

BRIEFING

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Item # 6.2.1

Deputy City Manager's Office Briefing to
Intergovernmental Affairs Committee
2020 November 12

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Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Update – November 2020

PURPOSE OF BRIEFING

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

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

FCM welcomes new President, Table Officers and Board of Directors

At last month's virtual Annual General Meeting (AGM), FCM members elected a new President: Garth Frizzell, a councillor from the City of Prince George, British Columbia. The new FCM Table Officers elected at the AGM are rounded out by:

- President Garth Frizzell, Councillor, City of Prince George, BC
- First Vice-President Joanne Vanderheyden, Councillor, Middlesex County, ON
- Second Vice-President Darren Hill, Councillor, Saskatoon, SK
- Third Vice-President Scott Pearce, Mayor, Township of Gore, QC
- Past President Bill Karsten, Councillor, City of Halifax, NS

In taking up his post, President Frizzell indicated that his top priority ensuring that members have the tools they need to protect their residents and to keep vital services running strong through a second wave of COVID-19. President Frizzell also noted that “we’ll also need to double down on our efforts to position municipalities at the heart of this country’s recovery. FCM has already secured critical support for local leaders on the front lines. If we’re going to take the next step—to truly build stronger and more resilient communities in the wake of the pandemic—we’ll have to work together like never before.”

Councillor Woolley remains The City of Calgary’s representative on the FCM Board of Directors.

New FCM Partnership with StatsCan

The COVID-19 pandemic has underscored the critical need for all levels of government to work more closely together to ensure data about local economic conditions, socioeconomic and health impacts, and other key indicators are being used to address the needs of communities. Last week, FCM announced a new partnership with Statistics Canada aimed at sharing timely and reliable data to empower communities and enrich the daily lives of Canadians.

City of Calgary staff are participating in this work to both improve local-level and locally relevant StatsCan data, and enhance access to municipally-held data. Initial priorities include improving local-level data on the impacts of COVID-19 (e.g. local labour market performance, housing security, and vulnerable populations) and developing comparable measures on municipal finances.

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2020 Sustainable Communities Conference

The 2020 Sustainable Communities Conference was held virtually late last month. This was the first time that FCM had endeavoured to hold a virtual conference, and it was deemed a resounding success, including three days of interactive workshops, training sessions, and facilitated networking spaces attended by over 500 sustainability leaders from across Canada.