

Kelly Lush

From: FCM Communiqué <communiqué@fcm.ca>
Sent: March-29-21 5:51 PM
To: Kelly Lush
Subject: Dedicated rural transit fund announced today

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FCM March 29, 2021



COMMUNIQUÉ



Dedicated rural transit fund announced today

Dear rural FCM members,

This morning, Minister of Infrastructure Catherine McKenna and Minister of Rural Economic Development Maryam Monsef [announced the details of the new rural transit fund](#)—the first ever federal fund dedicated to the transit needs of rural, remote and small communities.

The rural transit fund, first announced in February as part of the federal government's long-term transit plan, will include \$250 million over five years to support innovative mobility solutions in rural and remote communities. The funding will be available to support a wide range of delivery models, including on-demand services, to meet local transit priorities.

This announcement is a positive step that responds to years of robust advocacy by FCM and Rural Forum members. We have consistently called for dedicated

investments in rural transit to support growth, promote equality, build communities, and help the environment—and today's announcement is a direct result of our work. This funding comes in addition to previously announced investments in active transportation, which will also directly benefit rural and remote communities.

I particularly want to thank Rural Forum members for their comprehensive feedback and advice on the rural transit fund following February's announcement of the long-term transit plan. We will keep working with you and all rural municipalities on next steps, including program design, to ensure a rural lens is applied to this funding and that rural and remote transit needs are met.

I encourage you to share today's news with your communities and online. Please see quotes below in response to the announcement as a sample message.

"Rural municipalities across the country are welcoming this funding announcement. This first-ever dedicated fund for rural transit will support innovative solutions to improve mobility in smaller communities, a major priority for the Federation of Canadian Municipalities. Investing in rural transit supports growth, promotes equality, builds communities and helps the environment. This will be an important tool as rural communities gear up to help drive Canada's post-COVID recovery."

- Garth Frizzell, president of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)

"This transit fund gives rural municipalities an important tool to strengthen our communities. This is the first-ever dedicated federal fund for rural transit, and it is a good first step in recognizing the unique needs and capacities of rural communities. This tool will help us drive mobility solutions that make sense locally, and that will mean economic growth and quality-of-life improvements for rural Canadians."

- Ray Orb, Rural Forum Chair, Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)

With today's dedicated rural transit funding, after last week's doubling of the Gas Tax Fund, we are making strides together to deliver for our residents and promote economic recovery in rural and remote communities. Thank you again for your persistence and hard work to make today happen.

Sincerely,

Garth Frizzell
FCM President

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Kelly Lush

From: FCM Communiqué <communiqué@fcm.ca>
Sent: April-06-21 4:20 PM
To: Kelly Lush
Subject: FCM Voice: Empowering communities of all sizes | Register for AC 2021 | FCM CEO on net zero panel | Ann Maclean Award | more

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FCM NEWS | April 6, 2021



FCM VOICE

Canada's voice of local government



Empowering communities of all sizes

Last Monday, the federal government announced its first-ever dedicated fund for **rural transit**. Days earlier, we'd learned that the federal **Gas Tax Fund** transfer will be doubled for 2021-2022, helping every municipality launch job-creating infrastructure projects.

Both steps respond to FCM recommendations. These steps also signal that our bigger message is getting through. In a nutshell: *for a strong, inclusive and truly national recovery from COVID-19, we'll need to empower local leaders in communities of all sizes.*

The federal budget expected April 19 is an opportunity to move forward. And FCM is keeping municipal priorities front and centre—from housing vulnerable Canadians, to growing disaster mitigation tools, to applying a strong rural lens to Canada's recovery effort.

► **MORE ON FCM'S BUDGET 2021 PRIORITIES**

NEWS

Register for AC 2021—to vote in FCM's elections

FCM's 2021-2022 Board of Directors elections will take place during our virtual Annual Conference and Trade Show, May 31-June 4, 2021. Register for the conference before April 23 to participate in this democratic process *and* benefit from early-bird rates.

