



29 September 2016

Chair and Members
Corporate Services Committee

**RE: Report of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities Board of Directors Meeting –
Oakville, ON, September 13-16, 2016**

SUMMARY

The FCM Board of Directors met in Oakville, ON, from September 13-16. Board members spent four days addressing vital national issues playing out at the local level as well as the historic momentum achieved by the municipal sector. The details of those discussions are presented in the Committee reports that follow.

With this meeting taking place just days before MPs return to Parliament in Ottawa, it was timely to make Phase 2 of the federal government's ambitious infrastructure plan a key theme in the discussions. Board members explored the central role municipalities will play in making these historic infrastructure investments a success, from tapping local expertise to identifying local projects that offer the best return on investment. And they talked about municipal Phase 2 priorities, with an emphasis on an allocation-based model for transit and green investments, as well as significant, dedicated funding for housing and rural infrastructure. Another important topic of conversation was the imperative partnership needed among orders of government to ensure Phase 2 lives up to its potential. On that note, Board members agreed that the federal government must maintain its 50 per cent contribution to project costs, while provinces need to partner with no less than their traditional one-third share.

The Executive of the Board met with a special guest, Jean-Yves Duclos, the Minister of Families, Children and Social Development. The Executive welcomed plans for a National Housing Strategy, but also stressed to the Minister the need for urgent investments in social and affordable housing. Members of the Social-Economic Development Committee met with Dwight Dorey, National Chief of the Indigenous Peoples' Assembly of Canada. The meeting was an important step forward in our joint efforts to work together to support urban Indigenous people living in cities and communities across the country.

Board members adopted a number of resolutions on issues ranging from rural post office closures to the installation of truck sideguard safety equipment. They also confirmed the importance of remaining active and engaged in the critical coming months, as the federal government finalizes the details of Phase 2, as well as a National Housing Strategy. They agreed that influencing these federal policies was paramount to furthering the unprecedented momentum of the municipal sector.

Respectfully submitted by:

Harold Usher
Councillor, Ward 12
FCM Standing Committee Member

REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION

Committee Vice-Chair Pam McConnell opened the meeting by introducing the other Vice-Chair, Tom Taggart, and welcoming new members and returning members. Vice-Chair McConnell provided members with a brief overview of the mandate of the SED Committee and reminded members that the purpose of the September meeting is to establish the policy and advocacy priorities for the coming year.

In the Update on Committee Activities and Action Items Status report, delivered by Matt Gemmel, the Committee heard that FCM is monitoring the government's roll out of their budget commitments on housing and homelessness which, while significant, were short-term in nature and didn't adequately address the issue of expiring social housing operating agreements. FCM provided a submission to the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) regarding the development of the Affordable Rental Housing Financing Initiative, specifically on how the Initiative could expand the availability of affordable, high-quality rental housing in Canada over the long-term. Members also learned that FCM participated in a pre-consultation meeting and expert roundtables pursuant to the development of the National Housing Strategy (NHS) at the invitation of CMHC.

Further, in an ongoing effort to building stronger relationships with Aboriginal organizations, FCM staff have met with senior staff from national indigenous organizations. In June, FCM members participated in five of the consultations on the federal Urban Aboriginal Strategy, which took place in cities and communities across the country and were organized by Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada.

The Committee discussed the need to continue to monitor settlement challenges for Syrian refugee families, particularly as financial support for government sponsored refugees ends one year after arrival, which will occur soon for many families. Members directed staff to report back on this issue at its November meeting.

Following that update, the Committee received a report from Vice-Chair Pam McConnell on the recent work of the Urban Aboriginal Working Group.

Next was a presentation delivered by Dwight Dorey, National Chief of Indigenous Peoples' Assembly of Canada (IPAC), formerly the Congress of Aboriginal Peoples. Chief Dorey provided an overview of key challenges facing Indigenous people living off-reserve, including the inadequate access to affordable housing. Chief Dorey then described the role of IPAC in representing Indigenous people living off-reserve in cities and communities of all sizes.

Committee Chair Brian Pincott then turned the Committee's attention to establishing priorities for the upcoming year. Members concurred with the FCM Shared Priority as it pertains to the SED Committee. The Committee then considered and approved the proposed 2016-17 Committee-specific priorities, which are a) affordable housing and homelessness; and b) urban indigenous policy.

