

BRIEFING

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Item # 5.2.1

Deputy City Manager's Office Briefing to
Intergovernmental Affairs Committee
2020 October 15

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Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Update – October 2020

PURPOSE OF BRIEFING

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

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

September 2020 meeting of the FCM Board of Directors

In light of COVID-related travel restrictions, FCM held its first ever, virtual Board of Directors Meeting from 2020 September 8 to 11.

As part of their agenda, the Board and its various subcommittees debated and approved several new resolutions to guide FCM advocacy. Of some interest to The City of Calgary, this included resolutions brought forward via FCM's Western Economic Solutions Taskforce (WEST) calling on the Government of Canada to:

- Work with provinces, municipalities, and Indigenous groups to establish national utility corridors, which includes pipelines and other resource and utility structures;
- Implement the Impact Assessment Act in a way that improves predictability through timely approvals and appropriate community engagement to help restore investor confidence; and
- Repeal or amend Bill C-48 (the "tanker ban") to help restore investor confidence and ensure the construction of future infrastructure that is in the national interest.

Other Board decisions of note for The City include direction for FCM Staff to call on the Government of Canada to:

- Develop a funding program designed to cover 80 per cent of the incremental costs of building to new energy efficiency standard for non-market social housing;
- Create a broad market rental preservation program; and
- Work closely with municipalities on the National Active Transportation Strategy.

FCM staff are preparing a summary report of the Board Meeting that will be circulated to Council when it becomes available.

Speech from the Throne 2020

FCM's response to this year's Speech from the Throne was generally positive, seeing it as "encouraging and hopeful sign that we'll have a federal partner on the path forward."

A number of Throne Speech commitments align with FCM's advocacy, including:

- Commitments to tackle Canada's housing affordability crisis;
- Recognition of the need for more support for public transit, more climate-resilient communities, and scaled-up local sustainability initiatives that create jobs and reduce emissions; and

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- New commitments to work with municipalities to expand urban parks and advance the fight against climate change with nature-based solutions.

In partnership with its membership as well as the Big City Mayors' Caucus, FCM continues to develop detailed recommendations for the road ahead, including the extraordinary challenges the sector will continue to face as long as cities' COVID-driven costs are up and revenues are down.

FCM's Virtual Elections and Annual General Meeting

With the cancellation of the annual conference in June, FCM's Annual General Meeting (AGM) and elections have been held virtually this fall:

- Election of FCM Table Officers (e.g. President and First, Second and Third Vice-Presidents) took place September 28 to 30. Last year's First Vice-President Garth Frizzell (Prince George, BC) was running unopposed for President.
- Director elections were held October 5 to 7. With a guaranteed seat on the Board, The City of Calgary's representative (currently Councillor Woolley) is not required to stand for election.

The winners of the elections will be ratified at the AGM on October 15. More information about the candidates, election and AGM is available on [FCM's website](#).

Upcoming events

FCM's 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