



**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  
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Councillor Paul Ainslie Scarborough-Guildwood

Ward 24 Scarborough-Guildwood

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Date: April 16, 2024

To: Mayor Olivia Chow, Chair, and Executive Committee

Re: Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Report to City Council

**Recommendation:**

1. Toronto City Council receive the Federation of Municipalities March 2024 report to Council for information.

**Background:**

As one of the City of Toronto appointees to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities Board of Directors, I participated in their most recent Standing Committees virtually from February 21 – 23, 2024. I attended the Board of Directors meeting, held in Prince George, British Columbia from March 5 - 7, 2024. With municipal representatives from across Canada, a wide range of issues was discussed such as Federal infrastructure funding (housing), the need for a municipal growth framework, community safety initiatives and supporting asylum claimants.

Meeting during the pre-budget Federal government budget period provided the Board of Directors with an opportunity to focus on FCM's strategic priorities for potential inclusion in the Federal budget. Presentations outlined advocacy efforts for advancing the priorities of member municipalities, while preparing to push these priorities leading into the Annual Conference and Trade Show in Calgary this upcoming June.

FCM and the City of Prince George partnered to offer Board Members a few “Study Tours” which I was able to participate in.

**Study Tour #1:** We visited the site and spoke with the organizing committee of the 2024 Para Biathlon World Championships, and Para Nordic World Cup Finals. The organizers discussed the preparation and planning required for an event of this magnitude, including discussions on costs and procedural steps taken by the municipality. There was a review as well of previous world events (2020- and 2022-Women’s World Curling) hosted by Prince George.

**Study Tour #2:** We discovered how community the Prince George is a pioneer in addressing climate change through innovative collaboration with First Nations, governments and industries aimed at cutting greenhouse gas emissions. We learned about unique initiatives which make Prince George a leader in Canada’s journey toward net-zero:

- Visited the wood Innovation Research Laboratory. It is a mass timber landmark known for its efficiency and insights into wood building performance.
- Toured Lakeland Mills, a family-owned, self-sustaining sawmill with renewable heat and supporting Canada’s largest renewable district heating system.

- We were able to explore Tidewater Renewables' newest site which is Canada's inaugural facility for renewable diesel and hydrogen production.

<b>Meetings and Talks</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Social-Economic Development Committee</li> <li>- Safety and Crime Prevention Committee</li> <li>- Board of Directors Meeting</li> <li>- Ontario Caucus Regional Caucus</li> <li>- Committee of the Whole</li> <li>- FCM Board Talks</li> <li>- Mayor's Welcome Reception</li> </ul>	<b>Study Tours</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Para Biathlon World Championships and Para Nordic World Cup Finals</li> <li>- Low-Carbon Leadership Study Tour</li> <li>- i. Wood Innovation Research Laboratory</li> <li>- ii. Lakeland Mills</li> <li>- iii. Tidewater Renewables</li> </ul>
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I invite you to review the attached March 2024 Report to Council, which details the work accomplished at various committees and forums.

Sincerely,

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