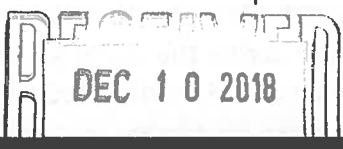


11756

**From:** FCM Communiqué <communiqué@fcm.ca>  
**Sent:** Monday, December 10, 2018 11:10 AM  
**To:** Roxanne St. Germain  
**Subject:** FCM Voice December 10: FCM's Advocacy Days | Universal broadband | WILG scholarships | more



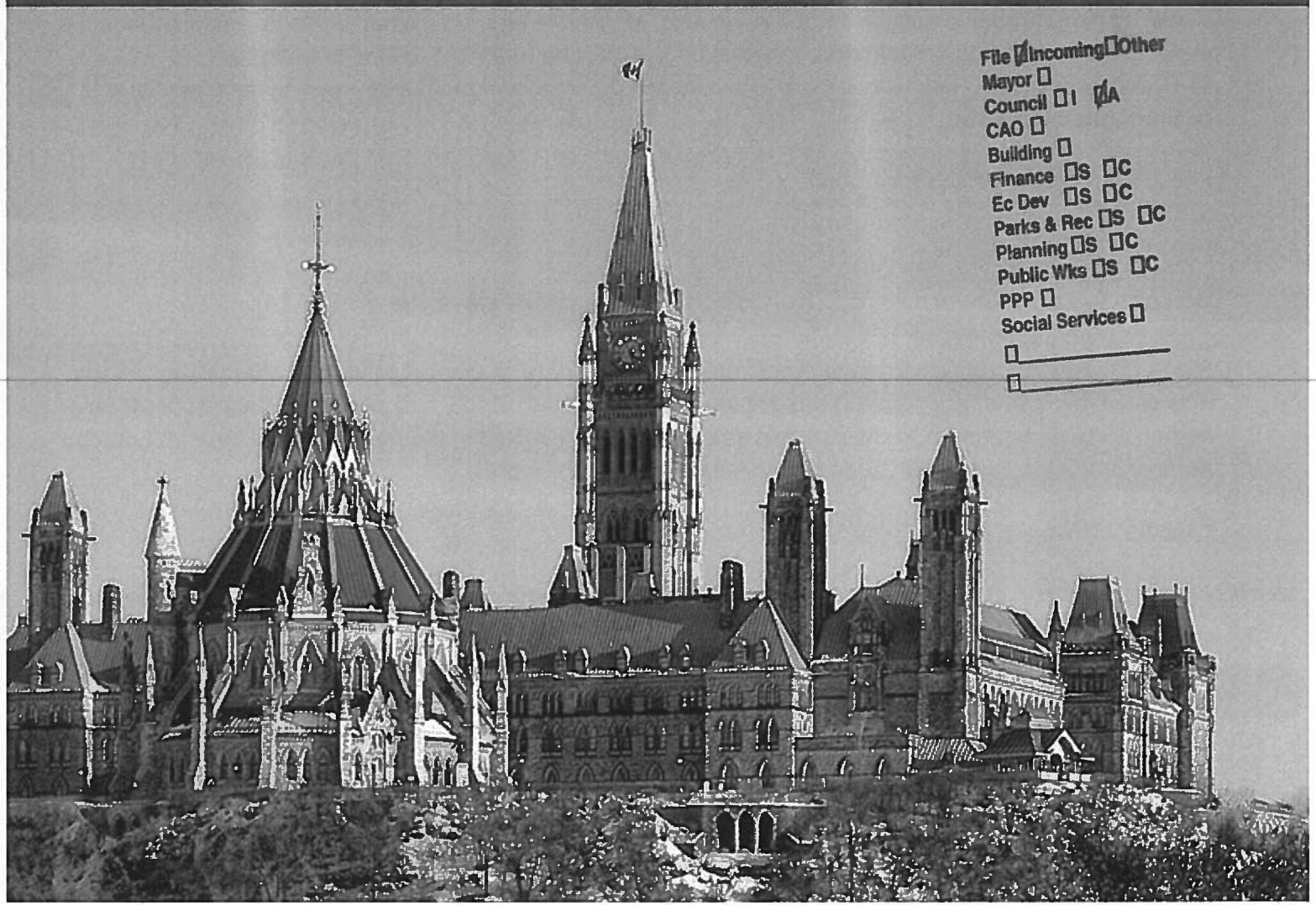
[View email in your browser](#)

