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Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Update – June 2023 (Verbal) - IGA2023-0648
2023 June 21

## Recommendation

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

## Recent meetings and events:

## 2023 Annual Conference and Trade Show

- The Annual Conference and Trade Show took place in Toronto from 2023 May 25-28. This was the first fully in-person conference since 2019.
- Highlights of this year's conference included:
  - o FCM Chief Executive Officer (CEO) address:
    - Ms. Carol Saab delivered a strong message about the need for a new municipal growth framework with all three orders of government, and the need to think differently and bigger as a country about how we deliver services to our residents.
    - It was broadly recognized that municipalities are innovating around existing systems and frameworks to deliver needed services to their residents and are doing so with the least amount of available tax dollars compared to the other orders of government. This fiscal framework imbalance was a key theme throughout the conference, including the political addresses.
    - Ms. Saab also mentioned Calgary's ongoing work in "transforming local offices into homes', a nod to the Downtown Development Incentive Program.
  - Political keynotes from:
    - Prime Minister Justin Trudeau
      - The Prime Minister focussed on his government's efforts to increase housing supply across Canada, and how all orders of government, as well as non-governmental organizations, need to work together as partners to achieve this outcome.
      - The Prime Minister also noted Calgary's Downtown Development Incentive Program as his first example of Canadian housing supply success stories.
    - Melissa Lantsman, Deputy Leader of the Conservative Party of Canada
      - Ms. Lantsman spoke to housing affordability and lost opportunities to increase housing supply due to bureaucracy and red tape.
    - Elizabeth May, Leader of the Green Party of Canada

- Talked about the need for climate action now. All orders of government need to sit around the same table in advance of the next big extreme weather event and develop a plan on how to respond.
- Jagmeet Singh, Leader of the New Democratic Party of Canada
  - Mr. Singh spoke to the issue of mental health and addictions, drawing candidly on the lived experience of his family.
- Three policy resolutions were passed for federal advocacy on:
  - Establishing an Intergovernmental Platform on Mental Health
  - New Growth Framework for Canadian Municipalities
  - Urgent Action Needed to Address the Crisis of Homelessness
- A new Executive Committee was elected.
- The 2024 FCM Annual Conference will take place in Calgary. Calgary officially invited delegates to attend next year through trade show booth presence (in partnership with Tourism Calgary), and at the closing gala dinner.