The City of Niagara Falls, Ontario
Council Chambers

No. 11

Moved by Alderman IOANNONI

Seconded by Alderman WING

BE IT RESOLVED That Niagara Falls City Council call on the Provincial Government to review the Workplace Safety & Insurance Act in order to ensure that firefighters and their families receive fair and timely compensation for illness or disease that is attributable to their work as firefighters; and that the motion be forwarded to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities.

AND The Seal of the Corporation be hereto affixed.

Carried Unanimously

DEAN TORFIDA
CITY CLERK

R. T. (TED) SALCI
MAYOR
Backgrounder on FCM-ICMD Advocacy Plan

Context: The Federation of Canadian Municipalities’ International Centre for Municipal Development (ICMD) and its partners, representing a global network of municipal governments and associations, are proposing the creation of a Global Program for Local Governance (GPLG). This program would strengthen governance capacity at both the local and national levels, support the development of regional and global networks and enhance knowledge-sharing initiatives. The GPLG will result in improved delivery of services that touches people’s lives directly; support collaborative relationships with communities; and enhance participatory and transparent governance. The GPLG builds on the successes and lessons learned from almost two decades of international programming that has mobilized more than 200 Canadian municipalities in 20 countries.

Canadian municipalities have achieved impressive results and are ready to take on greater challenges. Their potential to represent Canadian values abroad and advance the interests of Canada throughout the world is enormous, yet that potential has been constrained by insufficient resources, fragmented programming and limited links to broader Canadian foreign policy interests. Now it requires a long-term, sustainable commitment of sufficient resources and strategic opportunities to mobilize Canadian communities and link them to a globally coherent initiative that will deliver the results Canadians want to see. The GPLG provides those opportunities and FCM has the skills and experience to make it happen.

Approach: Recognizing the opportunity to more broadly engage Canadian municipalities in international development, the FCM Board of Directors recently endorsed a resolution urging the Government of Canada to establish a framework to more effectively engage Canadian municipalities and to support the GPLG. At the World Urban Forum in Vancouver in June 2006, FCM’s and its overseas partners also agreed to work collaboratively to strengthen local governance through the implementation of the GPLG.

FCM has begun an information campaign to raise awareness amongst key decision makers about the success that has resulted from cooperation between Canadian municipalities and local governments around the world. The campaign will also focus on building support for the Global Program for Local Governance with Ministers, MPs, Deputy Ministers and senior representatives of the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), Foreign Affairs and the Privy Council Office.

FCM wants to draw on the strength of the Canadian municipal sector and is encouraging Canadian municipalities to contact their MPs and express their support for FCM’s international programs and the proposed GPLG. To assist you, we have prepared a template letter that you can adapt to highlight any particular benefits or interest you have in cooperating with FCM internationally. Please use this letter in the next few weeks to communicate to your Member of Parliament the importance of strengthening Canadian municipal involvement in international development through the proposed GPLG.

For more information contact: Brock Carlton, Director, ICMD Tel. 613 907-6253, Email: hcarlton@fcm.ca
FIRST AND LAST NAME, M.P.
House of Commons
Parliament Buildings
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0A6

Introductory remarks: Expression of appreciation to the Government of Canada for their support of FCM’s international programs.

Paragraph 2: Highlight any involvement your municipality has had in FCM’s international programs or express your municipalities’ interest in becoming involved with the program.

Paragraph 3: A brief statement on the value and benefit to your community, to Canada and the host country of being involved with FCM’s international programs.

Paragraph 4: Indicate that FCM members are working with our overseas partners to design the Global Program for Local Governance the responds to local priority needs.

Paragraph 5: An endorsement or message of support for the Global Program of Local Governance.