

 LOCAL ACTION
 NATIONAL RESULTS



**HIGHLIGHTS FROM FCM'S ANNUAL
CONFERENCE AND TRADE SHOW 2023**

MAY 25-28
TORONTO, ONTARIO





JUSTIN TRUDEAU
Prime Minister of Canada

"We are taking a collaborative approach to addressing the housing crisis that treats municipalities as partners. To meet the needs of Canadians, all of us need to step up to confront the challenges ahead and be bold in our solutions."

 [Watch video](#)



MELISSA LANTSMAN
Deputy Leader of the Conservative Party of Canada

"I want to talk about housing not because it's at the core of what many of you do as municipalities... but because it is the core of what it means to be Canadian and what our country offers to so many people who come here."

 [Watch video](#)



ELIZABETH MAY
Leader of the Green Party of Canada

"The climate crisis is real. We are in a climate emergency... we are not acting like it's an emergency. We need to pull together around the same table and not after the next extreme weather event."

 [Watch video](#)



JAGMEET SINGH
Leader of the New Democratic Party of Canada

"I really believe in mental health being a part of our healthcare system; we have to treat it like it's a healthcare issue. People need to have public access... municipalities cannot do it alone. You're being asked to do so much."

 [Watch video](#)

DELIVERING LOCAL ACTION TO DRIVE NATIONAL IMPACT

From May 25-28, over 2,900 delegates—including 1,500 municipal leaders from coast to coast to coast—came together in Toronto for *Local Action, National Results*, **FCM's 2023 Annual Conference and Trade Show**. Delegates participated in panel discussions, learned from workshops, visited and connected with exhibitors at the Trade Show and networked with colleagues and partners.

AC 2023 continues to be a flagship event for federal political party leaders and representatives, providing the unique opportunity to address their municipal counterparts on pressing issues and the chance for our members to influence this country's priorities. While each of our four political keynotes addressed different topics, they delivered one unified, underlying message—**that supporting municipalities improves the lives of Canadians across the country.**



SPECIAL THANKS
to the City of Toronto and its sponsors for hosting AC 2023 and showcasing the best the City has to offer.



TRENDING ALERT!

#FCM2023AC, our English Annual Conference 2023 Twitter hashtag, hit the #3 trending spot in Canada!

Canada trends

#TheLittleMermaid 🧜‍♀️
Experience it only in theatres now!
Promoted by Walt Disney Studios Canada

1 · Trending

Tina Turner

188K Tweets

2 · Movies & TV · Trending

Barbie

613K Tweets

3 · Trending

#FCM2023AC

A NEW MUNICIPAL GROWTH FRAMEWORK

During *Local Action, National Results*, the importance of a national conversation on a new Municipal Growth Framework that Canadian municipalities can rely on was at the forefront of discussions. With local governments facing diverse challenges that draw more and more on municipal resources, a resolution was successfully passed at this year's conference to support conversations around the development of a modernized Municipal Growth Framework—a top advocacy priority for FCM going forward.



“Municipalities should not be expected to pull off the impossible time and time again. That is why we need a new Municipal Growth Framework—a revenue tool that grows with the economy and redefines the way we engage across orders of government. And I promise you this a top priority for FCM until we get it done.”

Carole Saab, CEO, set the stage for discussions around a new Municipal Growth Framework during the opening ceremony.

[Watch the full speech here.](#)



“It’s right to highlight what more can be done with a new fiscal framework to support communities in Canada. Working together, FCM is putting forward a strong agenda for change.”

Scott Pearce, FCM’s President, highlighted in his inaugural speech how FCM will be focusing on a new Municipal Growth Framework in its advocacy efforts.