**FCM NEWS | December 10, 2018**



# FCM VOICE

Canada's voice of local government



- File  Incoming  Other
- Mayor
- Council  I  A
- CAO
- Building
- Finance  S  C
- Ec Dev  S  C
- Parks & Rec  S  C
- Planning  S  C
- Public Wks  S  C
- PPP
- Social Services
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

# FCM's advocacy makes an impact on the Hill

Last month, FCM board members from across Canada converged on Parliament Hill, engaging in 150 meetings with MPs, senators, cabinet ministers and party leaders. More than 70 determined municipal leaders from across the country spent three days of intensive advocacy, spreading the message that municipalities need modernized tools to build tomorrow's Canada.

▶ [REPORT FROM ADVOCACY DAYS](#) ▶ [PHOTO GALLERY](#) ▶ [TWITTER HIGHLIGHTS](#)

## NEWS

### Add your voice to our #universalbroadband campaign

Is your community still struggling to access reliable, affordable internet? What would universal broadband mean for your community? Join the conversation by tweeting to @FCM\_online and tagging #universalbroadband. Help us to secure high-speed broadband and mobile Internet, for all Canadians, in communities of all sizes.

▶ [GET INVOLVED IN OUR CAMPAIGN](#)

### Women in Local Government Scholarships—applications close December 15

FCM's Women in Local Government scholarships provide financial support to women students in Canada interested in local politics. Applications are open to high school, CEGEP and post-secondary students who demonstrate commitment to their studies and are actively involved in the political life of their community. Applications close December 15, so please help us spread the word!

▶ [LEARN MORE](#)

## CORPORATE SPONSOR

### Resilience: Managing the risks of climate change

Flooding is now the number one challenge in Canada because of climate change and its accompanying extreme weather events. And municipalities across the country need to look at how to mitigate those



risks. Find out more—and what your municipality can do—from Dr. Blair Feltmate, head of the Intact Centre on Climate Adaptation at the University of Waterloo.

▶ WATCH DR. BLAIR FELTMATE

FCM TWEETS 

Dec 8: Just under two weeks left to apply for FCM's Women in Local Government scholarship! Deadline is December 15. Apply today! <http://bit.ly/2xrRkMc>

Dec 6: On #December6, we remember how women's participation in democratic life strengthens #CDNmuni at home & abroad. #MyActionsMatter

Dec 4: With bold Canadian leadership, we can achieve universal broadband — reliable, affordable and available to everyone, no matter where you live. <http://fcm.ca/Internet4all> #universalbroadband #cdnmuni #cdnpoli

▶ MORE



FEDERATION  
OF CANADIAN  
MUNICIPALITIES

FÉDÉRATION  
CANADIENNE DES  
MUNICIPALITÉS

This newsletter was sent to [visit@temagami.ca](mailto:visit@temagami.ca).  
To opt-out, follow this link: [Unsubscribe](#)

24 Clarence Street  
Ottawa, Ontario K1N 5P3

T. 613-241-5221  
F. 613-241-7440

[Privacy Policy](#)  
[View email in your browser](#)

[fcm.ca](http://fcm.ca)



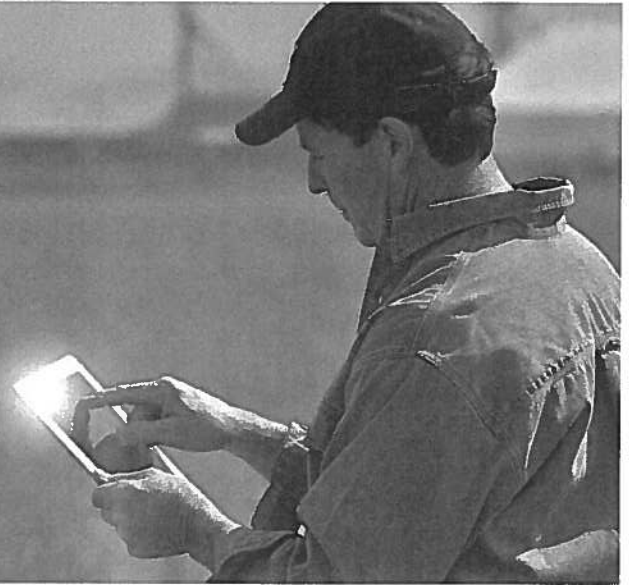
© 2018 Federation of Canadian Municipalities



FEDERATION  
OF CANADIAN  
MUNICIPALITIES

FÉDÉRATION  
CANADIENNE DES  
MUNICIPALITÉS

# Reliable Internet for everyone



In today's Canada, fast and reliable broadband Internet access is an essential service that should be available to everyone, no matter where they live. Businesses need it to innovate, compete and grow. It is vital to public safety and public services—and to Canadians' everyday quality of life.

