



Councillor Paul W. Ainslie
City of Toronto Councillor
Ward 24 Scarborough-Guildwood

Chair, General Government Committee
Chair, Scarborough Community Council
Chair, Board of Management of the Toronto Zoo
Chair, Toronto and Region Conservation Authority
Chair, Federation of Ontario Public Libraries
Night Economy Champion, City of Toronto

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 Councillor Paul Ainslie Scarborough-Guildwood

 Ward 24 Scarborough-Guildwood

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Date: November 20, 2023
To: Mayor Olivia Chow, Chair and Executive Committee
Re: Federation of Canadian Municipalities Report to Council

Recommendation:

City Council receive the Federation of Canadian Municipalities Committee and Board of Directors Report to Council in Attachment 1 to this letter for information

Background:

The Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) recently shared their Report to Council from the virtual meeting held on September 14, 2023, encouraging all City Councillors to review the resources and initiatives that the FCM is currently prioritizing.

The report underscores the imperative need for a national conversation regarding the ongoing expansion of municipal responsibilities, weighed with unchanged resources. It emphasizes the necessity to establish stronger connections between municipal revenue, population growth, and economic expansion:

- Municipalities are operating within a nineteenth-century revenue system to respond to 21st-century responsibilities and evolving needs of Canadians.
- Municipalities manage more than 60 percent of Canada's public infrastructure yet only receive between 8 and 10 cents for each tax dollar collected.
- Emerging from the pandemic, we've seen federal and provincial sales and income taxes increase rapidly while overall municipal property tax revenue has remained flat—or even declined—when accounting for inflation and population growth.

FCM is calling for a real conversation, with federal, provincial, and territorial governments at the table, focusing on the changes required for Canada's growing communities to meet both today and tomorrow's challenges.

Sincerely,

Paul W. Ainslie
City of Toronto, Councillor, Ward 24 Scarborough-Guildwood

Attachment 1 - Federation of Canadian Municipalities Committee and Board of Directors
<https://media.fcm.ca/documents/members-only/2023/FCM-Report-Council-Sept2023.pdf>