[Watch the full speech here.](#)

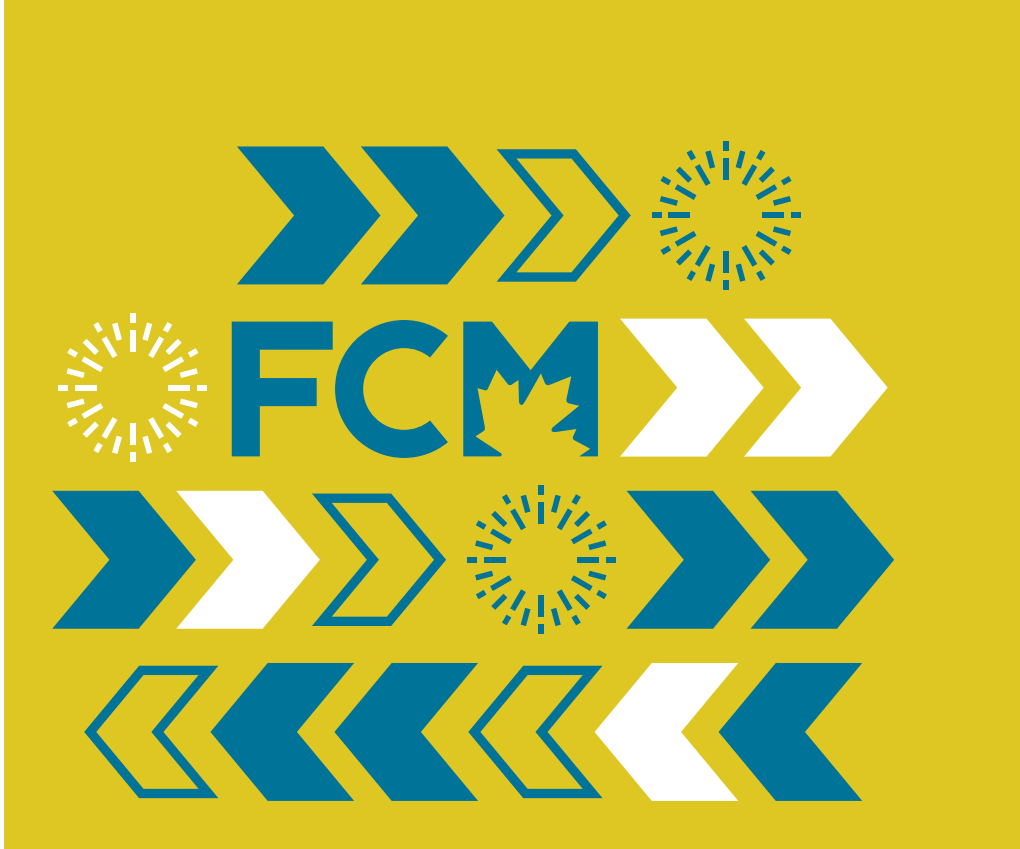


A PANEL EXPLORING HOW TO MEET THE NEEDS OF ALL CANADIANS

In the panel, A New Fiscal Framework for Municipalities led by FCM CEO Carole Saab, experts discussed how a new Municipal Growth Framework could create the right conditions for Canadian municipalities of all sizes—from rural to northern to big cities—to thrive in the coming decades. The panel included Chair of the Ville de Montréal’s External Advisory Committee on Fiscal Policy and Gatineau Former Mayor Maxime Pedneaud-Jobin, Executive Director of the Gattuso Centre for Social Medicine at the University Health Network Andrew Boozary, Co-Chair for the Coalition for a Better Future Lisa Raitt and Director of the Institute of Municipal Finance and Governance Enid Slack. *Presented by Addenda Capital*

PROVIDING THE TOOLS AND RESOURCES TO STRENGTHEN LOCAL CAPACITY

In tune with this year's theme, *Local Action, National Results*, AC 2023 offered delegates a wide range of forums, plenary sessions, workshops, study tours and Ask-the-Experts sessions to learn best practices and gain new insights to drive local impact.





