

CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

FROM SATURDAY, JUNE 1



Minister Lebel talks Budget 2013



The Honourable Denis Lebel, minister of transport, infrastructure and communities, presented the Government of Canada's perspective on Budget 2013 and what it means for federal–municipal relations. Minister Lebel looked ahead to partnering with FCM on the design of new infrastructure programs, noting that “now we have to work for the new plan and I will need your help.” Commenting on of

President's Forum II

Are the constitutional, legislative and fiscal mechanisms available to municipalities good enough? Don't miss today's debate at 8:40 a.m.!

the greater flexibility that will be built in to new infrastructure programs, the Minister said “nobody in Ottawa knows better than you what's important in your community.”

FCM Roll of Honour — Congratulations to five former members of the Big City Mayors' Caucus (BMC), named to the FCM Roll of Honour for their impressive contributions to federal–municipal relations and their role in securing transformative funding arrangements for municipalities.

David Miller, Former Mayor of Toronto
Dave Bronconnier, Former Mayor of Calgary
Senator Larry Campbell, Former Mayor of Vancouver
Ann-Marie DeCicco-Best, Former Mayor of London
Pat Fiacco, Former Mayor of Regina and Former Chair, FCM Big City Mayors' Caucus



The Honourable Tom Mulcair takes the conference stage — The Leader of the Official Opposition said for Canada to gain jobs and growth federal governments must have a vision for cities and communities and understand that they are the motor of the economy and the destination of new Canadians. Mr. Mulcair affirmed that the federal government has a role to play in affordable housing, saying that “it is totally inadmissible that in this country we have so many people that go to bed without a roof over their head.” Mr. Mulcair affirmed that the NDP is very proud of, and will continue, its support for local governments.



Policy Forum Day — Nine FCM Policy Forums took place on Saturday, giving all FCM members the opportunity to engage directly in the work of the Standing Committees and Forums of our Board of Directors. All suggestions and comments were recorded and will be presented to the Board at their meeting in St. John's, Newfoundland, in September as part of the process for setting the Board's priorities.