

Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Update – February 2024 (Verbal)

Recommendation

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

Budget Advocacy

- FCM is continuing with its budget advocacy ahead of the 2024 Federal Budget, which is anticipated to be tabled in late March.
- Five recommendations were submitted by FCM in the pre-budget submission process. Topics include:
 - Development of the Municipal Growth Framework – the Framework is the approach FCM aims to pursue in its advocacy with the federal government to address the increasing funding gap among municipalities by convening federal, provincial and municipal governments.
 - Partnership between government and municipalities through the next generation of infrastructure funding programs to build, renew and revitalize local infrastructure.
 - Full implementation of the National Adaptation Strategy.
 - Collaboration to address housing affordability and end chronic homelessness.
 - Meaningful consultation with municipalities regarding the future of RCMP contract policing and work with all orders of government to address and invest in community-based mental health and substance use care.

Municipal Growth Framework

- On 2024 January 10, the Municipal Growth Framework Big City Technical Advisory Committee met to discuss this initiative's progress and advise on next steps. City of Calgary (The City) Chief Financial Officer, Carla Male, is a member of this group providing feedback from a Calgary-context.
- FCM is anticipated to release a report ahead of the Big City Mayors' Caucus meeting with new details on progress and next steps.
- As this work continues, The City will continue to provide feedback to ensure that the Calgary and Alberta-context is considered when developing this national initiative.

Upcoming meetings and events

Prairies and Territories Regional Caucus Meeting

- The Prairies and Territories Regional Caucus Meeting will be meeting virtually on 2024 February 21.
- Anticipated agenda items include regional issues to be determined, and Province and Territories Associations (PTA) updates.

Big Cities Mayors' Caucus (BCMC)

- The Big Cities Mayors' Caucus will be meeting in-person in Ottawa, Ontario on 2024 February 26.
- Anticipated agenda items include updates on the Municipal Growth Framework and meetings with elected government officials.

March 2024 Board Meeting

- The next FCM Board Meeting will be 2024 March 5-7, in Prince George, British Columbia.

2024 FCM Conference and Trade Show

- The 2024 FCM Conference is being held in Calgary at the TELUS Convention Centre.
- Registration will open on 2024 February 13 at noon.

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General Manager Chris Arthurs concurs with the information in this verbal update.