

Karine Keys

From: FCM Communique <communique@fcm.ca>
Sent: March 23, 2026 2:00 PM
To: Karine Keys
Subject: FCM Voice: AC2026 workshops | FCM Board elections | FCM membership renewal deadline | and more

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March 23, 2026



Level up your learning with AC2026's workshops

**Building the
future *together***

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



Municipal leaders are driving the local solutions and innovations that improve Canadian's daily lives. Join us at FCM's Annual Conference and Trade Show in Edmonton from June 4-7, where you can attend a wide range of workshops that offer practical tools you can put

to work in your community. Explore sessions on infrastructure planning, housing strategies, equity and inclusion, visitor tourism growth, disaster prevention, social media strategies and so much more. With workshops tailored to your local realities, you'll be sure to return home with fresh insights and renewed momentum to continue driving progress.

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NEWS

FCM urges doubling of Community stream of BCSF to strengthen Canada's economic resilience

Last week, as the federal government announced an investment of \$183M for public transit in Toronto via the Community stream of the new Build Communities Strong Fund (BCSF), FCM took the opportunity to highlight the importance of this proven, cost-effective funding stream. Formerly known as the Canada Community Building Fund, the Community stream is essential to renewing the vital municipal infrastructure that supports our trade and economy.

However, the scale of infrastructure renewal that is necessary must be recognized. That's why FCM is recommending doubling the funding for the Community stream and indexing it to GDP, so we can truly meet the full extent of Canada's ambition and infrastructure needs.

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FCM Board elections: Nominations open

Are you also interested in making a difference in your municipality and others across Canada? FCM is currently accepting nominations for its Board of Directors. Submit by May 17 for a director or a table officer position.

This year, elections for FCM's Board of Directors will take place during our **Annual Conference and Trade Show** from June 4-7 2026 in Edmonton. More details on the nomination process, **election changes** taking effect this year and all required submissions are available online.

» [SUBMIT YOUR NOMINATION TODAY](#)

Deadline to renew your FCM membership is coming up

There is still time to renew your 2026–2027 FCM membership and access its full benefits. For 125 years, FCM has delivered results by amplifying local voices in Ottawa and driving national progress. Whether it's strengthening rural connectivity or supporting northern infrastructure, we're advancing priorities that matter most to your communities. Let's continue to strengthen local leadership from coast to coast to coast, together.

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EVENTS

Planning for thermal energy networks: a municipal guide

Planning thermal energy networks (TENs) in your municipality? TENs help municipalities reduce energy costs, balance heating and cooling across buildings, and strengthen local energy resilience.

Join our webinar on Thursday, March 26, at 2 p.m. ET to learn practical steps for feasibility assessment, municipal roles, and engagement with partners. Experts and climate advisors will share real-world examples, funding guidance and governance tips.

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Advancing Reconciliation in urban forestry

Municipalities can play an important role in incorporating Indigenous knowledge systems, build long-term trust and address broader social and environmental injustices that exist within the urban forestry landscape. Join us for Advancing Reconciliation in urban forestry, an in-person workshop in Peterborough, ON, from May 12-13. This workshop will help you gather Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) and learn about its applications in urban forestry, discover culturally significant tree species and Indigenous stewardship practices, explore collaborative models for planning and decision-making and more. Apply before April 9, 2026.

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FCM IN THE NEWS

» [The Hill Times' Top 100 Lobbyists in 2026 | The Hill Times](#)

The Hill Times and *The Lobby Monitor* released their yearly top 100 lobbyist list, which includes FCM's CEO Carole Saab.

» [Carney announces \\$35B for defence, infrastructure in Canada's North | CBC News](#)

The federal government has announced \$35 billion to expand Canada's military footprint in the North and Arctic, as well as to improve civilian infrastructure.

» [FCM challenges federal closure of research stations | The Graphic Leader](#)

With the work of Joe Masi, Portage la Prairie city councillor and Manitoba Director for the FCM board, FCM is launching a national advocacy strategy to oppose the federal government's decision to close agricultural research stations in Western Canada.

» **Alberta reviewing plan on forcing oil companies to pay outstanding municipal taxes | Global News**

Alberta may soon require oil and gas companies to keep on top of their municipal property tax payments if they want to keep producing. It's one of the proposals released recently in a report by the Rural Municipalities of Alberta and the province. Unpaid property taxes by some in the energy industry are a long-standing issue, with Alberta's rural communities owing more than \$250 million as of last year.

RESOURCES

Toolkit: making better flood decisions, sooner

Flooding is already affecting municipal infrastructure, service delivery and long-term budgets. The Community Flood Resilience Toolkit helps elected officials and senior staff understand where flood risks are most likely to disrupt their community and what response options are available. It supports clearer prioritization, stronger project rationale and more informed decisions before investments are made. It also helps municipal teams move from awareness of flood risks to more confident action.

» [EXPLORE THE TOOLKIT](#)

Future energy, circular solutions: How communities are redefining local energy resilience

Rising energy costs, extreme weather and aging infrastructure are challenging communities across Canada. With support from Green Municipal Fund through the Community Energy Systems and Organic Waste-to Energy funding offers, municipalities are adopting practical solutions focusing on systems such as district energy, solar installations, geo-exchange networks, waste-heat recovery and organic waste-to-energy projects.

Explore how GMF funding can help your municipality turn local energy challenges into success stories and replicate proven approaches to create new opportunities.

» [LEARN MORE](#)

GMF's impact in the Prairies: Supporting local success stories

From agriculture to energy and everything in between, municipalities across the Prairies are a major contributor to Canada's economy. With aging infrastructure and increasing maintenance costs, municipalities are seeking sustainable, cost-effective solutions.

Discover inspiring success stories from across the region and learn how sustainable building and infrastructure upgrades could benefit your community.

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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:



Canada is experiencing intense change and in Alberta and across the country, rural municipalities are meeting the moment on trade, economic resilience and more.

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Budget 2025 had few commitments to grow rural Canada. With the Spring Economic Update around the corner, strong investment in rural infrastructure is essential to economic growth and community wellbeing.

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FCM welcomes the federal government's generational investments in the North and Arctic. Strengthening Canada's defence posture and enabling nation-building infrastructure in the North is critical for sovereignty and security. Equally important are investments in local infrastructure and wellbeing for communities across this region.

Local leaders are calling for multi-use investments that enable their communities to deliver services, boost economies and enable full partnership to defend Canada's sovereignty. Local capacity is national sovereignty.

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