RURAL PLENARY

SUCCESSFUL STORYTELLING AND ADVOCATING FOR RURAL COMMUNITIES

We zeroed in on the big issues facing our rural communities through first-hand stories of rural advocates who are driving real change in their areas. Our expert speakers included former Grand Chief of Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak Sheila North, Cypress Country Councillor Robin Kurpjuweit, President of the Fédération québécoise des municipalités Jacques Demers and Deputy Mayor of New Glasgow Dawn Peters. *Presented by Canadian Telecommunications Association*



PRESIDENT'S FORUM

BUILDING WELCOMING COMMUNITIES FOR A GROWING CANADA

FCM's leadership, mayors and experts from across the country discussed the challenges and opportunities facing municipalities as they seek to build healthy, safe and inclusive communities. Led by moderator, CEO & Co-Founder of Monumental Zahra Ebrahim, our panel included Morden Mayor Brandon Burley, Calgary Mayor Jyoti Gondek and Victoriaville Mayor Antoine Tardif. *Presented by Chandos Construction*



CLOSING PLENARY

THE NEXT FEDERAL ELECTION AND THE STATE OF THE RACE

Ahead of the next federal election, David Coletto, CEO of Abacus Data, shared insights into Canada's political landscape and where municipal priorities fit in the national conversation.



EXPLORING TORONTO THROUGH STUDY TOURS

Members explored how Canada's largest and most diverse city has tackled municipal challenges and implemented unique programs and projects. In partnership with the City of Toronto, we offered nearly 40 study tours for delegates to participate in.



FROM NATIONAL ADAPTATION STRATEGY TO LOCAL CLIMATE RESILIENCE

Climate adaptation and municipal experts like former Edmonton Mayor Don Iveson, discussed the urgency, new funding and innovation support available for municipalities preparing to tackle impending climate risks.



HOW TO BUILD GREAT PUBLIC SPACES AND FACILITIES

Experts, including Longueuil's Mayor Catherine Fournier, shared what it takes to create impactful, attractive and sustainable public spaces, thereby fostering a strong local sense of community.



THE RIPPLE EFFECT OF FOOD PRODUCTION

Participants explored how rural and urban centres contribute to a thriving Canadian food system, a strong economy and ongoing innovation.

AC 2023 WORKSHOPS

From housing to climate resiliency, from food production to building equity within our communities, AC 2023's wide range of workshops connected delegates with new ideas, tools and opportunities to best serve their residents.

Special thanks to our speakers and sponsors for the following workshops and Ask-the-Experts sessions:

Your equity journey: From getting started to keeping the momentum

Presented by the Canadian Race Relations Foundation (CRRF) and the Canadian Commission for UNESCO (CCUNESCO)

Help FCM's Green Municipal Fund build a national climate resilience program

Inter-community Transit: Closing the rural and regional gap

Becoming asset managers: Building team and self-resiliency

Presented by the Mental Health Commission of Canada

How to build great public spaces and facilities

Presented by CSA Group

Fight the municipal brain drain: Attracting and retaining talent

Presented by CIRA and SAP Canada Inc.

Driving municipal sustainability priorities through CIB financing

Presented by Canada Infrastructure Bank

Future-proofing Canada's agricultural sector

Presented by the Egg Farmers of Canada, Chicken Farmers of Canada, Turkey Farmers of Canada, Canadian Hatching Egg Producers and Dairy Farmers of Canada

Finding home: Canada's next generation of housing

Presented by Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC)

Everything everywhere all at once: "Multi-solving" climate solutions

Presented by Intact Public Entities

Think globally, act locally: Municipalities and global challenges

From National Adaptation Strategy to local climate resilience

Presented by Co-operators

Taking action against online harassment: Ideas, innovations, allyship

Presented by Rogers Communications together with Shaw

How P3s put private profit ahead of public interest

Presented by the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE)

The ripple effect of food production

Presented by the Egg Farmers of Canada, Chicken Farmers of Canada, Turkey Farmers of Canada, Canadian Hatching Egg Producers and Dairy Farmers of Canada

FCM RESOLUTIONS AND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

An abiding strength of FCM’s Annual Conference is uniting communities and providing the forum for municipal leaders to discuss critical issues and make lasting decisions to better the lives of Canadians.