Members then considered three resolutions and made recommendations to the Board.

Following, the Committee provided recommendations on FCM's submission regarding the federal government's National Housing Strategy, which they indicated should include an immediate focus on a housing carve-out within the Phase 2 Social Infrastructure fund and a commitment to protect the quality and affordability of social housing impacted by the expiry of operating agreements. The Committee equally provided recommendations on FCM's submission with respect to the future of the federal Urban Aboriginal Strategy.

The Committee was then briefed on FCM's First Nation-Municipal Community Economic Development Initiative (CEDI), particularly regarding the new funding over five years which was recently secured for this program.

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendations for adoption:

1. Adopt the following 2016-17 policy and advocacy priorities: a) Phase 2 Infrastructure Advocacy Strategy; b) affordable housing and homelessness; and c) urban indigenous policy;
2. Approve a submission to the Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs regarding the future of the Urban Aboriginal Strategy (UAS) that includes the following recommendations:
 - a. Increase operational funding, and establish new funding, for local Aboriginal organizations and service providers;

- b. Include capital funding for the renovation and construction of community and cultural spaces;
 - c. Reinststate funding for urban Indigenous coalitions in order to help strengthen local leadership and linkages between municipal governments and improve delivery of municipal services;
 - d. Direct funding to existing and new local Indigenous organisations in order to build local capacity and empower local decision-making;
 - e. Enable program flexibility so that funding meets local needs and priorities;
 - f. Provide long-term, predictable funding so that service delivery organizations can plan and deliver appropriate services based on local needs.
 - g. Ensure culturally appropriate programs and services that meet the needs of First Nations, Inuit and Métis;
 - h. Take into consideration the programs and services being delivered by municipalities and seek to align with and support those services where appropriate; and
 - i. Ensure that funding meets the needs of Indigenous people residing in small-urban municipalities, rural areas and the North;
3. Approve a submission to the Minister of Families, Children and Social Development pursuant to the National Housing Strategy that includes the following recommendations:
- a. Commit the federal government to playing a leadership role in ensuring the housing needs of all Canadians, especially those most vulnerable, are met;
 - b. Provide a substantial carve-out for affordable housing and homelessness from the Phase 2 Social Infrastructure Fund in budget 2017;
 - c. Protect existing social housing affected by the expiry of operating agreements and the low-income households who live there, by providing a commitment for capital repair and retrofit fund and a fund for new long-term rent subsidies in budget 2017;
 - d. Build new social and affordable housing, which includes a decision-making role for local governments;
 - e. Prevent and end homelessness;
 - f. Preserve, retrofit and grow the rental housing sector;
 - g. Recognize and support the distinct housing needs of Indigenous people;
 - h. Recognize and support housing needs in the North;
 - i. Engage municipalities in addressing challenging housing markets; and
 - j. Develop the National Housing Strategy so that it is comprehensive, provides long-term, predictable funding and formally includes local governments.

The Standing Committee recommends this report be received.

REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON MUNICIPAL FINANCE AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL ARRANGEMENTS

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION

Committee Chair Sav Dhaliwal opened the meeting by welcoming Committee members and introducing Vice-Chairs Sandra Desmeules and Doug Dobrowolski, and by welcoming new and returning members.

Following approval of the agenda and the report of the March 2016 meeting, members were updated on the advocacy efforts of FCM leadership and staff since the last meeting. Staff outlined progress on key policy areas of interest to the Committee, including international trade and investment attraction, infrastructure financing and Canada Post. Committee members formally requested that FCM staff work with Global Affairs Canada to provide information and analysis on CETA's implications for social procurement policies. The Committee was also updated on Finance Canada's consultation on proposed amendments to clarify the application of the GST/HST to supplies of municipal transit services and the government's comprehensive review of Canada Post.

Following extensive discussion, the Committee approved the recommended 2016-2017 policy and advocacy priorities of 1) Phase 2 Infrastructure Advocacy Strategy; and 2) Municipal Considerations for a Federal Infrastructure Bank and Federal Role in Public-Private Partnerships. Committee members agreed that an infrastructure bank should ensure easier access to financing and that the focus of such a body remains limited and non-conditional, while the federal government should continue to support local decision-making and discretion on using P3 procurement models.

