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July 15, 2019

Chair and Members
Corporate Services Committee

RE: Report from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities Annual Conference and Trade Show – Quebec City, QC, May 30-June 2, 2019

OVERVIEW

The Board of Directors of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) met from May 30-June 2, 2019 in Quebec City, Quebec. FCM is the national voice of local government, with over 2,000 member municipalities representing more than 90 per cent of Canadians. FCM is a member-first organization, advocating for municipal priorities at the federal level and delivering capacity-building tools and programs. FCM's priorities are driven by an elected Board of Directors whose 73 members represent cities and communities of all sizes and regions. The board also empowers and oversees various committees and forums. I had the privilege of being re-elected to the Board of Directors and will continue to serve London in this capacity over the next year. Thank you all for your support!

BOARD SUMMARY

FCM's 2019 Annual Conference and Trade Show (May 30-June 2) brought together a record-breaking 2,094 FCM delegates—and more than 3,700 participants overall—to share insights, network with colleagues, and learn new tools to strengthen their communities.

Our conference showcased how local governments are building better lives for Canadians. We explored how—with the right tools—municipalities can achieve even more. And we learned more about FCM's strategy to secure new tools through this fall's federal election.

We hosted 20 parliamentarians and all four major federal political leaders: Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Conservative Leader Andrew Scheer, NDP Leader Jagmeet Singh and Green Party Leader Elizabeth May. With just four months to go until Election 2019, we delivered a clear message: if you want to build better lives, you need to empower Canadians' local leaders.

Local leaders gained new tools and insight through 35 workshops, plenaries and study tours—on themes as diverse as fiscal tools, energy development, housing affordability, technology in the North, rural economic strategies, plastic waste and regional media tactics.

Delegates adopted seven policy resolutions calling for federal action—on airport infrastructure, gender-based violence, disaster mitigation, the national broadband strategy, housing affordability, rural economic development, and zero-emission municipal vehicles.

FCM's Annual General Meeting culminated in the election of board members and table officers—led by new FCM President Bill Karsten. These are the municipal leaders from across Canada who will drive FCM's priorities into Election 2019 and over the next 12 months.

FCM's trade show featured a record-breaking 177 industry leaders from across Canada—eager to help municipal leaders discover new tools and approaches to build better lives for our residents.

FCM took our message to a national audience through traditional and social media. We tracked 478 print media stories and 589 broadcast hits. And nearly 50,000 Canadians tuned in to watch our political keynote addresses, broadcast live on Facebook.

THE ROAD TO FEDERAL ELECTION 2019

Last year, I was appointed by the FCM President to serve as Vice-Chair of the FCM Elections Readiness Working Group. The appointment was timely, as Federal Election 2019 is just four short months away. My colleagues at FCM and I continue to work diligently to prepare to seize on the opportunities this election will present to the municipal sector. Board members reviewed progress on the building blocks of FCM's pre-election campaign, which includes the development of tangible initiatives, tools and resources. FCM's outreach to all national parties continues to intensify. Election strategies relate to the following streams:

- Government relations;
- Municipal policy platform development;
- Communications and media; and,
- Member/stakeholder engagement.

FCM's outreach to all national parties continues to intensify.

Over the coming weeks, FCM's election strategy will evolve quickly and our member municipalities will play an important role in ensuring municipal issues are at the forefront of the 2019 Federal Election. Grassroots engagement at the local level was what led to the significant gains we made in 2015, and the progress since then in budget 2019.

I will continue to keep Council updated on this work.

Respectfully submitted by:



Josh Morgan
Councillor, Ward 7
Member FCM Board of Directors

Attached: FCM 2019 Report



FEDERATION
OF CANADIAN
MUNICIPALITIES

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CANADIENNE DE
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MAY 30 - JUNE 2, 2019 • QUEBEC CITY, QC

Annual Conference and Trade Show

BUILDING BETTER LIVES

REPORT FROM FCM'S 2019 ANNUAL
CONFERENCE AND TRADE SHOW



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear FCM members,

What a conference! More than 3,700 participants from across the country gathered in Quebec City for FCM's 2019 Annual Conference and Trade Show. We shattered all attendance records—making AC2019 our largest conference ever.

