

**Lenora**

**From:** FCM Communiqué <communiqu@fcm.ca>  
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## FCM News

November 8, 2013

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A new destination for Francophone municipal champions

Message from FCM corporate partner CMHC — National Housing Day

### Has your council passed a resolution on the #housingcrunch? ^

We need your municipality's resolution to help convince federal decision-makers to establish a long-term housing plan. Download the sample resolution and tweet "1 in 4 Canadians pays more than they can afford for housing. It's time to act. #CDNmuni <http://bit.ly/175fIP3> #housingcrunch". Thank you to Sault Ste. Marie, ON, North Vancouver, BC and Richmond, BC, for passing resolutions and supporting our campaign — Fixing Canada's Housing Crunch!

1 \*proposed resolution on page 3

## FCM visits New Brunswick, invites communities to support campaign ^

FCM needs all New Brunswick municipalities to join our housing campaign and help make it a success, members of the Cities of New Brunswick Association were told on November 2. Speaking at the association's Annual Conference in Dieppe, NB, FCM First Vice-President Brad Woodside urged delegates to visit [fcm.ca/housingcrunch](http://fcm.ca/housingcrunch) and have their local councils pass resolutions in support of the housing campaign.

## Where do federal candidates stand on housing costs? ^

In support of our housing campaign, FCM has sent a questionnaire to candidates in four federal by-elections set for November 25, requesting their views on high housing costs. We will post their answers so voters can see how they would fix Canada's housing crunch. You can help our campaign – tweet "Care about affordable housing? FCM is asking by-election candidates to answer these #housingcrunch Qs. <http://bit.ly/1aIc7Wf>".

## SCC delivers advanced training to boost your sustainability expertise ^

Municipal sustainability is a complex field that requires specialized knowledge, and FCM's 2014 Sustainable Communities Conference and Trade Show is the place to get it. For the first time, we will offer full-day advanced training in a range of skill areas, from how to make green buildings financially successful to how to assess the impact of climate change on municipal infrastructure. Visit our Advanced Training page to learn more.

## Join us for a free webinar November 12 on asset management ^

Better asset management means better municipal infrastructure. Join us for a free webinar by IBM on Tuesday, November 12, at 1 p.m. EST, and learn from Canadian success stories about how better asset management can save you time and significantly reduce your planning, construction, and maintenance costs. Register now.

## A new destination for Francophone municipal champions ^

Our new French-language Facebook page is fast becoming a destination for Francophone municipal champions. Sixty-two per cent of its fans speak French. Previously, when we had one bilingual Facebook page, 10 per cent of its fans spoke French. Like our French-language Facebook page today and engage with municipal champions in French.

## Message from FCM corporate partner CMHC – National Housing Day ^

Affordable housing helps to make our communities better places to live, work and grow. On National Housing Day, November 22, the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) celebrates the housing initiatives that are making a difference in people's lives.

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OPTIONS
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Receive for information; or</li><li>2. THAT Council authorize the resolution attached to Federation of Canadian Municipalities News – Week of November 4, 2013 regarding development of a new long-term Federal Plan to Fix Canada's Housing Crunch.</li></ol>

## **SAMPLE MODEL HOUSING RESOLUTION FOR SUPPORT FROM COUNCIL**

Please customize as appropriate, particularly by providing examples of high-priority housing projects that require continued federal support.

### **RESOLUTION**

#### **Development of a New Long-Term Federal Plan to Fix Canada's Housing Crunch**

**WHEREAS**, a stable and secure housing system that creates and maintains jobs and allows for a range of living options is essential to attracting new workers, meeting the needs of young families and supporting seniors and our most vulnerable citizens; and,

**WHEREAS** the high cost of housing is the most urgent financial issue facing Canadians with one in four people paying more than they can afford for housing, and mortgage debt held by Canadians now standing at just over \$1.1 trillion; and,

**WHEREAS** housing costs and, as the Bank of Canada notes, household debt, are undermining Canadians' personal financial security, while putting our national economy at risk; and,

**WHEREAS** those who cannot afford to purchase a home rely on the short supply of rental units, which is driving up rental costs and making it hard to house workers in regions experiencing strong economic activity; and,

**WHEREAS** an inadequate supply of subsidized housing for those in need is pushing some of the most vulnerable Canadians on to the street, while \$1.7 billion annually in federal investments in social housing have begun to expire; and,

**WHEREAS** coordinated action is required to prevent housing issues from being offloaded onto local governments and align the steps local governments have already taken with regard to federal/provincial/territorial programs and policies; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) has launched a housing campaign, "Fixing Canada's Housing Crunch," calling on the federal government to increase housing options for Canadians and to work with all orders of government to develop a long-term plan for Canada's housing future; and,

**WHEREAS** FCM has asked its member municipalities to pass a council resolution supporting the campaign;

**AND WHEREAS**, our community has continuing housing needs, such as the XX and the XX, that can only be met through the kind of long-term planning and investment made possible by federal leadership;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that council endorses the FCM housing campaign and urges the minister of employment and social development to develop a long-term plan for housing that puts core investments on solid ground, increases predictability, protects Canadians from the planned expiry of \$1.7 billion in social housing agreements and ensures a healthy stock of affordable rental housing for Canadians.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a copy of this resolution be sent to the minister noted above, to the (provincial/territorial) minister of municipal affairs, to (Name of local MP), to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities and to the (Name provincial/Territorial association).