## The issue

**Two million Canadians cannot access a reliable fixed or mobile Internet connection.** In rural, remote and northern communities, households cannot connect with the rest of the country and businesses face barriers to growth.

**Access to the Internet is not equal.** Many remote communities still rely on dial-up and have spotty mobile connections. In cities, Internet quality can vary from street to street. Nearly four-fifths of Canadians cannot access 50 Mbps download speeds—the CRTC's universal service objective.

## The progress

With a willing federal partner, FCM's advocacy has driven progress in recent years. The \$500 million Connect to Innovate program and the CRTC's \$750 million Broadband Fund are first steps toward bringing service to hard-to-reach areas.

FCM also applauded the CRTC's 2016 commitment to a universal service objective for broadband.

**But the job is not done.** Achieving truly universal broadband and mobile access requires even stronger federal leadership.

---

## WHY THIS IS IMPORTANT

- › 2 million Canadians cannot access a reliable Internet connection.
- › 13% of rural households with Internet can't even access 5 Mbps download speeds.
- › 39% of rural communities report no access to download speeds between 25-50 Mbps.

## What's next?

With bold Canadian leadership, we can achieve universal broadband. That means reliable, affordable Internet and mobile access for everyone—no matter where you live.



FCM is proposing a **national broadband strategy** with three pillars:

- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <p>▶ <b>Clear standards and timelines</b> to achieve the CRTC's speed targets for fixed broadband (50/10 Mbps upload/download), and a new <b>target for rural mobile access</b>.</p> | <p>▶ <b>Long-term, predictable funding</b> for broadband and mobile Internet in rural, remote and northern communities—so local governments can plan for reliable service.</p> | <p>▶ <b>Affordable and accessible Internet</b> in rural communities matching that of big cities—guaranteeing access to the hardest-to-serve populations.</p> |
|--|--|--|

To drive progress, the federal government will need to invest **at least \$400 million per year over 10 years**.

Moving forward will support improved quality of life and economic growth for all Canadians—in communities of all sizes, from coast to coast to coast. **It's time.**

[Skip to main content](#)

# Reliable Internet for everyone



A reliable Internet connection is not a luxury; it's a necessity. Businesses need it to innovate, compete and grow. It is vital to public safety and public services—and to Canadians' everyday quality of life.

But did you know that two million Canadians can't access a reliable fixed or mobile Internet connection? In rural, remote and northern communities, households cannot connect with the rest of the country and businesses face barriers to growth.

**That's why it is so important for municipal leaders to add their voices to our call for universal access to high-speed broadband and mobile Internet. FCM is here to help.**

We are calling for clear targets for speed, long-term, predictable funding, and affordable access for the hardest-to-serve populations.

## **Here's what you can do:**

- Download our [one-page issue sheet](#) and share it online.
- Visit your MP and discuss our campaign. Print and leave our [issue sheet](#) with them.
- Tweet [@FCM\\_online](#) and [#cdnmuni](#) and tell about your community's need for [#universalbroadband](#).
- Share our campaign on social media.



 **FCM**  
@FCM\_online

A reliable Internet connection is not a luxury—it's a necessity. Find out how we can have affordable broadband and mobile Internet. For everyone. [fcm.ca/Internet4all](http://fcm.ca/Internet4all) #universalbroadband #cdnmuni #cdnpoli

26 1:45 PM - Oct 25, 2018

25 people are talking about this

FCM

FCM

about 2 months ago

## Internet for everyone.

A national broadband strategy. It's time.

[fcm.ca/Internet4all](http://fcm.ca/Internet4all)

FCM

Did you know that 2 million Canadians can't access a reliable fixed or mobile Internet connection? Let's change this. Together. [fcm.ca/Internet4all](http://fcm.ca/Internet4all)

15

Comment

18

FCM's advocacy has made progress in recent years. The \$500 million Connect to Innovate program and the CRTC's \$750 million Broadband Fund are first steps toward bringing service to hard-to-reach areas. We also applauded the CRTC's 2016 commitment to a universal service objective for broadband.

