



MEMO / NOTE DE SERVICE

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TO: Finance and Corporate Services Committee

DESTINATAIRE : Comité des finances et des services organisationnels

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FILE NUMBER: ACS2023-OCC-CCS-0134

**SUBJECT: FCM Annual Conference and Trade Show 2023 Delegate Report  
(Councillor Troster)**

**OBJET : Le rapport du délégué du congrès annuel et salon professionnel de FCM  
2023 (Conseillère Troster)**

PURPOSE

The purpose of this memorandum is to report to Committee following attendance at the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Annual Conference and Trade Show.

Pursuant to Section 4 of the Council Expense Policy, Members of Council who undertake City-funded travel must submit a written report to the appropriate Standing

Committee detailing their experiences, what they learned at the conference and how the City's position or interests were advanced.

## BACKGROUND

The City of Ottawa is the fourth largest city in Canada and the second largest city in Ontario. As a leading municipality, Ottawa is a member of several municipal organizations responsible for advancing important priorities and engaging with upper levels of government. Our participation allows the City to influence policy development at the provincial and national level, while networking and learning from our peers. To this end, Members of Council are invited to attend various conferences, conventions, and meetings both within and outside the municipality.

The City of Ottawa is a Member of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), an organization representing more than 2,000 municipalities across Canada. FCM's Annual Conference and Trade Show gathers municipal leaders from across Canada each year to set common policy goals on key issues.

FCM hosted its Annual Conference and Trade Show from May 25 to May 28, 2023, in Toronto, Ontario. In addition to Councillor Tim Tierney, the City's representative to FCM, the following Members of Council attended this event:

- Councillor Jessica Bradley
- Councillor Sean Devine
- Councillor Theresa Kavanagh
- Councillor Wilson Lo
- Councillor Shawn Menard
- Councillor Ariel Troster

## DISCUSSION

I really enjoyed attending the FCM annual conference and left with concrete tools and ideas to impact my work in Somerset Ward and on city council. I attended workshops on affordable housing with the CMHC, on the creation of a Toronto non-police crisis response pilot program, and I went on a bike tour of cycling infrastructure. I also used my time in Toronto to meet with representatives from the Parkdale Land Trust and the Bentway.

- The cycling tour gave me immediate ideas on how to improve cycling infrastructure in my ward particularly more robust "quick builds" with pin curbs,

not just flex stakes. I also got to ride a BikeTO bike-share bicycle, see how easy it was to use and how well-used the program is in Toronto.

- The workshop on the Toronto alternative crisis response was directly relevant to our own work in Ottawa, working to create a similar program. It had an influence on my interventions at Community Services Committee.
- Learning more about the Parkdale Land Trust has contributed to my work on housing acquisition in Ottawa and my interest in supporting the Ottawa Community Land Trust.
- Seeing The Bentway's cultural interventions under the Gardiner have influenced my perspective on what is possible in the public realm. I will be following up to see what similar project we could try in my ward next summer.

In addition to all of this, the networking and knowledge-sharing was invaluable.

## CONCLUSION

It is through the commitment of Members of Council, to attend conferences like the 2023 FCM Annual Conference and Trade Show, that the City of Ottawa's interests are advanced.

Ariel Troster  
Councillor, Ward 14 Somerset