Together, we showcased how local governments are building better lives for Canadians, and how—with the right tools—we can achieve even more. Through dozens of workshops and study tours, we explored many pressing local issues, from new fiscal tools to responsible energy development. Our sold-out trade show was a hub of activity, connecting delegates with 177 industry experts and innovators.

Once again this year, we hosted all four major federal party leaders—including the Prime Minister. And our message to them was clear: if you're serious about building better lives, you need to empower the governments closest to Canadians.

Delegates also got down to the business of shaping the municipal agenda for the coming year. We passed seven resolutions to guide our federal advocacy on everything from housing affordability to rural economic development. We elected a strong Board of Directors for 2019-2020, as well as a new FCM Third Vice-President: Saskatoon Councillor Darren Hill. I'd like to thank outgoing President Vicki-May Hamm again for her extraordinary leadership over the past year. And as I begin my own term as FCM President. I am honoured to serve each and every one of you.

This conference set the tone for a big year ahead. We're just four months away from a pivotal federal election. Election 2019 is our opportunity to modernize how governments work together to serve Canadians. It's our opportunity to make empowered local leaders the new normal. Together, we need to seize it.

Municipalities are Canada's builders. We understand the challenges Canadians face, and we deliver solutions that work. So let's continue our momentum coming out of AC2019, and let's deliver a strong and united election message: putting the right tools in local hands builds better lives.

Sincerely,

Bill Karsten

Councillor, Halifax Regional Municipality
FCM President



ENGAGING: POLITICAL LEADERS

Just four months from a vital election, we hosted all four major federal leaders—for policy meetings and keynote addresses. Each shared their vision for building on our federal-municipal partnership. And our own message was clear: *to build better lives for Canadians, you'll need to empower the governments closest to their daily hopes and challenges.*



Prime Minister Justin Trudeau

"Municipalities are essential for the well-being of this country, and I will continue to be your partner in the future you want to build for your citizens."

[!\[\]\(950a62bbddad88d64435fd35607dfc42_img.jpg\) Watch the keynote address.](#)



Conservative Leader Andrew Scheer

"The municipal level of government is the closest level to Canadians, and Canadians expect all of us to work together and get the job done."

[!\[\]\(73002692dd5e7a64e60946be3158e719_img.jpg\) Watch the keynote address.](#)



NDP Leader Jagmeet Singh

"You've been constrained for too long by an inadequate system... I sincerely believe that we need a stronger partnership between the federal government and municipalities."

[!\[\]\(104fbf564e2e5a8fbd84f31656d114c7_img.jpg\) Watch the keynote address.](#)



Green Party Leader Elizabeth May

"We will continue to advance your agenda for predictable, long-term, stable funding for infrastructure, public transit, sewer and wastewater upgrades, housing...all the programs that Canadians rely on."

[!\[\]\(21226b58c700e5231ab98d27101bac58_img.jpg\) Watch the keynote address.](#)

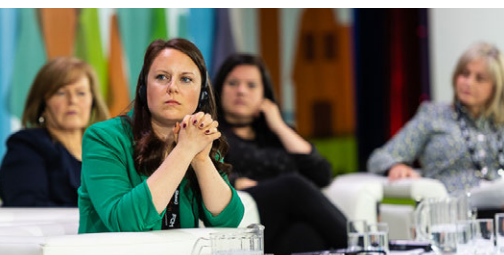


LEARNING: PANELS AND WORKSHOPS

Through more than 20 workshops and panels, delegates engaged with colleagues and industry experts on ways to build better lives. We explored everything from fiscal tools and housing affordability to technology in the North, plastic waste and regional media tactics.