Want to do even more to make local priorities heard at the federal level? There is still time to put yourself forward as a candidate for a Director or a Table Officer position. Visit our website for details and consent forms.

► **RUN AS A BOARD CANDIDATE**

► **LEARN MORE ABOUT FCM'S 2021 ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

FCM CEO on panel discussing reaching net zero

FCM CEO Carole Saab will be participating in a panel discussion at the Globe Capital conference, April 13-15. The session, Destination Net Zero: Government's Role in Achieving Carbon Neutrality, will bring together federal, provincial, and municipal governments to discuss the role of policy, collaboration, and public and private investment to reach our net zero goals, help us avoid some of the most extreme impacts of human-induced climate change, and grow the economy.

► **LEARN MORE**

Nominations are open for the Ann MacLean Award

Nominations are now open for the annual Ann MacLean Award for Outstanding Service by a Woman in Municipal Politics. It recognizes retired women municipal politicians who have shown exemplary service to their community and constituents, and who have mentored, or are mentoring, women elected to municipal office, or women who are interested in running. We are accepting nominations until May 1, 2021.

► [SEE MORE INFO AND THE NOMINATION FORM](#)

CHF Canada joins FCM's Regional Energy Coaches pilot project

FCM is thrilled to announce that the Co-operative Housing Federation of Canada (CHF Canada) is our newest partner to join the [Regional Energy Coaches \(REC\) pilot project](#).

Part of FCM's Sustainable Affordable Housing initiative, RECs will help affordable housing providers initiate and plan energy efficiency retrofits and new builds. During the two-year partnership, coaches will be active in British Columbia, the Prairies, and the Atlantic and Quebec regions.

► [LEARN MORE](#)

CORPORATE PARTNER

Are Your School Zones Safe? Free trials are available.

Safer school zones are a priority – use your existing public streetlights located in school zones to easily deploy new, low-cost smart city sensors that monitor and report vehicle speeds and air pollution. Contact us for a free trial and learn how this new technology aligns with new government funding options.

► [CLAIM YOUR FREE TRIAL AT LIVEABLE CITIES](#)



LOCAL DATA

Upcoming webinar: Linked Open Data Environment

As part of FCM's collaboration with Statistics Canada to improve access to local data and help build member capacity to use data on a regular basis, we will share updates and opportunities for you to learn

more about relevant data and tools, including tailored webinars on key products and capabilities that support local, evidence-based policy decisions.

Upcoming webinars: Linkable Open Data Environment

The **Linkable Open Data Environment** is an initiative from Statistics Canada to enhance the use of open micro data, including non-personal and non-sensitive information such as business locations and public transit information. The tools and data sets within this initiative provide an incredible opportunity for local governments to gain street-level insights to better inform policy and program development.

French: April 15 at 11:00 a.m. – noon (ET)

English: April 15 at 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. (ET)

FCM TWEETS

Mar 30: "This tool will help us drive mobility solutions that make sense locally, and that will mean economic growth + quality-of-life improvements for rural Canadians." -- [@orb_ray](#), FCM's Rural Forum chair, on yesterday's rural [#publictransit](#) announcement. <https://tgam.ca/3cSb6E0>

April 6: At FCM's 2021 Virtual Annual Conference, you can engage with high-quality programming, live events, a virtual trade show, networking activities, and more. Mark your calendars and plan to join us, May 31-June 4! <https://fcm.ca/Forward2021> [#FCM2021AC](#)

April 3: Join our CEO [@carolesaab](#) at [#GlobeCapital](#), April 13-15 as she joins a panel to discuss the role of policy, collaboration + public + private investment to reach our net zero goals, help us avoid the most extreme impacts of climate change + grow the economy. <https://capital.globeseries.com>

► **MORE**



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Kelly Lush

From: FCM Communiqué <communiqué@fcm.ca>
Sent: April-12-21 2:09 PM
To: Kelly Lush
Subject: FCM Voice : FCM's GMF announces \$23 million for Zibi District Energy | AC 2021: early-bird registration | Celebrating FCM's work in Ukraine | more

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FCM NEWS | April 12, 2021

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FCM VOICE

Canada's voice of local government



FCM's GMF announces \$23 million for Zibi District Energy

The Zibi Development, located in the National Capital Region, is transforming decades-old brownfield lands into a carbon-neutral development that will house over 5,000 residents and provide prime commercial space. Last week, FCM's Green Municipal Fund (GMF) and the Government of Canada

announced funding for Zibi District Energy's Post-Industrial Waste Heat Recovery for Residential and Commercial Space Heating project.

