

Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Update – April 2026 (Verbal)

Recommendation

That the Intergovernmental Affairs (IGA) Committee recommend that Council receive this verbal report and distribution for the Corporate Record.

FCM Advocacy

- FCM is actively advocating with federal minister offices ahead of the Spring Economic Statement, expected in May 2026.
- Key advocacy areas include:
 - Increasing municipal fiscal stability.
 - Renewal of the National Housing Strategy, with an emphasis on continuing the Reaching Home program which is designed to prevent and reduce homelessness.
 - Speeding up investments in municipal infrastructure to genuinely support Canada's goals and infrastructure requirements.

Update on Build Communities Strong Fund (BCSF)

- Gregor Robertson, Minister of Housing, Infrastructure, and Canadian Communities, visited Toronto on March 19, 2026 for the BCSF Community Stream soft launch, with more updates expected in April.
- FCM report negotiations are ongoing for the Provincial/Territories stream, the largest funding stream intended to support infrastructure for housing-enabling (roads, water, wastewater), post-secondary, and health care.
- Existing BCSF funds do not cover municipal infrastructure needs; FCM urges the federal government to add municipal infrastructure to the Provincial/Territorial stream, double Community Stream allocations indexed to GDP, and fast-track the direct delivery stream.

Big City Mayors' Caucus (BCMC)

- The BCMC Chiefs of Staff met on March 25, 2026 to discuss member engagement and advocacy strategy ahead of the next BCMC meeting in June, during the Annual Conference and Trade Show.
- FCM is creating working groups for Mayor's Office staff from the Big Cities focused on the following topics:
 - Homelessness
 - Extortion and Community Safety
 - International Trade and Economic Resilience

Upcoming Events: 2026

- FCM's calendar has been adjusted to align with the federal government's new budget cycle. Advocacy Days, which has traditionally been held in October or November, will

now be in March moving forward. This will allow FCM representatives to meet with their federal counterparts while they still could influence the budget.

- **FCM Annual Conference and Trade Show**

- June 4 - 7, 2026, Edmonton, AB.
- This is an excellent opportunity for Council to connect with their municipal colleagues, and counterparts from other levels of government, and discuss shared priorities and opportunities for collaboration.
- [Early bird registration is now open until April 23, 2026.](#)
- Hotel rooms are booking quickly - consider completing your registration today.

- **Committee meetings**

- November 2 - 6, 2026 (virtual).

- **Advocacy Days**

- March 2027, Ottawa, ON.

This verbal report has been prepared by Intergovernmental Relations.
CAO Acting Chief of Staff Krista Ring concurs with the information in this verbal update.