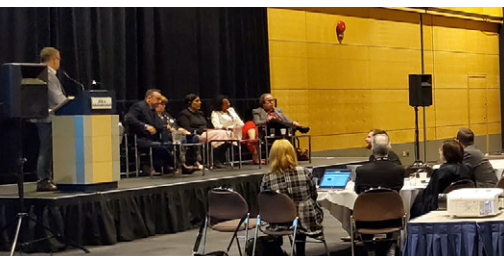
This year's **President's Forum** explored the federal election's politics, players and promises to come. Conference emcee Catherine Clark moderated a wide-ranging discussion with political commentators Marie Grégoire, Paul Wells and Althia Raj.



Our **Rural Plenary** focussed on building vibrant local economies. Led off by Rural Economic Development Minister Bernadette Jordan, panellists explored challenges of attracting businesses, retaining workers, and strengthening infrastructure with limited tools. [► Read more](#)



The Walrus Talks: Our closing plenary featured a municipal-focus edition of the of this dynamic conversation series featuring some of Canada's most compelling speakers. Our theme: *well-being*. A natural choice to close out a conference on Building Better Lives.



Powering Canada: This packed Sunday-morning breakfast session profiled some of the ways local governments can participate in responsible energy development—to build stronger communities throughout Canada's energy-producing regions.

Want to revisit a workshop? You can download many of our speakers' presentations through the FCM Conference smartphone app. To install the app, search for "FCM2019" on the App Store (iPhone) or Play Store (Android). Then look through workshop descriptions under Program.



GUIDING POLICY: RESOLUTIONS

Saturday's Resolutions Plenary was a key venue for FCM delegates to bring their diverse voices to the table. At this conference, we united behind seven policy resolutions—each intended to drive FCM's advocacy on local issues of national significance.

Expand the Airports Capital Assistance Program

RESOLVED, That FCM urge the federal government to extend eligibility for ACAP to all small airports, including those providing commercial passenger service to fewer than 1,000 passengers per year, and to increase funding available for the program.

SPONSORED BY: UNION DES MUNICIPALITÉS DU QUÉBEC

► [Read full resolution](#)

Gender-based Violence

RESOLVED, That FCM endorse in principle the federal government's national strategy to address gender-based violence; and be it further.

RESOLVED, That FCM advocate with the federal government for municipalities to be consulted on how the strategy and the funding is implemented.

SPONSORED BY: CITY OF EDMONTON, AB

► [Read full resolution](#)

Federal Climate Change Adaptation Funding and Support for Regional Disaster Mitigation and Flood Planning

RESOLVED, That FCM call on the Government of Canada to provide predictable, flexible, long-term infrastructure funding to help municipalities reduce disaster risk and adapt to climate change, with funding levels based on the latest assessments of the impact of climate change and the cost of adapting municipal infrastructure; and be it further

RESOLVED, That FCM call on the Government of Canada to ensure that future investments in disaster mitigation and climate change adaptation support a regional approach where costs and benefits are shared between all orders of government; and be it further

RESOLVED, That FCM call on the Government of Canada to provide support for municipalities or regional bodies to undertake regional climate risk assessments and disaster risk reduction plans, including watershed-level flood mitigation plans.

SPONSORED BY: GATINEAU, QC

► [Read full resolution](#)



Municipal Engagement in the Canadian Broadband Strategy

RESOLVED, That FCM urge the federal government to engage municipalities in the development of the Canadian broadband strategy and in the design and eligibility criteria of the new federal broadband fund; and be it further

RESOLVED, That FCM encourage the federal government to include considerations for evolving speed targets in the Canadian broadband strategy; and be it further

RESOLVED, That FCM encourage the Government of Canada to engage with municipalities so that projects that have demonstrated engagement with local governments and that consider local needs are prioritized.

SPONSORED BY: ASSOCIATION OF YUKON COMMUNITIES

► [Read full resolution](#)

Prioritizing Housing Affordability

RESOLVED, That the federal government assess and publicly report on the impact of budget 2019 measures designed to improve housing affordability for renters and owners; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the federal government work with municipalities through FCM to determine the most effective federal role in improving housing affordability for renters and owners at the local level.