Next, Committee members were updated on Phase 1 and Phase 2 program design and cost-sharing and fiscal sustainability. The Committee approved a recommendation to the Board to endorse a cost-sharing approach for Phase 2 infrastructure funding that includes 50 percent federal contributions and at least 33 percent provincial contributions towards eligible costs for projects in the provinces, and 75 percent federal contribution towards eligible costs for projects in the territories.

Senior Manager, Policy and Research, Daniel Rubinstein then provided an update on FCM's Legal Defense Fund. Finally, the Committee heard an update by Policy Advisor Marc LeBlanc on the Jack Layton Fellowship program.

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendations for adoption:

1. Approve the two proposed priority areas: Phase 2 Infrastructure Advocacy Strategy and Municipal Considerations for a Federal Infrastructure Bank and Federal Role in Public-Private Partnerships; and
2. Endorse a cost-sharing approach for Phase 2 infrastructure funding that maintains 50 percent federal contributions and a formal requirement for at least 33 percent provincial contributions towards eligible costs for projects in the provinces, and 75 percent federal contribution towards eligible costs for projects in the territories.
3. Direct staff to work with Global Affairs Canada officials to collect information and provide an analysis on CETA's implications for municipal social procurement policies and community benefit agreements and report back to the Board of Directors at the November 2016 Board meeting.

The Standing Committee recommends this report be received.

REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION

Committee Chair Pauline Quinlan opened the meeting by introducing the Vice-Chairs, Paul Pirri and Edgar Rouleau, and welcoming new and returning members. Chair Quinlan provided members with a brief overview of the mandate of the Standing Committee on Environmental Issues and Sustainable Development (EISD), and reminded members that the purpose of the September meeting is to establish the policy and advocacy priorities for the coming year.

Following approval of the agenda and the report of the March 2016 meeting, members were updated on the policy and advocacy work that has been undertaken by FCM since the last Board meeting. In an update from Dallas Alderson, members heard about FCM's participation in consultations being held by Federal/Provincial/Territorial (FPT) governments as part of the development of the Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change. FCM participation in other roundtables and presentations on water and wastewater investments, environmental assessment processes and other issues were also highlighted.

The Committee then turned its attention to establishing priorities for the upcoming year. Members discussed FCM Shared Priorities as they pertain to the EISD Committee, and recommended that the Green Infrastructure component of the federal government's Phase 2 infrastructure plan be the EISD portion of the FCM shared priority of the Phase 2 Infrastructure Advocacy Strategy. The Committee further recommended the Committee-specific policy priorities for the coming year including 1) climate change in terms of the investment required to support local government action in reducing GHG emissions and in adapting to climate change and 2) FCM's participation in a review of federal environmental assessment processes and environmental legislation. The Committee discussed the federal review of the Navigation Protection Act and the Fisheries Act and directed staff to engage with the Parliamentary Committees which will be reviewing the Acts this fall.

The Committee then considered five resolutions and made recommendations to the Board with respect to their categorization.

Staff then outlined the proposed components of FCM's submission to federal Minister of Environment and Climate Change on the Pan Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change with the objective that the Framework reflects municipal considerations and supports the important municipal role in addressing climate change. Staff indicated their understanding that the Framework will be the federal government's guiding document towards implementing its climate change priority. The Committee discussed ways the submission could be strengthened by including examples of municipal leadership, and indicated that, in future, relevant regulations which impact the ability to mitigate and manage the effects of climate change may need to be considered. The Committee agreed that the proposed components of the FCM submission focus on: a) mitigation policy recommendations; b) adaptation and resilience policy recommendations; and c) municipal considerations on carbon pricing.

Next was an update on FCM's engagement in the federal government's review of the National Energy Board (NEB), and a decision on next steps. As part of this, President Somerville and Chair Quinlan, as co-Chairs of FCM's Task Force on National Municipal Energy Infrastructure, outlined the work that has taken place over the summer by the Task Force. Matt Gemmel then presented highlights of the Task Force's report, highlighting areas where the federal role in regulating existing pipelines and reviewing proposed pipelines could be strengthened to better reflect municipal concerns and perspectives. The Committee discussed the report and directed staff to build on the work of the final report of the National Municipal Energy Infrastructure Task Force by developing recommendations on how the National Energy Board public hearing process can be reformed to give local governments a greater voice, and how municipal interests can be adequately considered in the construction, operation and decommissioning of federally-regulated pipelines. Staff will return to the Committee in November with detailed recommendations for the consideration of the Committee.

