

Budget 2026: FCM recommended key messages

- **Building Canada starts locally.** *The federal government has an ambitious agenda to build a stronger Canada, and municipalities are essential partners in making those ambitions become reality. We're ready to deliver results for Canadians.*
 - The federal government should increase funding for the Build Communities Strong Fund to tackle the scale of infrastructure need in our communities. The Community Stream should be doubled, and we need dedicated funding for rural and northern municipalities.
 - The government should move quickly to finalize and implement agreements with provinces and territories, so shovel-ready municipal projects can get moving.
- **Canadians need more housing—and a stronger response to homelessness.** *We need to speed up affordable housing and take a coordinated national approach to reducing homelessness.*
 - Key in this is enhancing and maintaining the Reaching Home program as well as rental assistance and housing benefit initiatives.
 - Canadians also need all orders of governments to work together on mental health and addictions and to make sure operating dollars are available for supportive housing units.
 - The federal government should renew and improve the Housing Accelerator Fund so municipalities can have flexibility while delivering results.
- **Budget 2026 should fund proven federal-municipal programs that can make a real difference on climate and affordability results.** *FCM's Green Municipal Fund is a proven, scalable and deployment ready federal-municipal program that can help even more communities adapt to extreme weather, retrofit public buildings, lower Canadians' electricity bills and create jobs.*
 - An \$800 million investment over eight years would support 250–300 shovel-ready municipal projects, enable 10,000 new energy-saving home retrofits, and reduce participating household electricity bills by about \$1,300 annually.
 - Investing in GMF to advance shared climate resilience objectives will also create an estimated 4,000 jobs and generate approximately \$500 million in GDP.