By leveraging waste industrial heat, river-coupled cooling and locally generated hydroelectricity to eliminate GHG emissions, the project will eliminate GHG emissions from building heating and cooling operations. Once fully operational, the system will have net-zero CO₂e emissions.

GMF is a \$1.65 billion endowment from the Government of Canada that helps municipalities implement sustainability projects and emission-reducing policies.

► [READ THE ANNOUNCEMENT](#)

EVENTS

AC 2021: 2 weeks left for early bird rate

Register by April 23 for FORWARD: FCM's 2021 Annual Conference and Trade Show to get the early-bird rate. This year's conference runs from **May 31 to June 4** as a COVID-safe virtual event. If you've always wanted to attend an "AC," this is the year you won't want to miss—with our dynamic program and lowest registration fees in years. Plus, if you're one of the first 1,000 participants to register, you'll receive a delegate gift bag by mail with items from our sponsors, courtesy of Canada Post.

► [LEARN MORE AND REGISTER NOW](#)

NEWS

Celebrating FCM's work in Ukraine

This spring, after six years of innovative achievements, FCM's Partnership for Local Economic Development and Democratic Governance (PLEDDG) in Ukraine is coming to an end. We want to recognize the work of 16 partner municipalities and four regional governments. Once again, FCM's peer-to-peer approach has proven effective at fostering lasting change. We thank Global Affairs Canada for providing the core funding, as well as FCM members and partners in Ukraine for their in-kind support.

► [FIND OUT MORE ABOUT PLEDDG](#)

RESOURCES

Help shape Federal Budget 2021

With the next federal budget coming next Monday, FCM is keeping municipal priorities front-and-centre—*and you can help*. We've created simple backgrounders on four key priorities: affordable housing, infrastructure tools, rural communities, and western economic solutions. Download the ones that matter most to your community and share them with your Member of Parliament. By reinforcing our shared message in these crucial final days, you can still help shape this critical budget.

► [DOWNLOAD BACKGROUNDERS FROM FCM'S BUDGET 2021 WEBPAGE](#)

Webinar recording: Rural strength and innovation

Municipal leaders know that rural communities are a source of some of Canada's best innovation, on the cutting edge of new technologies in agriculture, food production, environmental protection, and in finding solutions through community collaboration.

Watch the recording of our latest Collective webinar on rural Canada's leadership in innovation and collaboration, in finding new avenues for economic growth, and environmental stewardship.

► [WATCH THE RECORDING](#)

LOCAL DATA

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CLICK THE LINKS BELOW TO REGISTER

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English: April 15 at 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. (ET)

FCM TWEETS 

April 7: Today, FCM & #GOC announce \$23M in funding through #GreenMunicipalFund for the @ZibiCanada District Energy (DE) project, the first net-zero community in the National Capital Region. <https://bit.ly/3g4jWAE>
[@INFC_eng](#) [@environmentca](#)
[@NRCan](#) [@ottawacity](#)
[@ville_gatineau](#)
[@HydroOttawa](#)

April 11: The Rapid Housing Initiative is helping #cdnmuni of all sizes deliver supportive and deeply affordable housing to 4,700 Canadians facing homelessness in this pandemic. Budget#2021 should build on that success by scaling it up: <https://fcm.ca/budget2021>

April 11: Our 2021 Annual Conference (May 31-June 4) will feature interactive workshops, change-making speakers + a range of innovations that make it an engaging online experience. Register today to claim your delegate gift bag: <https://fcm.ca/Forward2021>
[#FCM2021AC](#)

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