With bold Canadian leadership, we can achieve universal broadband. That means reliable, affordable Internet and mobile access for everyone—no matter where you live.

Page Updated: 25/10/2018

Federation of Canadian Municipalities

24 Clarence Street

Ottawa, Ontario

K1N 5P3

T. 613-241-5221

F. 613-241-7440

Email: [info@fcm.ca](mailto:info@fcm.ca)

© 2018 Copyright Federation of Canadian Municipalities | [Privacy Policy](#) | [Site Map](#) | [Accessibility](#)





FEDERATION  
OF CANADIAN  
MUNICIPALITIES

FÉDÉRATION  
CANADIENNE DES  
MUNICIPALITÉS

# Report from FCM Advocacy Days 2018

Modernizing our federal partnership  
to make people's lives better.

November 20-22, 2018  
Parliament Hill, Ottawa, Ontario



# Contents

<b>President's message</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Productive meetings</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Special political guests</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Building on what's working</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Modernizing our partnership</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>In summary</b>	<b>6</b>

# President's message



Dear FCM members,

What a week! This November 20-22, FCM board and committee members took over Parliament Hill. They came from every part of this country, representing communities of all sizes. Altogether, we met with 150 parliamentarians from all national parties. And I was so impressed with how our delegation brought local priorities to the national table.

Through FCM, municipalities have already secured unprecedented federal investments in infrastructure and housing. All week, we showed parliamentarians how to build on what's working—so we can continue planning and delivering results in our communities. Our recommendations focused on longer-term federal support for broadband Internet access, modern public transit and local responses to extreme weather.

We also talked about what's *not* working. We talked about the challenges of planning and building livable, competitive communities with only 10 cents of Canada's overall tax dollar—and without a full seat at the table among orders of government. And so we kick-started important conversations about modernizing our federal-municipal partnership to get more done for Canadians.

Finally, we made sure Ottawa understands that local leaders are not waiting for next fall's election. We expect to see meaningful progress in the upcoming federal budget. And I know that our federal counterparts—in government and in opposition—have heard us loud and clear.

As FCM members, you are the heart of everything we do. As we prepare for a big year ahead, I thought you would appreciate this overview of our progress at Advocacy Days 2018.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Vicky-May Hamm".

**Vicky-May Hamm**  
Mayor, City of Magog  
FCM President

## Productive meetings

More than 70 FCM board and committee members met with 150 MPs, senators and party leaders, from all the parties—including 24 cabinet ministers and parliamentary secretaries. Many meetings emphasized Budget 2019 priorities, including broadband, transit and disaster mitigation. Others focused on the achievements of FCM programs, including our new **Toward Parity** initiative.

As our municipal team brought your priorities to the federal table, they shared one strong message: *it's time to modernize our partnership to make Canadians' lives better.*



More images from Advocacy Days 2018: [Facebook photo gallery](#) | [Twitter highlights](#)

## Special political guests

Throughout the week, we invited the three largest national parties to send representatives to address our full delegation. Each shared their vision for building on our partnership to get more done for Canadians. You can watch some of their remarks on [FCM's Facebook page](#).



### Dominic LeBlanc

Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, Northern Affairs and Internal Trade

*"As municipalities, you serve many of Canadians' most important needs and you are the closest order of government to the realities your citizens are facing."*



### Lisa Raitt

Deputy Leader of the Conservative Party of Canada

*"I have long respected FCM as an agent for progress, as I have long valued your contributions toward policies that improve our communities."*



### Jagmeet Singh

Leader of the New Democratic Party of Canada

*"Municipalities are the fabric of our country. Without you, the Canada of today would not be what it is."*

## Focus on broadband: Rural Forum hosts David Lametti



A special session of FCM's Rural Forum featured a frank discussion on achieving **universal broadband and mobile Internet access**. We were joined by David Lametti, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Innovation, Science and Economic Development.

## Building on what's working

Municipalities are vital partners in Canada's success, whether we're growing the economy or keeping people safe. That's why the federal government responded to FCM's call for major new investments that empower us to do more—including a 10-year infrastructure plan and national housing strategy. All week, we showed how **Federal Budget 2019 needs to build on what's working**, so we can continue planning and delivering the outcomes Canadians deserve—without interruption.



