



300 Dufferin Avenue
P.O. Box 5035
London, ON
N6A 4L9

London
CANADA

Jan 15, 2024

Dear Colleagues,

In November 2023 I attended the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Advocacy Days and Board meeting in Ottawa. This report highlights the important direct advocacy work that FCM is doing to represent the needs of municipalities across Canada, including London.

I personally met with 5 MP's out of the 100 MP meetings to advocate for a new municipal growth framework for London and cities across Canada. We also discussed items like rising infrastructure costs, homelessness, climate change and how all levels of government can work together to address affordability. During this week, FCM published new research that estimates that, on average across the country, the cost of the municipal infrastructure required to support new housing is in the range of \$107,000 per home. See links in the report for details.

Please take a moment to read through, and I am happy to answer any questions regarding the work. As well, if you ever have a specific resolution that you'd like me to take to the FCM Board to garner their support and elevate to the national stage, please reach out to chat as I'd love to work with you on it.

Thank you for your continued support of London's federal advocacy efforts,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Skylar Franke".

Skylar Franke
Ward 11 City Councillor
FCM Board Member



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OF CANADIAN
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FCM's Advocacy Days and November 2023 Board Meeting: Report to Council

- This November's Board of Directors meeting took place in Ottawa ON, on November 24, 2023, right on the heels of FCM's annual Advocacy Days event.
- Taking place from November 21-23, FCM's Advocacy Days was another huge success this year, returning to a fully in-person edition on Parliament Hill. Over 100 advocacy meetings took place between our Board members and MPs across government and opposition benches. Local government leaders focussed on key municipal priorities ahead of the next federal budget including housing and homelessness, investment in the next generation of infrastructure and the need for a new Municipal Growth Framework.
[Read more: Municipal leaders wrap-up a week of advocacy ahead of Budget 2024](#)
- The Fall Economic Statement (FES) was released November 21, Day One of our Advocacy Days. FCM responded to the federal announcement with a **detailed response by President Scott Pearce**. Despite welcoming some steps to improve housing affordability, FCM was concerned that the FES does not reflect the scale of infrastructure investment required to meet the national housing supply gap. FCM underlined that we will be looking to Budget 2024 for a comprehensive, ambitious investment in community infrastructure that matches the record-breaking population growth currently underway in Canada.
[Read more: FCM reacts to the 2023 Fall Economic Statement](#)
- Also during Advocacy Days, on November 23, **FCM President Scott Pearce** and the **Chair of FCM's Big City Mayors' Caucus and Halifax Mayor Mike Savage** announced new research commissioned by FCM that estimates that, on average across the country, the cost of the municipal infrastructure required to support new housing is in the range of \$107,000 per home. When considering the 5.8 million homes that the federal and provincial governments are directing municipalities to approve by 2030, the scale of the gap could reach an equivalent of \$600 billion in municipal infrastructure investment. With municipalities facing limited options to pay for growth, FCM is calling for a national discussion on a new Municipal Growth Framework that links municipal funding with economic and population growth—and which would help unlock municipal capacity and a better quality of life for all Canadians.
[Read more: New research: Canada's housing challenge is also an infrastructure challenge](#)
- In conjunction with the FCM Board of Directors meeting on November 24, directors participated in peer-led orientation on their role and responsibilities as directors of a national not-for-profit corporation and were also provided with deeper insight into the work currently being carried out by the Green Municipal Fund. During the board meeting, directors also approved a new Code of Ethical Conduct and a Conflict of Interest policy. FCM's President and CEO provided their reports to the board, while no policy committee resolutions were presented during this board meeting.