Following, the Committee was asked to consider a set of principles meant to guide FCM's input into the federal government-led consultations on the design of a national residential flood insurance market for Canada. Committee members discussed key challenges around affordability and municipal liability that such an insurance program could bring. They underscored the value of FCM participating in the discussions on this possible program, but that participation may need to be re-considered in the future, depending on what the potential program includes. The Committee approved the enclosed principles, but added principles around affordability and municipal liability. The full list of detailed principles will come back to the Committee in November.

Lastly, Councillor Ben Henderson, Chair of the Green Municipal Fund Council, provided an update on last year's work of the Green Municipal Fund and Tim Kehoe, FCM Deputy CEO, provided an update on the new programs, including the Capacity Building for Climate Change Challenges (CBC3) Program.

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendations for adoption:

1. Adopt the following 2016-17 policy and advocacy priorities: (a) phase 2 infrastructure advocacy strategy (b) climate change mitigation and adaptation and (c) and federal environmental assessment;
2. Approve a submission to the Minister of Environment and Climate Change on the Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change which reflects the proposed components which focus on a) mitigation policy recommendations b) adaptation and resilience policy recommendations and c) municipal considerations on carbon pricing;
3. Direct staff to build on the work of the final report of the National Municipal Energy Infrastructure Task Force and develop recommendations on how the National Energy Board public hearing process can be reformed to give local governments a greater voice, and how municipal interests can be adequately considered in the construction, operating and decommissioning of federally-regulated pipelines;
4. Direct staff to return to the Committee in November with detailed recommendations that will inform FCM's submission to the federal government's review of the National Energy Board;
5. Adopt the "Principles to Protect Municipal Interests in the Design of a National Residential Flood Insurance Regime for Canada", with the addition of principles around affordability and municipal liability; and
6. Direct staff to seek an opportunity to have FCM present to the Parliamentary Committees which are reviewing the Navigation Protection Act and the Fisheries Act.

The Standing Committee recommends this report be received.

REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE RURAL FORUM

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION

The meeting began with roundtable introductions and the election of the Chair and Vice-Chairs for the coming year. Ray Orb was acclaimed as Chair, and Scott Pearce and Al Kemmere were elected as Vice-Chairs.

Members were then updated on the advocacy efforts of FCM leadership and staff since the last meeting. Policy Advisor Marc LeBlanc outlined progress on key policy areas of interest to the Forum, including federal efforts to improve broadband in rural communities and the government's review of Canada Post. In particular, members stressed the need for additional federal support for both backbone and last-mile solutions to improve broadband service in rural communities.

Following extensive discussion, the Forum approved the recommended 2016-2017 policy and advocacy priorities of 1) Phase 2 Infrastructure Advocacy Strategy; and 2) Rural Economic Development. Forum members stressed the importance of continuing to call for the removal of stacking restrictions and ensure an allocation-based funding mechanism reflects the higher costs of delivering services in rural communities.

Members were also updated on FCM's negotiations on program design for the government's second phase of infrastructure investments, and discussed FCM's proposal to the federal government to build on the existing Small Communities Fund to support core infrastructure needs in rural areas that may not be fully addressed elsewhere in the Phase 2 plan. The Forum made a number of design recommendations to the Board ensure that Phase 2 infrastructure programs meet the needs of rural communities.

The Forum received an update on rural-specific programming at the 2016 Annual Conference. For the 2017 Annual Conference, FCM has committed to continue rural-specific programming and to develop a rural-specific plenary session. In particular, conference programming will recognize the critical role that rural communities have played in shaping Canada over the last 150 years and explore innovative approaches to rural economic development. New members of the Rural Forum are also invited to participate in the ad-hoc working group

The Forum considered one resolution on rural post office closures and recommended that the Board adopt this resolution. Members also discussed the Rural Forum's role in FCM governance and the differences between a Forum, standing Committee and regional caucus.

