

BRIEFING

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Item # 5.2.1

Deputy City Manager's Office Briefing to
Intergovernmental Affairs Committee
2020 December 10

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Federation of Canadian Municipalities Update – December 2020

PURPOSE OF BRIEFING

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

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Advocacy Days and Recovery Recommendations

FCM's annual Advocacy Days took place between November 16 and 27. Normally, this would be an opportunity for the Board of Directors to gather in Ottawa to meet with parliamentarians and party leadership from all of Canada's major federal parties. This year, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Advocacy Days were instead held online.

Although the Board held fewer meetings with parliamentarians than in a typical year, it nevertheless managed to host representatives of five federal parties to hear how key decision-makers would work with municipalities and to share FCM's recently released recommendations for Canada's COVID-19 recovery (the Big City Mayor's Caucus was also able to share these same recommendations in a series of meetings with key Cabinet Ministers in the week prior).

A copy of these recommendations, entitled *Building Back Better Together* is attached (Attachment 1). Briefly, the recommendations show how municipalities are ready to work with the federal government to kickstart Canada's economy and put people back to work. They make the case that municipalities are uniquely capable of doing that in ways that will drive progress on key national goals, from achieving net-zero emissions and universal internet access to ending chronic homelessness.

Of particular interest to The City of Calgary is the recommendation that the Government of Canada continue to work with the FCM's Western Economic Solutions Task Force (WEST) to "support a truly nationwide economic recovery." This recommendation and the work of WEST responds directly to input from The City of Calgary and other western municipalities, and calls for such things as a doubling the budget of Western Economic Diversification Canada, and the creation of a new Energy Transition Community infrastructure Fund to help municipalities in energy-producing regions diversify their economies. See pages 16-17 in Attachment 1 for more information on these WEST-based recommendations.

ATTACHMENT

1. Building Back Better Together