### Ensuring reliable Internet for everyone

Reliable broadband and mobile Internet access is essential to business and our quality of life. It's time to build on targeted federal programs with **a plan to achieve reliable Internet access for everyone**. That means clear standards and timelines to achieve CRTC speed targets in communities of all sizes. And it means long-term federal funding—starting with at least \$400 million per year for a decade.

### Building tomorrow's public transit

The 10-year allocation-based federal transit plan is empowering cities to deliver key transit expansions—for shorter commutes, higher productivity and lower emissions. But building the backbone of tomorrow's cities takes decades of planning and delivery. It's time to cement a **permanent federal commitment to public transit** so we can keep moving forward with confidence on complex projects.



### Protecting Canadians from extreme weather

Municipalities work on the front lines of new weather extremes, from floods and fires to coastal surges. New federal investments are helping some municipalities adapt local infrastructure, but **building tomorrow's climate-resilient Canada** will require robust tools. In the short-term, a two-year, \$2-billion extension to the Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund will keep vital adaptation work moving.



## Modernizing our partnership

Municipalities make the most of every tool available to strengthen our communities, and new federal investments are helping. But medium-term investments—even historic ones—don't change our long-term reality.

Municipalities are still building tomorrow's Canada with access to 10 cents of the overall tax dollar. We're still doing it without a full seat at the table among orders of government. And we face growing expectations to deliver for Canadians—whether that's implementing legal cannabis or fostering long-term economic growth.

**Building on what's working in our federal partnership can only take us so far. To build the strong country that Canadians deserve, we also need to *modernize* that partnership. At Advocacy Days, we kick-started a dialogue with our federal counterparts on next steps.**

Canadians expect all of their governments to **work together to improve their daily lives**. That's why we've proposed a new mechanism or forum bringing all orders of government together at one table to tackle national challenges—from economic productivity to the opioid crisis.

Modernizing our partnership also means exploring **fiscal tools that empower municipalities** to get more done. Like the Gas Tax Fund, larger-scale, modern tools will put local governments in the driver's seat. That way, we'll be able to fund the most pressing long-term priorities in our communities—with our trademark efficiency.



### What they said

Intergovernmental Affairs Minister Dominic LeBlanc discussed modernization with our delegation.

**On working together:** *"The challenge for our government is to find the best mechanisms and the best forum ... for an ongoing federal-municipal partnership... It will be a privilege for me to work with your leadership on ensuring we get that aspect right."*

**On fiscal tools:** *"The Gas Tax transfer, frankly, is a model that I think our government ... has come to think has been very effective and should perhaps form the basis of other efforts to help fill up your toolbox."*

### Imagine...

What if municipalities had been at the table when the federal government moved to legalize cannabis? With our frontline expertise, imagine the operational pitfalls that could have been avoided—and the financial tools that could have been developed to keep people safe and well-served.

## In summary

Looking to discuss FCM Advocacy Days 2018 with your council colleagues? Here are some key points to share.

- Every fall, FCM board members gather on Parliament Hill for FCM's Advocacy Days. This year, **70+ local leaders met with 150 MPs, senators and party leaders**—including 24 cabinet ministers and parliamentary secretaries.
- **Our first key message: Budget 2019 needs to build on what's working in the municipal-federal partnership**, so we can keep delivering outcomes in our communities. Recommendations include longer-term support for better broadband access, modern public transit and local responses to extreme weather.
- **Our second key message: We need to modernize our partnership to serve Canadians better.** We kick-started conversations about bringing orders of government together as full partners—and modernized fiscal tools that empower municipalities to get more done for Canadians.
- **We invited national parties to address our full delegation about their visions for our partnership.** Our special guests were Intergovernmental Affairs Minister Dominic LeBlanc, Conservative deputy leader Lisa Raitt, and NDP leader Jagmeet Singh.
- **FCM's Rural Forum held a special session on expanding rural broadband and mobile Internet access.** We were joined by David Lametti, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Innovation, Science and Economic Development.
- **Advocacy Days 2018 moved our municipal priorities forward.** We leave here even better positioned to achieve progress in the upcoming federal budget—and a potentially transformative federal election later in 2019.



### Quick links

[Empowering municipalities gets results for Canadians: FCM President](#)  
(Nov. 22 statement)

[Handout shared with parliamentarians](#)

[Twitter highlights](#)

[Facebook photo gallery](#)