FORUM RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendations for adoption:

1. Approve the two proposed priority areas: Phase 2 Infrastructure Advocacy Strategy and Rural Economic Development.
2. Approve the proposed approach to Phase 2 infrastructure program design to meet the needs of rural communities, including the following:
 - i. A new \$1-billion rural infrastructure fund to provide additional targeted funding for rural priorities not fully addressed through the transit, social and green components of the government's Phase 2 investment plan or the existing Small Communities Fund, with flexibility for eligibility thresholds to be negotiated between provinces/territories and their respective municipal associations;
 - ii. Allocation-based funding mechanisms for Phase 2 infrastructure programs in order to provide predictability to local governments of all sizes; and
 - iii. A rural lens applied to the eligibility criteria for Phase 2 infrastructure programs.

The Forum recommends this report be received.

REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY SAFETY AND CRIME PREVENTION

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION

Committee Chair Randy Goulden opened the meeting by welcoming the Committee to Oakville and introducing Vice-Chairs Linda Rydholm and Marie-Eve Brunet, and by welcoming new members and returning members. Chair Goulden provided members with a brief overview of the mandate of the CSCP Committee and reminded members that the purpose of the September meeting is to establish the policy and advocacy priorities for the coming year.

Following approval of the agenda and the report of the March 2016 meeting, members were updated on the advocacy efforts of FCM leadership and staff since the last Committee meeting. FCM continues to monitor the progress of Bill C-7, which has passed third reading in the Senate. The bill will return to the House of Commons to consider proposed amendments in the fall. FCM will re-engage with government on this topic in September. On August 25, 2016, the Executive Committee approved draft principles to support the engagement of the municipal sector in the development of a legalization framework for the production, distribution and consumption of marijuana in Canada.

Further, FCM staff have continued to engage with Public Safety Canada officials on a number of occasions to discuss shared priorities including the National Disaster Mitigation Program, the Disaster Risk Roundtable and the Heavy Urban Search and Rescue teams. FCM continues to engage with Public Safety Canada and has recently participated in three meetings of the PSC's consultations on the design and roll-out of the Public Safety Broadband Network (PSBN) through the establishment of a new consultative forum under the Federal/Provincial/Territorial Interoperability Working Group.

The Committee then turned its attention to establishing priorities for the upcoming year. The Committee considered the proposal for 2016-17 Committee-specific priorities to adopt (a) Phase 2 Infrastructure Advocacy Strategy; (b) Marijuana Legalization and Regulation; and (c) RCMP Labour Relations and Bill C-7.

The Committee considered five resolutions, which addressed rail safety, volunteer tax credits, tax exemptions for emergency response kits, standards for reflective wear for non-professional road users, and drug impaired driving. The rail safety, volunteer tax credits and standards for reflective wear and drug impaired driving were passed as recommended. The resolution on a tax exemption for emergency response kits was reclassified to a Category B.

Alana Lavoie provided an update on the Marijuana Legalization Framework. On June 30, 2016, the federal government announced the creation of a Task Force on the Legalization and Regulation of Marijuana in Canada, acting on a commitment to work on a framework toward the legalization of marijuana. Members heard more detail on the four principles advanced by FCM to the Task Force. FCM will continue engaging with the federal government in designing the framework over the coming months.

Following that update, Alana Lavoie presented to the Committee on RCMP Labour Relations and Bill C-7. In municipalities that employ the services of the RCMP directly, it is anticipated that changes to operational costs resulting from changes brought forward in Bill C-7 will impact police staffing levels and costs. The Committee heard that on May 6, FCM sent letters to Ministers Goodale and Brison to signal the municipal sector's concerns with Bill C-7. As Bill C-7 progresses, FCM will continue to engage with the RCMP and Public Safety Canada to ensure the impacts of the bill are understood and options to mitigate these impacts are considered. FCM will also continue to support the PTAs in their engagement on this matter.

Lastly, the Committee heard an update on the Public Safety Broadband Network (PSBN) and the Interoperability Working Group (IWG). In the coming months, FCM will engage with the federal government through the Interoperability Working Group on important design details for this new network.