SPONSORED BY: CITY OF VICTORIA, B.C.

► [Read full resolution](#)

Rural Economic Development

RESOLVED, That FCM call on the federal government to strategically leverage existing programs, policies and institutions to further rural economic development, such as regional economic development offices; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Minister of Rural Economic Development engage local governments through FCM to develop economic growth approaches that recognize the diverse needs and solutions in rural communities across Canada.

SPONSORED BY: PARKLAND COUNTY, AB

► [Read full resolution](#)

Zero Emission Buses and Municipal Fleet Vehicles

RESOLVED, That the Government of Canada support local governments to purchase or lease zero-emission fleet vehicles, and associated charging or refueling infrastructure, including through grants, financing and bulk procurement; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Government of Canada support local governments to purchase or lease zero-emission transit buses, and associated charging or refueling infrastructure, including through grants, financing and bulk procurement.

SPONSORED BY: PARKLAND COUNTY, AB

► [Read full resolution](#)



Innovative social media

This conference featured strong engagement on Facebook and Twitter: Our conference hashtag **#FCM2019** was used 5,760 times, generating 42.6 million impressions on Twitter. Nearly 50,000 people watched our Facebook Live video streams featuring keynotes from four national political leaders.



Major media coverage

From May 28–June 3, FCM and our conference appeared in at least **478 print media stories**, driving some **127 million impressions**. And that's on top of **589 television and radio hits** across the country. It's another big boost for the national profile of the local order of government.

CONNECTING: FCM TRADE SHOW

Local leaders understand people's everyday challenges—and we're always looking for cost-effective tools to respond and build better lives. And with the municipal supplies market valued at nearly \$100 billion, local governments are influential and discerning buyers.

A record-breaking 177 industry innovators joined us this year in Quebec City. Their interactive exhibits offered services, products and ideas to help FCM members tackle challenges related to the environment, communications, finance, public works and more.



ELECTIONS: TABLE OFFICERS

Sunday's Annual General meeting saw delegates confirm FCM's 2019-20 Table Officers—the team at the helm of board of directors, who will lead us into Federal Election 2019, and for the next 12 months. Outgoing FCM President Vicki-May Hamm passes the torch to Bill Karsten—and Darren Hill joins the team as our freshly-elected Third Vice President.



Left to right: FCM's 2019-20 Table Officers Vicki-May Hamm, Bill Karsten, Garth Frizzell, Joanne Vanderheyden, Darren Hill, and FCM CEO Brock Carlton.

President: Bill Karsten

Councillor, Halifax Regional Municipality, NS

Councillor Karsten has served various districts on Halifax Regional Council since 2004—where he is a member of several boards and committees. He joined FCM's Board of Directors in 2011.

1st Vice-President: Garth Frizzell

Councillor, City of Prince George, BC

Councillor Frizzell has served on city council since 2008—where he chairs the finance and audit committee and is alternate director for the Regional District of Fraser-Fort George. He joined FCM's Board of Directors in 2009.

2nd Vice-President: Joanne Vanderheyden

Mayor, Municipality of Strathroy-Caradoc, ON

Mayor Vanderheyden was first elected as a councillor in 1994, going on to serve as Warden of Middlesex County and then Deputy Mayor and Mayor of Strathroy-Caradoc. She joined FCM's Board of Directors in 2014.

3rd Vice-President: Darren Hill

Councillor, City of Saskatoon, SK

Councillor Hill has served on Saskatoon city council since 2006, where he sits on a wide range of boards and committees. He joined FCM's Board of Directors in 2009.

Past President: Vicki-May Hamm

Mayor, City of Magog, QC

Mayor Hamm has served as mayor of Magog since 2009—the first woman ever elected to that role. She is a member of all City commissions and committees. She was elected to FCM's Board of Directors in 2017.



