

BRIEFING

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Item # 5.2.1

Deputy City Manager's Office Briefing to

Intergovernmental Affairs Committee
2020 September 03

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Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Update

PURPOSE OF BRIEFING

To provide information on recent and upcoming Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) activities and events.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Recent Cabinet Changes

Following the resignation of Bill Morneau from Cabinet, the Prime Minister named Chrystia Freeland the new Minister of Finance. While Minister Freeland will retain the Deputy Prime Minister's portfolio, her responsibility for Intergovernmental Affairs (IGA) has been handed off to Dominic LeBlanc.

Over the course of the COVID-19 pandemic, FCM has had frequent interactions with Minister Freeland, and has acknowledged her as a steadfast champion for municipal priorities at the Cabinet table. FCM will be working immediately to leverage the strong relationship the organization has built with Minister Freeland and her staff in her new role as Minister of Finance, as well as with Minister LeBlanc, who previously led the Intergovernmental Affairs portfolio, has also been an important municipal ally.

FCM intends to remain highly engaged on urgent priorities, including the nationwide implementation of Safe Restart Agreements. Based on their experience with Minister Freeland as Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, FCM's leadership is optimistic that she will bring that same understanding to her new role in Finance.

Budget 2021

As part of the federal government's annual pre-budget consultations, FCM has written to the House of Commons finance committee to outline how Budget 2021 can help build a more prosperous, resilient and connected Canada for all. [FCM's preliminary recommendations](#) include:

- Strengthening core infrastructure, tackling housing affordability and modernizing transit;
- Supporting municipal leadership on Green House Gas reduction and climate adaptation;
- Moving faster to bring high-speed Internet to every Canadian and supporting communities facing economic uncertainty.

FCM Virtual AGM and Elections

This fall, FCM is holding its first ever [virtual annual general meeting \(AGM\) and elections](#) due to the cancellation of this year's Annual Conference. Elections of Table Officers (e.g. President, Vice-President) and the Board of Directors will take place between September 28 and October 7. The outcome of these elections will be ratified at the virtual AGM on October 15.

Voter registration is open to September 11. All Members of Council are eligible to register to vote. Please contact Intergovernmental & Corporate Strategy for more information.

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Other Upcoming Events

The FCM Board of Directors, including its various subcommittees, will be meeting from September 8 to 11. In response to ongoing COVID-related concerns, this will be FCM's first-ever *virtual* Board week.

The bi-annual [Sustainable Communities Conference](#) will also take place from October 20 to 22 in a virtual format. The theme of this year's conference is *Bringing projects to life*. Delegates will explore the issues that are fundamental to building sustainable communities and get exclusive tools and resources to help bring their municipal projects to life.

ATTACHMENT(S)

N/A