

Council Member Appointment Reporting – B19

Update: Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)

Initiative Title: Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)

City Council Lead(s):

- **Councillor B. Esslinger:** Board Member, Committee of the Whole, Chair of International Relations, Increasing Women's Participation in Municipal Government, Community Safety and Crime Prevention, Prairies Territories Regional Caucus, Governance Representative for Ukraine.
 - **Councillor B. Henderson:** Non-Board member, Conference Planning, 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
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Objective:

The City of Edmonton continues to work with FCM on proactive identification and advocacy of City priorities and issues of shared interest. Both parties continue to collaborate and share information on issues of mutual benefit.

Key outcomes, projects or activities and their status as of January 2019:

Commonwealth Heads of Government, April 16- 18, 2018, UK:

- On behalf of her role on the 'Increasing Women's Participation in Municipal Government' FCM committee, Councillor Esslinger was invited to attend and speak at the Women's Section gathering.

United Cities and Local Government (UCLG), Strasbourg, May 2018:

- Councillor Esslinger was invited to attend the UCLG on behalf of FCM.
- The theme of the conference was *"Inclusive and Safe Cities: Key for Sustainable Development"* and the event provided a platform for dialogue between all levels of local government.

Sustainable and Inclusive Communities (CISAL) Delegation, Fort St. John, May 6 - 13, 2018:

- Councillor Esslinger was invited to attend the CISAL delegation in Fort St. John last year. This was an information sharing opportunity on collaborative partnerships and best practices.
- CISAL is an FCM sponsored program, created to enhance local economic development and the inclusion of women in municipalities.

2018 Board Meeting in Annapolis, Nova Scotia, September 11-14, 2018:

- The fall board meeting highlighted the role of municipalities and their relationships with provincial and federal orders of government.
- A recurring theme was the increasing importance municipalities have and will continue to have in federal discussions.
- Agenda items included updates on the federal infrastructure plan, rural broadband connectivity and the legalization of cannabis.

Program for Municipal Innovation – Local Economic Development (PMI-LED), Vietnam:

- The Cities of Edmonton and Rossland, British Columbia, are participants in FCM's international economic development program until 2020.
- A study tour of eight representatives from Dong Thap Province and the cities of Cao Lanh and Can Tho visited Edmonton from September 22 to October 1, 2018.
- Administration presented information to the visitors on municipal governance, municipal budget, economic and tourism development, gender equality, energy transition and environmental services.
- The delegates also had an opportunity to tour several value-add agricultural facilities in the Edmonton and Vancouver areas.
- As a follow-up, representatives from Administration have been invited to travel to Dong Thap province this February to continue training on three priority areas: 1) Regional Economic Development, 2) Business Investment and Retention and 3) One Stop Shop Program Services.
- Can Thao City has expressed an interest in visiting Edmonton the first week of April. The delegation would be led by the Secretary of Can Tho Municipal Party Committee. In order of hierarchy, this position is higher than the Mayor of Can Tho. Representatives from Administration will meet with officials in Can Tho as part of the upcoming February mission.
- As per her previous role as Governance Representative for Asia, Councillor Esslinger also travelled to Vietnam and Cambodia on FCM PMI-LED business in September 2018.

Program for Local Economic Development and Democratic Governance (PLEDDG), Ukraine:

- The City of Edmonton is one of twelve Canadian cities mentoring sixteen Ukrainian cities. This is a five year program that ends in 2021.
- Councillor Esslinger was invited to Ukraine as part of PLEDDG to speak at the Association of Ukrainian Cities (AUC) Annual Forum in June 2018, which is a national meeting of Mayors and government officials.
- A study tour of twelve PLEDDG representatives visited Edmonton from July 25 - August 1, 2018. Included in the delegation were eight mayors and a representative from the AUC. Administration presented information on

municipal governance, municipal budget, economic and tourism development, gender equality, energy transition and environmental services.

- Councillor Esslinger was able to introduce Kevin Royle from the volunteer program, Firefighter Aid Ukraine to the visiting Ukraine delegation. The program is a Rotary initiative and Mr. Royle is the project organizer and a member of Edmonton Fire Rescue Service. A program overview was presented to the Mayors and all expressed interest in receiving used firefighting equipment.
- As a follow up, FCM Ottawa sent a letter explaining the Firefighter Aid Ukraine Project to the fifteen other Canadian cities that are participating in PLEDDG. From that email, two other cities are now collecting their used firefighting equipment for shipment to Ukraine.
- A City employee will travel to Ukraine to speak at the FCM National Conference in Kyiv on March 12 – 13, 2019. Following the conference they will visit four cities and provide assistance in their investment attraction efforts.

GBA+ Training in Amman, Jordan:

- FCM requested the City of Edmonton to provide best practices and learnings to the Municipality of Greater Amman.
- Through Federation funding, a City employee who focuses on women's initiatives planned a delegation to Amman in September 2018 to help the municipality build the capacity of its gender staff team by providing inclusivity training (GBA+) and sharing insights from the Women's Initiative.
- Amman will now set up a training institute for municipal officials and employees on GBA+.
- Amman may require further support as this is implemented.
- On behalf of FCM, Councillor Esslinger spoke at the GBA+ National Forum in November of 2018 in Ottawa.

Advocacy Days - Ottawa, November 20-22, 2018:

- FCM Board members met one-on-one with 150 Members of Parliament, Senators and Cabinet Ministers.
- The targeted visits focused on four key municipal priorities: modernizing the federal-municipal relationship, securing permanent transit funding, prioritizing funding for disaster mitigation and adaptation, and universal broadband access (for rural areas).
- A significant affirmation of the advocacy work came in a keynote presentation from the Minister of Intergovernmental and Northern Affairs, Dominic LeBlanc.
- The presentation confirmed the federal government's interest in finding mechanisms and forums for ongoing, direct federal-municipal partnerships and exploring new fiscal tools that municipalities need to support the changes in their roles and responsibilities.

United Cities and Local Government (UCLG), Madrid, November 2018:

- On behalf of FCM, Councillor Esslinger was invited to attend the second edition of the *'World Forum on Urban Violence and Education for Coexistence and Peace'*.

Gender-based Violence Prevention Resolution:

- At the December 11, 2018, Council meeting, City Council approved a resolution regarding gender-based violence prevention which will be reviewed by the FCM staff and Board at the March 2019 meeting.
- The resolution asks that the FCM endorse in principle the federal strategy on gender-based violence and advocate that municipalities be consulted on how the strategy and the funding is implemented.

Future Steps and Upcoming Events:

- Councillor Esslinger will visit Ottawa to participate in the PMI-LED Global Partners Group from February 19-21, 2019 and visit Ukraine as part of PLEDDG from February 23 - 28, 2019.
- FCM Board meeting: March 11-14 in Penticton.
- FCM Annual Conference: May 30 - June 2 in Quebec City.
- There is a July 10, 2019 submission deadline for resolutions to be considered at the September Board meeting.
- FCM Board meeting: September 10 - 13 in the Cities of Waterloo and Kitchener.
- FCM Board meeting: November 20-23 in Ottawa.

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 the FCM in advancing municipal priorities and areas of shared interest.