In response to discussion surrounding rail safety under other business, a motion was tabled regarding the mandate of the Rail Safety Working Group. The motion calls for the Rail Safety Working Group to expand its work to include examining the costs associated with funding operations related to rail safety, such as training and safety equipment.

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendations for adoption:

1. Approve the three proposed priority areas: Phase 2 Infrastructure Advocacy Strategy, Marijuana Legalization and Regulation and RCMP Labour Relations and Bill C-7.

2. Give the Rail Safety Working Group a mandate to study the issues and possible action relating to funding for rail safety operations (e.g., equipment and training) and to follow up by sharing the results at the November Board of Directors meeting.

The Standing Committee recommends this report be received.

REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON MUNICIPAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORTATION POLICY

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION

Committee Chair Bob Long opened the meeting by introducing Vice-Chair Anne Marie Gillis and Vice-Chair David Price, and by welcoming new members and returning members.

Following approval of the agenda and the report of the March 2016 meeting, members were provided information on the advocacy efforts of FCM leadership and staff since the last meeting. Members were updated on FCM's work with the federal government on designing Phase 2 of the infrastructure plan to meet the needs of municipalities. Committee members provided feedback on the shortcomings of existing funding programs for municipal infrastructure and public transit projects. The Committee also discussed the urgent need for additional funding to help municipalities meet required upgrades under Transport Canada's *Grade Crossings Regulations*. Furthermore, members expressed disappointment with the Supreme Court's decision in *Rogers v. Ville de Chateauguay* and its implications for municipal decision-making.

Following extensive discussion, the Committee approved the recommended 2016-2017 policy and advocacy priorities of 1) Phase 2 Infrastructure Advocacy Strategy; and 2) the Asset Management Capacity Building and Infrastructure Data Collection. Committee members also recommended to the Board to direct staff to analyze the existing Gas Tax Fund structure and its implications for municipalities and report back at the November 2016 Board meeting.

Members were then updated on the progress of the Phase 1 programs announced in Budget 2016 and details of the Phase 2 program design including funding mechanisms and reporting. Committee members expressed concerns with the design and roll-out of Phase 1, including the new reporting requirements and different funding mechanisms, and provided detailed feedback for enhancements for Phase 2. Members emphasized the need to develop a funding formula that best supports public transit projects in communities of all sizes.

The Committee recommended to the Board to endorse a predictable, allocation-based funding model for Phase 2 public transit investments based on a formula that combines transit usage and population, with an additional mechanism to support transformative investments and grow ridership in cases where an allocation formula does not fully meet local needs.

Furthermore, the Committee recommended that the Board direct staff to undertake a technical analysis and needs assessment to inform recommendations on formula options for an allocation-based funding model for Phase 2 public transit investments. The Committee also requested an update on the roll-out of existing and proposed infrastructure programs for the November 2016 board meeting.

The Committee also discussed the Railway Association of Canada's proposals calling for new federal funding for grade crossing improvements and grade separations, a greater federal role in implementing the FCM-RAC Proximity Guidelines, and additional support for the Operation Lifesaver Program. The Committee was then updated on the design and roll-out FCM's Asset Management Fund to support asset management capacity-building at the local level. Committee members expressed an interest in an increased alignment between FCM's Asset Management Fund and existing programming delivered by provincial/territorial municipal associations.

Committee members considered five resolutions. The Committee recommended that the Board adopt resolutions on the installation of truck sideguards, municipal consultation on the regulation of drones, rail safety and ferry services. The Committee recommended that the Board not adopt a resolution increasing the provincial cost-share to 40 percent for the New Building Canada Fund's National Infrastructure Component. Committee members called on FCM staff to send urgent correspondence to the Minister of Transport if the amended resolution on the installation of truck sideguards is adopted by the Board of Directors.

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendations for adoption:

1. Approve the two proposed priority areas: Phase 2 Infrastructure Advocacy Strategy and the Asset Management Capacity Building and Infrastructure Data Collection;
2. Endorse a predictable, allocation-based funding model for Phase 2 public transit investments based on a formula that combines transit usage and population, with an additional mechanism to support transformative investments and grow ridership in cases where an allocation formula does not fully meet local needs; and

3. Direct staff to undertake a technical analysis and needs assessment to inform recommendations on formula options for an allocation-based funding model for Phase 2 public transit investments.
4. Direct staff to analyze the existing Gas Tax Fund structure and its implications for municipalities and report back at the November 2016 Board meeting.

