



CONNECT

October 7, 2025



New funding for better plans, stronger trees and healthier lives

As of today, your community can access up to \$175,000 to create a plan or study that is focused on the sustainable expansion and resilience of your forests and trees. Our Urban forestry plans and studies funding is flexible to meet your community's needs, whether you're updating a tree planting strategy, developing a new urban forestry policy, or analyzing canopy cover.

Developing an urban forest management plan means increasing the resilience and health of your trees. In return, you'll increase the resilience and health of the people in your community. Applications are due April 15, 2026.

[See how your community can benefit today.](#)

FCM FUNDING



Last call: Apply now for GMF's safe and active school routes funding

The GMF's Safe and Active School Routes initiative helps communities quickly improve safety around schools. This limited-time opportunity provides up to \$125,000 (covering 50–80% of eligible project costs) for infrastructure such as crossings, bike lanes, sidewalks, lighting and traffic-calming measures designed to reduce risk and encourage active transportation.

In addition to funding, participants join a national peer learning cohort to access expert guidance and proven strategies from other municipalities.

[Applications are open until October 17.](#)



Funding: Turn wastewater gas into energy

The Region of Waterloo, ON, saves about \$1.5 million every year by turning methane from its wastewater treatment plants into heat and electricity. Supported by GMF, the project could generate more than \$16 million in savings over 20 years.

Your community could do the same with GMF funding, access:

- up to \$100,000 for business cases
- up to \$200,000 for studies
- up to \$10 million for capital projects

[Start your application today and turn waste into energy.](#)

FEATURED RESOURCES





Photo by Margaret Thompson. Courtesy of Kitikmeot Heritage Society

GMF's 2024–25 Annual Report: An inspiring success story in Nunavut

For 25 years, GMF has helped municipalities build vibrant, livable, and resilient communities. In Cambridge Bay, Nunavut, a new cultural campus—blending Inuit practices for building in harmony with the Arctic landscape with low-carbon design—creates a hub for learning, cultural preservation and connection. The project also strengthens local economy by prioritizing Northern and Indigenous-owned businesses, giving community members a meaningful role in shaping their own space.

This story—one of many featured in GMF's 2024-25 Annual Report—shows how GMF's impactful investments across the country are addressing social needs, boosting well-being, strengthening communities, and improving the quality of life for Canadians everywhere.

[Explore the report to learn more.](#)



Get to know our Regional Energy Coaches

Are you looking to add more sustainable affordable housing in your community, or improve the energy efficiency of existing units? The Regional Energy Coaches (REC) program is dedicated to improving energy efficiency and affordability in housing across Canada.

Get to know our expert coaches, who can provide technical support, planning, and funding guidance for your municipality, not-for-profit or housing cooperative.

[Connect with a Regional Energy Coach today.](#)



Your community might be more ready than you think

Getting started with climate adaptation doesn't always mean starting from scratch. In fact, many communities already have some of the pieces in place—like local data, shared priorities, or existing planning tools—that can help guide their next steps.

Part of our *Strengthening communities through climate adaptation* series, our article, *Climate adaptation: You might be closer than you think* offers a new way to think about readiness and shares accessible resources your community can use to move forward.

[Read the article.](#)

[More in this series.](#)



ICATM: Nature-Based Solutions for More Resilient Tunisian Communities

The Inclusive Climate Action for Tunisian Municipalities (ICATM) project hosted its first meetings on Nature-Based Solutions (NBS) in Tunisia, bringing together municipal partners, researchers, experts and decision-makers from Tunisia and Canada.

The meetings provided a platform to discuss tools for effective local climate planning, introduce NBS concepts and approaches, and explore innovative solutions for climate adaptation and territorial resilience.

Canadian municipal partners played an active role with the participation of representatives from the MRC Marguerite-d'Youville, the City of Vancouver, the City of Selkirk, and the City of Shippagan, demonstrating how sharing municipal expertise can support local climate action internationally.

The ICATM project is implemented by FCM and CILG and funded by Global Affairs Canada.

These exchanges show how international partnerships and nature-based approaches can strengthen local planning and contribute to more sustainable and inclusive communities.

EVENTS AND TRAINING



FREE WEBINAR

COLLECTIVE
AN FCM WEBINAR SERIES

Discover how Manitoba communities are expanding water infrastructure to support growth. Learn how flexible financing and regional collaboration are helping communities while keeping services affordable.

**WATER SYSTEMS FINANCING
TO SUPPORT HOUSING GROWTH**

October 22 | 12 PM (ET)

PRESENTED IN PARTNERSHIP BY:
FCM **CIB+BIC**

WEBINAR | OCTOBER 22 AT 12 P.M. ET

New Collective webinar: Water systems financing to support housing growth

Municipal water infrastructure is critical for growing communities. Join us for a free webinar on October 22 in partnership with the Canada Infrastructure Bank to learn how their flexible financing helps deliver critical water infrastructure in some of the country's fastest-growing communities.

A house isn't a home without running water, yet local leaders are left with tough choices on how to maintain and expand water and wastewater services while keeping fares and water rates affordable.

[Register now.](#)

Upcoming learning opportunities
[Visit our website](#) to view the full list of events.



24 Clarence Street
Ottawa, ON K1N 5P3
fcm.ca

T. 613-241-5221
info@fcm.ca
[Privacy Policy](#)