ELECTIONS: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

At Sunday's Annual General Meeting, delegates voted to fill available positions on FCM's Board of Directors. Representing communities of all sizes, and led by our Table Officers and Executive Committee, this is the group that grounds FCM's priorities in local realities across the country. *Members of the Executive Committee show an (E) beside their name.*

Newfoundland and Labrador

Tony Keats, President, Municipalities Newfoundland and Labrador (E)
Dave Aker, Mayor, City of Mount Pearl
Sterling Willis, Councillor, Town of Paradise

Prince Edward Island

Bruce MacDougall, President, Federation of PEI Municipalities
Mitchell Tweel, Councillor, Charlottetown

Nova Scotia

Waye Mason, President, Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities
Russell Walker, Councillor, Halifax Regional Municipality
Tom Taggart, Councillor, Municipality of the County of Colchester
Timothy Habinski, Warden, Municipality of the County of Annapolis

New Brunswick

Luc Desjardins, président, Association francophone des municipalités du Nouveau-Brunswick
Adam Lordon, President, Cities of New Brunswick Association
Wayne Sturgeon, President, Union of the Municipalities of New Brunswick

Quebec

Normand, Dyotte, Representative, Union des municipalités du Québec
Jacques Demers, President, Fédération québécoise des municipalités
Michelle Morin-Doyle, Deputy Mayor, Quebec City (E)
Christine Gosselin, Councillor, City of Montréal
Peter McQueen, Councillor, City of Montréal
Alex Norris, Councillor, City of Montréal
Edgar Rouleau, Mayor, Cité de Dorval
Scott Pearce, Mayor, Canton de Gore
Daniel Champagne, Councillor, City of Gatineau
Marc Bouchard, Councillor, City of Saguenay
Sandra Desmeules, Councillor, City of Laval
Benoit L'Ecuyer, Councillor, City of Longueuil

Ontario

Jamie McGarvey, President, Association of Municipalities of Ontario
John Klinck, Representative of the Chairs of Regional Governments
Chris Fonseca, Councillor, Region of Peel
Mike Colle, Councillor, City of Toronto
Ana Bailao, Councillor, City of Toronto
Wayne Emmerson, Chairman, Regional Municipality of York
Tim Tierney, Councillor, City of Ottawa (E)
Godwin Chan, Councillor, Town of Richmond Hill
Kathy Jeffery, Councillor, Town of Collingwood
Rory Nisan, Councillor, The Regional Municipality of Halton
George Bridge, Councillor, County of Wellington
Jeff Lehman, Mayor, City of Barrie

#FCM2019 by the numbers

>3700	conference attendees
2094	registered delegates
177	trade show exhibits
31	workshops & study tours
20	parliamentarians
13	provinces & territories represented
7	resolutions adopted
1	<u>united municipal message</u>



Rural priorities featured

Led off by Rural Economic Development Minister Bernadette Jordan, our Rural Plenary convened a panel on “building vibrant rural economies.” Our Rural Town Hall invited parliamentarians to compare their approaches to supporting rural growth. Delegates also joined in workshops with rural components—from forestry solutions to energy development. ► **Read more**



2019-20 Board of Directors (cont'd)

Ontario (cont'd)

Steffen Walma, Councillor, County of Simcoe
Cheryl Antoski, Councillor, City of Brantford
Josh Morgan, Councillor, City of London
Gurpreet Singh Dhillon, regional councillor, City of Brampton

Manitoba

Ralph Groening, President, Association of Manitoba Municipalities
Jeff Browaty, Councillor, City of Winnipeg
Laurent Tétrault, Councillor, Rural Municipality of La Broquerie
Marvin Plett, Councillor, City of Winkler
Doug Dobrowolski, Councillor, Rural Municipality of Macdonald

Saskatchewan

Gordon Barnhart, President, Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association
Ray Orb, President, Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities (E)
Sheryl Spence, Mayor, City of Warman
Randy Goulden, Councillor, City of Yorkton (E)

