ahead is vital.



St. John's has a long history of supporting affordable housing and some inspiring recent examples of how the



In St. John's this week, the FCM Board of Directors examined local solutions to the geopolitical forces reshaping trade, security, and economic stability, and advanced actions that help communities reinforce the infrastructure and services that keep Canada competitive.

Read more:
<https://t.co/13bc5VQc0d>

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city works together with partners to create new homes and community spaces.

[WATCH THE VIDEO](#)



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