



April 22, 2024



FCM VOICE

Canada's voice of local government



Budget 2024: FCM's response to a promising federal budget

On Tuesday, April 16, the federal government unveiled Budget 2024 following a series of important housing-related announcements.

Significantly, this budget responds directly to a number of FCM recommendations, with a recognition that investing in infrastructure and housing is crucial to both the issue of housing and homelessness and the successful growth of this country.

FCM recognized the significance of housing investments present in this budget, as well as the investments in combatting homelessness and addressing the lack of deeply affordable housing option.

Additionally, FCM noted the lack of movement on a Municipal Growth Framework, and resolved to continue advocating for the federal government to convene with provinces, territories and municipalities to negotiate a modernized permanent funding model, that would empower our growing communities to deliver the quality of life Canadians need and deserve.

» [READ FCM'S FULL STATEMENT ON BUDGET 2024](#)

Municipal Trailblazers is FCM's biweekly spotlight on exceptional leaders, professionals and individuals who are making outstanding contributions to Canadian communities. Below, we have new set of trailblazers to share for April 2024.

Our Municipal Trailblazers for April 22, 2024

Bob Brooks

As CAO of the Rural Municipality of Belfast on PEI, Bob Brooks is dedicated public servant who serves this small community of 1,700 people in the southeastern end of the island. Beyond working hard to serve the needs of his municipality, Bob also serves as the President of the Association of Municipal Administrators of PEI. Bob has always been keen to speak up for the needs of his community, and alongside a dedicated team of elected councilors, works tirelessly to support the needs of individuals across the municipality. Bob works hard to support new programs and initiatives, balancing public consultation with action, and his passion for improving quality of life in Belfast has led his colleagues to nominate him as a municipal trailblazer.

Carolyn Kolebaba

A regional as well as local leader, Councillor Carolyn Kolebaba of Northern Sunrise Country in Alberta has been an active member of her municipal council for more than 20 years. Deeply devoted to northwest Alberta, she is the chair of the Peace Region Economic Development Alliance and the Northern Transportation Advocacy Bureau. In addition to her official roles, she has led municipal partnerships, to the benefit of smaller and less affluent municipalities in the province's north, including offering assessment services to other communities. Carolyn's dedication to her community and this unique part of Alberta is deeply appreciated by her municipal colleagues and those who call Northern Sunrise County home.

» SUBMIT YOUR OWN CANDIDATE FOR MUNICIPAL TRAILBLAZER

NEWS

AC2024 is only six weeks away!

Excitement is building for FCM's 2024 Annual Conference and Trade Show, taking place in just six weeks. Don't miss out on over 50 Calgary-wide study tours, over a dozen workshops on crucial municipal topics, and a trade show featuring over 150 exhibitors ready to address your community challenges. Join us in Calgary to contribute to meaningful discussions, participate in exceptional networking opportunities with peers, and help *Redefining the Future* of Canada.

[» LEARN MORE ABOUT AC2024](#)

Deadlines approaching for FCM's Board of Directors positions

Interested in making a difference in your municipality and others across Canada?

FCM is currently seeking nominations for its Board of Directors for the 2024-2025 term. This member-elected body helps shape FCM policy priorities on behalf of communities across Canada. Submit your nomination now for a Director (due May 26) or Table Officer (due May 19) position.

The election will take place at FCM's Annual Conference and Trade Show, June 6-9, in Calgary. Nomination details, including required documentation, are available online.

[» VIEW ELECTION PAGE](#)

EVENTS

This week: A webinar on FCM's 2024 Sustainable Communities Awards

FCM's [2024 Sustainable Communities Awards \(SCAs\)](#) will honor projects that demonstrate environmental responsibility and excellence in Canadian cities and communities of all sizes.

Join our webinar, *A new Sustainable Communities Awards season*, on April 25 at 2 p.m. ET to discover how winning a 2024 SCA could benefit your community and career, and how to navigate the SCA application process. Two past SCA winners will also showcase their successful initiatives and share advice.

» REGISTER TODAY

Explore the future with Policy Horizons Canada

From May 7-9, [Policy Horizons Canada](#) is hosting Futures Week, a series of events organized to discover possible disruptions, confront our ways of thinking about them and learn how foresight can prepare for opportunities and challenges ahead. The online portion of the event is open to the public.

Policy Horizons Canada is the federal government's centre of excellence in foresight, whose mission is to empower the government with a future-oriented mindset and outlook to strengthen decision making. The organization will be participating in a panel on innovation in the municipal sector at [FCM's upcoming annual conference in Calgary](#).

» REGISTER NOW

Participate in the 2024 All Americas Summit

The 2024 All Americas Summit takes place from May 28-31 and is organized by Sister Cities International. The Government of Canada is encouraging Canadian municipalities to participate in this opportunity to promote Canada to municipal audiences from countries across the Americas. Taking place in San Antonio, Texas, the Summit will bring together representatives of all the Americas to experience opportunities for Sister Cities partnerships encompassing economic development, education, gastronomy, culture and more.

» LEARN MORE

CORPORATE PARTNER

ParticipACTION is looking for Canada's Most Active Community

The ParticipACTION Community Challenge presented by Novo Nordisk, encourages everyone in Canada to get active throughout June, ultimately awarding Canada's Most Active Community \$100,000 to support local physical activity and sport initiatives. There is also a prize for the most active community in each province and territory. Municipalities can participate by engaging their communities, registering at ParticipACTION.com and tracking their June physical activity initiative(s).

» [REGISTER NOW](#)



FCM TWEETS

Apr 16: NEWS RELEASE |

The focus on solving the housing and homelessness crises in [#Budget2024](#) shows a promising step toward addressing Canada's immediate challenges. Yet, more will need to be done to address the country's rapid and significant growth for the longer term with a commitment to convene all orders of government to negotiate a new Municipal Growth Framework.

FCM members have long been advocating for the new measures announced in [#Budget2024](#), and we're going to keep working to build municipalities that work for all Canadians.

Read our full press release:
<https://t.co/7f3Wk8pkS5>

[#CDNMuni](#) [#cdnpoli](#)

Apr 19: Great to see productive conversations on housing + homelessness, transportation, affordability and other key issues for Ontario's largest cities happening at [@ONBigCityMayors](#)'s AGM. By working together, we can continue building better cities and improving quality of life for residents in [#ONMuni](#) and all [#CDNMuni](#).

Apr 22: [#CDNMuni](#) are where the economic and human costs of climate change hit the hardest – they're also where you'll find some of Canada's most innovative green solutions. FCM believes that we can build a greener and more prosperous Canada – one community at a time.

Let's work across orders of govt to ensure communities have the support needed to protect Canadians against the impacts of climate change and extreme weather events.

[#EarthDay2024](#)

» [MORE](#)

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