

People, Innovation & Collaboration Services Report to
Intergovernmental Affairs Committee
2024 October 09

ISC: UNRESTRICTED
IGA2024-1083

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

RECOMMENDATION(S):

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

Green Municipal Fund

- Last month, FCM released the [24th annual report of the Green Municipal Fund](#) (GMF) and is celebrating its most impactful year with nearly \$200 million in funding awarded in 2023-2024.
- The GMF is a globally unique organization providing funding and education to municipalities to help them reach net zero and build resilient communities while also delivering economic and social benefits such as jobs, housing, and infrastructure.
- The GMF manages approximately \$2.4 billion in programs funded by the Government of Canada.
- According to the GMF, since the fund was established in 2000, it has:
 - Helped reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 2.9 million tonnes
 - Funded over 13,000 person-years of employment
 - Supported over 30,000 sustainable, affordable housing units
 - Contributed \$1.24 billion to the national GDP through more than 2,300 approved projects
- The [2023-2024 GMF report](#) highlights two new funding agreements worth \$820 million with the Government of Canada – the [Local Leadership for Climate Adaptation](#) and [Growing Canada's Community Canopies](#) – allowing municipalities to advance climate adaptations, supporting more sustainable and affordable environments for its residents.
- The Calgary focused projects in this report includes the \$23 million grant for Calgary to expand the existing compost facility which was announced in May of this year.
- In addition, the report shares other Calgary focused grants approved this year for that range from supporting the transition to electric vehicles (EVs) in taxi services to supporting rental housing and commercial retrofit programming to help reduce emissions, lowering costs for renters and improving building efficiencies.
- These newly approved grants for Calgary-based projects are on top of existing ongoing projects and projects completed in 2023-2024 that range from improving active transportation options for high school students, advancing community micro-generation electricity models, piloting for digital home energy labels, and providing energy audits and upgrades for Calgarians struggling with energy poverty.

FCM Board of Directors, 2024 September 18-19 (Ottawa and virtual)

- FCM is in the process of creating a new, member-centric strategic plan and has begun conducting member engagement with plans to launch for the Annual Conference and Tradeshow in Ottawa from 2025 May 29 to June 1.

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- Advocacy work over the past year on the Canada Community-Building Fund has helped to increase critical dollars required by municipalities to address challenges with growth, state of good repair, and climate adaptation.
- FCM appreciates that the federal government is willing to work with municipalities for a new Municipal Growth Framework that was launched at the annual conference held in Calgary this past June and continues to bring awareness of the counterproductive development charge (off-site levy) freeze mandated under the Canada Housing Infrastructure Fund.
- FCM is also polling to ensure that messaging resonates with Canadians and politicians ahead of the impending federal election. Results have signalled that many Canadians do not understand the constraints faced by municipalities, and most think municipalities do not have the resources they require to provide residents with the infrastructure and services they expect.

Upcoming meetings and events

- Big Cities Mayors' Caucus (BCMC) Strategy Session, 2024 October 23 virtually.
- Advocacy Days, 2024 December 3-5, Ottawa.
- FCM's Sustainable Communities Conference, 2025 February 10-13, Fredericton.
- FCM Board Meeting, 2025 March 18-20, Dorval.
- Annual Conference and Trade Show 2025, 2025 May 29-June 1, Ottawa.

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