This year, delegates voted overwhelmingly in favour of three important resolutions that have the potential to improve the quality of life for Canadians and scale up growth in their communities.



NEW GROWTH FRAMEWORK FOR MUNICIPALITIES ↻

RESOLVED, that Canada needs a modernized fiscal framework for municipalities.

RESOLVED, that FCM lead the development of a new Municipal Growth Framework that results in municipal financial capacity being more accurately linked to items such as national population growth, inflation, economic growth and the role of Canadian municipalities in the 21st century.

RESOLVED, that FCM call on the federal government and provincial and territorial governments to engage FCM and provincial territorial associations in the development of a Municipal Growth Framework through a process by which new sources of municipal revenue—including predictable intergovernmental transfers and new direct taxation powers—are proposed, evaluated and implemented.

ESTABLISHING AN URGENT INTERGOVERNMENTAL PLATFORM ON MENTAL HEALTH ↻

RESOLVED, that FCM calls on the federal government to take urgent action to address mental health by:

- » acknowledging that mental health is a national emergency that demands urgent attention and action from all levels of government in Canada.
- » committing to tripartite policy discussions aimed at making mental health care an integral part of Canada’s universal health care system.
- » developing a comprehensive national mental health strategy.



URGENT ACTION NEEDED TO ADDRESS THE CRISIS OF HOMELESSNESS ↻

RESOLVED, that FCM calls on the federal government to provide needed long-term capital and operating funding and resource supports for local governments to address the growing homelessness crisis.

RESOLVED, that the federal government ensure the sustainability of new permanent supportive housing by urging provinces and territories to ensure long-term funding for wraparound services and participate in government public sector housing programs.

RESOLVED, that the federal government create a national strategy to support local governments on scaling up and making permanent programs that give tools directly to local governments to tackle homelessness including building on an improved Rapid Housing Initiative and the Reaching Home program.



FCM ELECTIONS

Members elected their **2023-2024 FCM BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND TABLE OFFICERS** at FCM’s Annual General Meeting.

Scott Pearce, Mayor of Gore, QC, was acclaimed as FCM President after serving two months as Acting President.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL WHO WERE ELECTED TO THE FCM BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND TO OUR TABLE OFFICERS



**FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT
GEOFF STEWART**
Deputy Mayor, Colchester, NS



**SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT
REBECCA BLIGH**
Councillor, Vancouver, BC



**THIRD VICE-PRESIDENT
TIM TIERNEY**
Councillor, Ottawa, ON

See the full list of [FCM Board Members](#).

ON THE TRADE SHOW FLOOR

FCM's sector-leading Trade Show once again offered an impressive range of products and services to delegates seeking ways to address their municipal challenges. Trusted partners and vendors shared their experience, know-how and solutions with delegates who are gearing up for growth in their municipalities.

This year, our Trade Show set a record with 212 exhibitors representing a range of corporate, non-profit, labour and inter-governmental interests in local government. FCM welcomed exhibitors offering services, solutions and innovations for everything from waste management, decorative lighting and play structures, to infrastructure, affordable housing, electric buses and so much more.



LUNCH-AND-LEARN SESSIONS

This year's popular Lunch-and-Learn sessions succinctly outlined ways to strengthen municipal government and encourage economic competitiveness. Special thanks to CIMCO, Moneris, Catalis, Liveable Cities, Canadian Internet Registration Authority (CIRA) and Communities in Bloom for their participation.



NETWORKING AND IDEA SHARING

AC 2023 provided endless opportunities to connect and exchange ideas with other delegates. From our official Trade Show opening and reception to our Host City welcome reception and our Host City closing gala dinner, our events provided the space for delegates across the country to connect in ways that would otherwise not be possible.



JOIN US NEXT YEAR

Don't miss FCM's 2024 Annual Conference and Trade Show happening in Calgary, AB from June 6-9, 2024. Stay tuned for more information in the coming months. We hope to see you there!

A SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS

We're grateful to the many sponsors who made AC 2023 possible.

[View the full list of sponsors](#)