The Standing Committee recommends this report be received.

REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE NORTHERN AND REMOTE FORUM

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION

Chair Diana Rogerson opened the meeting by welcoming new and returning members, as well as by welcoming the Vice-Chairs, Charles Furlong and Jeannie Ehaloak, who called into the meeting from Alavik, NWT and Cambridge Bay, NU, respectively. Chair Rogerson provided members with a brief overview of the mandate of the Forum and reminded members that the purpose of the September meeting is to establish the policy and advocacy priorities for the coming year.

Following approval of the agenda and the report of the March 2016 meeting, members were updated on the policy and advocacy work that has been undertaken by FCM since the last board meeting. In an update from Matt Gemmel, members heard that FCM Past-President Raymond Louie presented to the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) as part of their review of basic broadband services. In our final submission to the review, FCM recommended universal access to affordable and reliable broadband services at evolving speeds, and a specific strategy for Canada's North. FCM also made a submission to the Senate Committee on National Finance supporting the increase to the Northern Residents Tax Deduction, which was included in Budget 2016.

The Forum received a summary of the feedback provided by delegates at the Northern and Remote Forum session at FCM's 2016 Annual Conference in Winnipeg. Delegates highlighted northern and remote considerations on the design of FCM's asset management program, and federal Phase 2 infrastructure investments in green infrastructure and social infrastructure.

The Forum then turned its attention to establishing priorities for the upcoming year. Members heard how Phase 2 of the federal government's infrastructure plan will impact northern and remote communities and identified a need to integrate a northern and remote perspective into in FCM's Phase 2 Infrastructure Advocacy Strategy. Recognizing that the federal government is developing a National Housing Strategy, but that there are distinct needs and challenges that must be considered in designing and delivering affordable housing and homelessness programming in northern and remote communities, the members recommended Northern and Remote Affordable Housing and Homelessness as the 2016-17 Forum-specific priority.

Lastly, the Forum heard a presentation from the Senior Manager for Housing Policy with the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) who presented plans for developing the National Housing Strategy, particularly as it pertains to northern and remote communities. The Forum heard that, as part of the National Housing Strategy, the federal government is planning to develop a specific plan for Northern and Indigenous housing that will address the particular needs of the north, including the importance of federal support for social housing. FCM members were invited to participate in upcoming consultation sessions in the North.

FORUM RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendations for adoption:

1. Adopt the following 2016-17 policy and advocacy priorities: (a) Phase 2 Infrastructure Advocacy Strategy; (b) Northern and Remote Affordable Housing and Homelessness.

The Forum recommends this report be received.

REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON INCREASING WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION IN MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION

Standing Committee Chair Chris Fonseca, Regional Councillor, Region of Peel, ON, introduced the Councillor Darren Hill and Councillor Irene Dawson as the Vice-Chairs. She then welcomed Committee members, observers and staff to the meeting. The agenda and minutes were approved based on the minutes being amended to ensure clarity on intersectional approach referenced in the final paragraph of the minutes.

Vice-Chairs Hill and Dawson presented the 2016-17 Committee-specific priorities as well as the shared priority as it relates to the Committee's mandate. One of the recommended priorities of the Committee is the delivery and promotion of *Diverse Voices for Change*, a three-year, \$500,000 initiative. FCM's *Diverse Voices for Change* initiative seeks to increase the number of women across diverse communities who are actively informed by, and engaged in, local government decision-making. Committee members shared their experiences on increasing women's participation as it relates to the Regional Champions network. FCM staff will look at different ways to strengthen the communication in support of the Regional Champions program in an effort to share experiences, strengthen the network, and increase the number of Regional Champions. The Committee also received a presentation from Councillor Chris Coleman on FCM's international programming, including his experience at the Ukraine Municipal Forum in June 2016. In October, FCM will host a webinar on women entrepreneurship as part of international series; Committee members were encouraged to participate in the webinar that will be delivered in English. The Committee approved the following as its priorities for 2016-17:

1. Delivery of the Diverse Voices for Change initiative
2. Regional Champions
3. Scholarships and Awards
4. Promoting Policies, Practices and Strategies in support of the Committee's 30% Representation Goal
5. International Women's Day
6. International partnerships on gender-related programs

In support of the priority on scholarships and awards, the Committee was presented with the recommendation to have the Vice-Chair of the Committee, Councillor Darren Hill, be appointed as co-Chair with Councillor Lorrie Williams for the Sub-Committee. The addition of Councillor Hill will ensure consistency of communication and strategic links of the scholarships and awards with staff and Board members. Councillor Fonseca thanked Councillor Williams for her leadership with the Sub-Committee.

