

Update: Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)

Initiative Title: Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)

City Council Lead(s):

- **Councillor B. Esslinger:** Board Member; Chair of International Relations; Increasing Women’s Participation in Municipal Government; Community Safety and Crime Prevention; Prairies and Territories Regional Caucus; Governance Representative for Ukraine.
 - **Councillor B. Henderson:** Non-Board member, Chair of FCM’s Green Municipal Fund; Urban Aboriginal Issues Working Group; Environmental Issues and Sustainable Development; Social-Economic Development; Prairies and Territories Regional Caucus; Conference Planning.
 - **Mayor D. Iveson:** Chair of Big City Mayors’ Caucus (BCMC); Member, FCM Governance Review Task Force; Member, Western Economic Solutions Taskforce (WEST)
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Objective

The City of Edmonton continues to work with FCM on information sharing, proactive identification and advocacy of City priorities and issues of shared interest.

Key outcomes, projects or activities and their status as of March 2020

Board Meeting and Advocacy Days - November 26-29, 2019 in Ottawa

Elected board members from across Canada engaged with each other and conducted meetings with a number of federal cabinet ministers. This meeting came a month after the federal election and ahead of the federal budget season; so it was a key opportunity to launch FCM’s next round of political advocacy with the re-elected, albeit minority, Liberal government.

Big City Mayors’ Caucus (BCMC) Meeting - February 6, 2020

This meeting focused on advocacy for big city priorities at a strategic time in the federal budget cycle. The mayors of the country’s largest cities had an opportunity to dialogue with members of the federal cabinet, including the Prime Minister and the Finance Minister. Based on those discussions the mayors were encouraged that this government understands how cities can be partners in delivering a nation-building agenda.

The Urban Project - February 7, 2020

6.5 – Council Member Appointment Reporting – B22

This is the third time that big city mayors and urban experts met to explore best practices and emerging trends on a specific national urban issue. The focus at this meeting was on urban mobility, specifically diving deeper into active transportation and transit optimization. Previous sessions addressed housing affordability and innovative economies. The Urban Project is a national research partnership on urban issues, sponsored by FCM and a number of national foundations.

Western Economic Solutions Taskforce (WEST) - February 10, 2020

Municipal leaders from Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and BC met for a full day at the Edmonton International Airport to continue working out solutions to address the challenges facing communities in western Canada. WEST was formed by FCM to ensure that western Canada had a voice at the national table, partly in response to there being no Liberal Members of Parliament elected from Alberta and Saskatchewan. Dialogue was conducted with key federal cabinet ministers - Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, Minister of Economic Development, and Minister of Transport.

Board Meeting - March 3-6, 2020

Federal advocacy efforts are shifting from the more intense election mode of the past year. This Board meeting came in advance of the Liberal minority government's first budget, expected sometime later in March, so some time was spent discussing a Budget 2020 advocacy strategy.

Future Steps and Upcoming Events

FCM Annual Conference - June 4-7, 2020 in Toronto. Leaders from all the major political parties are expected to speak to conference delegates. This is the first annual gathering since the federal election which resulted in a Liberal minority government.

Evaluation and Recommendation:

- Edmonton elected officials have and will continue to represent the municipality on the FCM board and various other sub-committees going forward.
- The City will continue to work with FCM in advancing municipal priorities and areas of shared interest.