Alberta

Barry Morishita, President, Alberta Urban Municipalities Association (E)
Al Kemmere, President, Rural Municipalities of Alberta (E)
Bev Esslinger, Councillor, City of Edmonton
Joe Magliocca, Councillor, City of Calgary
AnnLisa Jensen, Councillor, Parkland County
Krista Balsom, Councillor, Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo
Taneen Rudyk, Councillor, Town of Vegreville

British Columbia

Arjun Singh, President, Union of British Columbia Municipalities
Rebecca, Bligh, Councillor, City of Vancouver
James Wang, Councillor, City of Burnaby
Edwin Grieve, Director, Comox Valley Regional District
Rhona Martin, Chair, Columbia-Shuswap Regional District
Val van den Broek, Mayor, City of Langley
Leah Main, Director, Regional District of Central Kootenay (E)
Gord Klassen, Councillor, City of Fort St. John

Nunavut

Madeleine Redfern, President, Nunavut Association of Municipalities

Yukon

Tara Wheeler, President, Association of Yukon Communities

Northwest Territories

Lynn Napier-Buckley, President, Northwest Territories Association of Communities (E)

Big City Mayors' Caucus Representative

Don Iveson, Mayor, City of Edmonton (E)



Big-City Mayors' Caucus

The day before our conference's official opening ceremonies, FCM's Big City Mayors' Caucus gathered on-site to discuss federal election strategies. That included meeting throughout the day with elected officials and senior staff from the three largest federal parties.

► [Read more](#)



Our host: Quebec City

We could not have staged such a successful conference without our gracious hosts: **Quebec City Mayor Régis Labeaume**, and **Deputy Mayor Michelle Morin-Doyle**. Many of us valued the study tours that showcased local solutions—from exploring a biomethanation plant project, to seeing how city libraries are becoming vibrant community hubs, to touring the port to witness its evolving role in the global supply chain.



REPORTING TO YOUR LOCAL COUNCIL

If you attended this year's conference, your council colleagues will want to hear about workshops you attended, connections you made, and ideas you're bringing home to build better lives. The following points can also help convey the incredible scope of the event.

- ▶ FCM's 2019 Annual Conference and Trade Show (May 30–June 2) brought together **a record-breaking 2,094 FCM delegates**—and more than 3,700 participants overall—to share insights, network with colleagues, and learn new tools to strengthen their communities.
- ▶ **Our conference showcased how local governments are building better lives for Canadians.** We explored how—with the right tools—municipalities can achieve even more. And we learned more about FCM's strategy to secure new tools through this fall's federal election.
- ▶ **We hosted 20 parliamentarians and all four major federal political leaders:** Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Conservative Leader Andrew Scheer, NDP Leader Jagmeet Singh and Green Party Leader Elizabeth May. With just four months to go until Election 2019, we delivered a clear message: if you want to build better lives, you need to empower Canadians' local leaders.
- ▶ **Local leaders gained new tools and insight through 35 workshops, plenaries and study tours**—on themes as diverse as fiscal tools, energy development, housing affordability, technology in the North, rural economic strategies, plastic waste and regional media tactics.
- ▶ **Delegates adopted seven policy resolutions calling for federal action**—on airport infrastructure, gender-based violence, disaster mitigation, the national broadband strategy, housing affordability, rural economic development, and zero-emission municipal vehicles.
- ▶ **FCM's Annual General Meeting culminated in the election of board members and table officers**—led by new FCM President Bill Karsten. These are the municipal leaders from across Canada who will drive FCM's priorities into Election 2019 and over the next 12 months.
- ▶ **FCM's trade show featured a record-breaking 177 industry leaders from across Canada**—eager to help municipal leaders discover new tools and approaches to build better lives for our residents.
- ▶ **FCM took our message to a national audience through traditional and social media.** We tracked 478 print media stories and 589 broadcast hits. And nearly 50,000 Canadians tuned in to watch our political keynote addresses, broadcast live on Facebook.







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