The Committee discussed the implications of increasing the Committee's goal of 30 percent representation of women elected to local government to 50 percent by 2026. Committee members were interested at looking at the Committee through an intersectional analysis approach to the Committee as well as data collection. Staff was asked to gather information and report back to the Committee.

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendations for referral to staff:

1. That staff analyze the implications of increasing the 30% target in the policy statement to 50% by 2026 and report back in November.

The Standing Committee recommends this report be received.

REPORT THE MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION

Chair Roger Anderson introduced the new Vice-Chairs Councillor Garth Frizzell and Councillor Bev Esslinger and welcomed Committee members and presented FCM staff. The members approved the agenda and the minutes from the March 2016 Board of Directors' meeting in Sherbrooke.

The Committee was presented with an update on the work plan of FCM's International Relations Framework. In 2016, for example, FCM will continue to: strengthen its relationship with the federal government through the Joint Working Group, which will meet in early October; advance its development cooperation programming; support the engagement of Canadian municipalities and experts, including members of the Committee, in its programs.

Following the presentation, staff went over FCM's submission to the International Assistance Review, which was led by Global Affairs Canada between May and July 2016. The primary objective of the review was to determine how best to focus Canada's international assistance on helping the poorest and most vulnerable populations, and supporting fragile states. FCM's submission recommended that Canada's international assistance should reflect the following: 1) that Canada pay particular attention to urbanisation and the high proportion of the poor who are living in urban areas; 2) that governance focus on decentralisation and capacity building support for local governments as a way to address these thematic priorities; and 3) include a goal of strengthening innovative strategic partnerships with key Canadian sectors, including with Canadian municipalities. FCM will develop a plan to disseminate the recommendations to government officials and other international partners and stakeholders.

The Committee welcomed the Honourable Jean-Yves Duclos, Minister of Families, Children and Social Development to the meeting. Minister Duclos provided an overview of the Government of Canada's plans for the upcoming Habitat III conference in Quito, Ecuador. FCM President Clark Somerville will lead a delegation of Canadian elected officials to Habitat III along with representatives from Metro Vancouver, Montreal and the Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal. The delegation will participate in various sessions and forums to demonstrate and express the importance of local governments as development actors. Habitat III will be an opportunity to promote its international and domestic programming and policies through various meetings and presentations.

The Chair announced the appointment of the new SCIR Governance Representatives, who provide strategic oversight to each of FCM's five international programs. The 2016-17 Governance Representatives will be Chair Roger Anderson for the Program on Local Economic Development and Democratic Governance (PLEDDG) in Ukraine; Cllr Michael Thompson for the Caribbean Local Economic Development (CARILED) program; Cllr Brian Pincott for the Haiti-Municipal Cooperation Program (MCP); Cllr Garth Frizzell for the Sustainable and Inclusive Communities of Latin America (CISAL), Cllr Sylvie Goneau for the Partnerships for Municipal Innovation-LED in Africa; Cllr Bev Esslinger for the Partnerships for Municipal Innovation-LED in Asia; and Cllr Marvin Plett for the Partnerships for Municipal Innovation-LED in Latin America. Committee members received reports on each of the programs.

In 2017, FCM will mark 30 years of international programming. The Committee members undertook a brainstorming exercise to identify different ideas to promote the international work of FCM in Canada and abroad throughout the year. Members emphasized the importance of the annual conference as a key moment to celebrate the results of the FCM's work. FCM staff was asked to prepare a plan based on the suggestions to present at the November meeting. Updates will be provided to the Committee throughout 2017 on the progress of the plan.

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Standing Committee recommends this report be received.