

Karine Keys

From: FCM Communique <communique@fcm.ca>
Sent: October 15, 2024 2:35 PM
To: Karine Keys
Subject: FCM Voice: FCM President on homelessness crisis | New GMF funding | Emergency Treatment Fund | and more

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October 15, 2024



FCM VOICE
Canada's voice of local government



Urgent action from federal government needed on homelessness crisis

To mark World Homeless Day on October 10, FCM President Geoff Stewart penned an op-ed emphasizing the need for urgent action to tackle the growing homelessness crisis in our communities. The combination of homelessness and imminent harsh winter conditions

places an immense strain on our most vulnerable, while also stretching the capacity and resources of local governments tasked with addressing this growing crisis.

FCM is calling for real, tangible solutions so municipalities can be better equipped to tackle the unprecedented homelessness crisis, including proper flow of Reaching Home allocations and dedicated funding promised in Budget 2024 to tackle the issue of encampments.

» [READ THE OP-ED](#)

NEWS

New funding to support climate adaptation planning

Your municipality can take the lead in climate resilience. The Green Municipal Fund's Climate-Ready Plans and Processes funding offers municipalities up to \$140,000 to develop strategic climate risk assessments and climate adaptation plans that strengthen communities against their unique climate challenges.

Designed for communities of all sizes, this funding supports efforts to build long-term resilience and address multiple climate hazards head-on. With support available to develop climate adaptation strategies and embed equity and inclusion into planning, your municipality will be better prepared to protect their infrastructure, ensure economic growth and promote the well-being of all community members.

» [APPLY NOW](#)

Emergency Treatment Fund Call for proposals open

Last week, the federal government announced the launch of the first call for proposals for the Emergency Treatment Fund (ETF), which will invest \$150 million over three years to support municipalities and First Nations, Inuit and Métis communities in implementing rapid responses to the substance use and overdose crisis.

The ETF 2024 call for proposals will close on November 8 at 2 p.m. ET.

Health Canada will be hosting information sessions in English and French on October 16 to provide additional information. For more information or to register, email:

etf-fut@hc-sc.gc.ca.

» [LEARN MORE](#)

Last chance to fill out the FCM Members Survey!

FCM has commissioned Abacus Data to conduct a survey to understand how we can better support you and shape our future priorities.

A reminder email with your unique survey link was sent on October 11 from Abacus Data. If it's not in your inbox, please check your spam folder. If you still cannot find it, contact fc@abacusdata.ca.

Complete the survey now for your chance to win free registration for our 2025 Annual Conference and Trade Show. Don't miss out – share your feedback today! Survey closes on October 17.

Grade Crossing Regulations

Municipalities with a legal authority to open and maintain roads that cross federally regulated railway tracks may be a road authority with certain **responsibilities** to ensure compliance with the requirements of the **Grade Crossings Regulations**. The most recent changes extended the compliance deadline until November 28, 2022, for high-priority grade crossings and November 28, 2024, for all other grade crossings.

FCM is working with provincial-territorial associations to gain an understanding of the broader cost implications and to make municipalities aware of the upcoming compliance deadline.

Please email mpelletier@fcm.ca if you have any questions.

Funding for renewable community energy systems

There are countless benefits to improving your municipality's energy systems, such as reducing operating costs, growing your local economy, and heating and cooling buildings more efficiently.

GMF offers financial support to help assess and deploy district and renewable energy systems in Canadian municipalities. Take an important step toward your municipality's net-zero goals.

» [LEARN MORE](#)

EVENTS

Next Week: Collective webinar on maximizing the impact of tourism

Our next Collective webinar is fast approaching! Destination Canada is hosting a new session on October 22 called *Designing Destinations: Maximizing the Social, Cultural and Economic Impact of Tourism*. During the webinar, three communities that have strategically shaped the type of visitation they seek will share how they measure the social ROI to match their community's values. Stay tuned as we announce the panel of speakers.

» [REGISTER TODAY](#)

Addressing local priorities at SCC 2025

The workshops and panel discussions at FCM's Sustainable Communities Conference (SCC) 2025 will explore some of the most pressing issues facing municipalities today,

including the affordable housing crisis, increasing energy costs and the lack of investment in municipal climate action.

Come to SCC 2025 in Fredericton, NB, on February 10-13 to participate in discussions and workshops that will help you fast-track sustainable change in your municipality.

Reduced rates offered to students and members of small (<10,000), rural, Northern and Indigenous communities. To inquire about availability, please [contact us](#).

» [EXPLORE THE SCC 2025 PROGRAM](#)

RESOURCES

Funding for sustainable affordable housing retrofits

For municipalities looking to enhance their affordable housing, GMF's Sustainable Affordable Housing initiative offers a valuable resource. Our funding supports deep energy-efficiency improvements and renewable energy integration in existing units, benefitting both your budget and residents. This initiative promotes sustainability and allows for financed retrofit projects. Take advantage of our capital funding to improve your community's housing while advancing towards a greener future. Learn more about the specific projects we support and how your municipality can participate in this initiative.

» [APPLY FOR FUNDING](#)

Access climate change resources using our online tool

Interested in sharing ideas on climate change action and connecting with your peers in municipalities across Canada? Sign up free for the Partners for Climate Protection (PCP) Hub.

The PCP Hub is an online networking tool that connects you to PCP members and resources. Connect with an online community aimed at helping you achieve your community's climate change goals and reach your next PCP Milestone.

» [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:



Oct 10: “The clock is ticking. Too many of our most vulnerable are suffering and dying. We cannot let them down.”

<https://t.co/dqfBiitXh9>

FCMPresident
[@stewart_geoff](#) on
[#WorldHomelessDay](#) and
the urgent need for real
solutions to tackle an
unprecedented
homelessness crisis.

Oct 11: Join
[@DestinationCAN](#) and a
panel of experts as they
provide insights from three
communities that have
strategically shaped the
type of visitation they seek,
sharing how they measure
the social return on their
investment to ensure it
matches their community's
values.

Register now:
<https://t.co/BOYbtEHuhx>

Oct 11: FCM welcomes the
newly announced
Emergency Treatment
Fund, which will provide
urgently needed direct
funding to help [#CDNMuni](#)
and Indigenous
communities address their
unique needs in combatting
the growing substance use
and overdose crisis in
Canada.

We look forward to seeing
how the [#GoC](#) will support
community-based solutions
for this important issue.

<https://t.co/39vt3dTjtX>



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