



To: Members of the General Committee

From: Susan Chiddix, Peterborough's Local Network of the Canadian Council on Local Issues

Date: April 29, 2024

Report: CCLI Report24_003 on Report COU24-003 the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) 2024 Election – City of Peterborough Representation,

Subject

“Councillor Duguay has expressed an interest in running for the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Board of Directors to represent the City of Peterborough. An official endorsement must be made by the municipality in order for this process to go forward.”

Our local network is dedicated to ensuring that sustainable development programs, such as those administrated through the Federation of Municipalities, do not have a negative impact our community and our cherished Canadian way of life.

While we appreciate Councillor Duguay willingness and dedication to representing the interest of Peterborough we recommend that the General Committee reject the recommendations outlined in Report COU24-002, dated April 22, 2024.

Recommendations

WHEREAS according to Section 92 of the Constitution, municipalities fall under the exclusive jurisdiction of provinces.

WHEREAS the federal government and international entities collaborate with the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, bypassing governmental branches and legislative restrictions to promote and administrate programs aimed at achieving the United National Sustainable Development Goals within municipal jurisdiction.

WHEREAS the allocation of municipal funds are not diverted towards any external or ideological interests.

BE IT RESOLVED the Council of the City of Peterborough respectfully decline the endorsement of Councillor Kevin Duguay to FCM's Board of Directors for the period starting in June 2024 and ending June 2025.

Background

The Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) advocates for the interests of Ottawa, as well as various international organizations and lobbyist groups within our communities.

The FCM *has* been recognized as a national advocate for local governments since its establishment in 1937, earning a high level of prestige over the years.

In 1994, it released a municipal primer on the United Nations' Conference on Environment and Development. The primer emphasized the need to *think globally* and *act locally*.

Today the FCM about page says, that *local solutions* are the key to tackling *national* and *global* challenges; and secondly, it states it is a national voice for local governments.

What does the FCM say about the FCM?

- 1 Local solutions are key to tackling national and global challenges. As the order of government closest to people's daily lives, local governments understand the issues that matter to Canadians—and they have the expertise to deliver results.
- 2 As the national voice for local governments, we help empower cities and communities to build a more prosperous, livable and sustainable future. We advocate for their priorities on the national stage, and deliver world-class programs to local leaders.

2023

FCM FEDERATION OF CANADIAN MUNICIPALITIES

National voice for Local Governments

1994

KCSC Local voice for International Governments?

5.0 CONCLUSIONS

It is clear that achieving sustainable development for the Earth will require actions by all orders of government and sectors of society. Strong local actions, though, are absolutely imperative to achieving sustainability. Sustainable development practices must be contextualized according to local circumstances and community needs. Familiarity with their communities will allow municipalities to better understand the challenges to the daily way of life that achieving sustainable development will mean. Municipalities are also the unit of government with primary responsibility for regulating the use of land. This responsibility grants municipalities the opportunity to ensure that future growth and development of their communities is undertaken in a manner that supports environmental health and does not jeopardize future generations.

Thinking globally, acting locally is not just a slogan. Sustainability cannot be achieved if each community assumes that others will act. Action is required by all and each must participate.

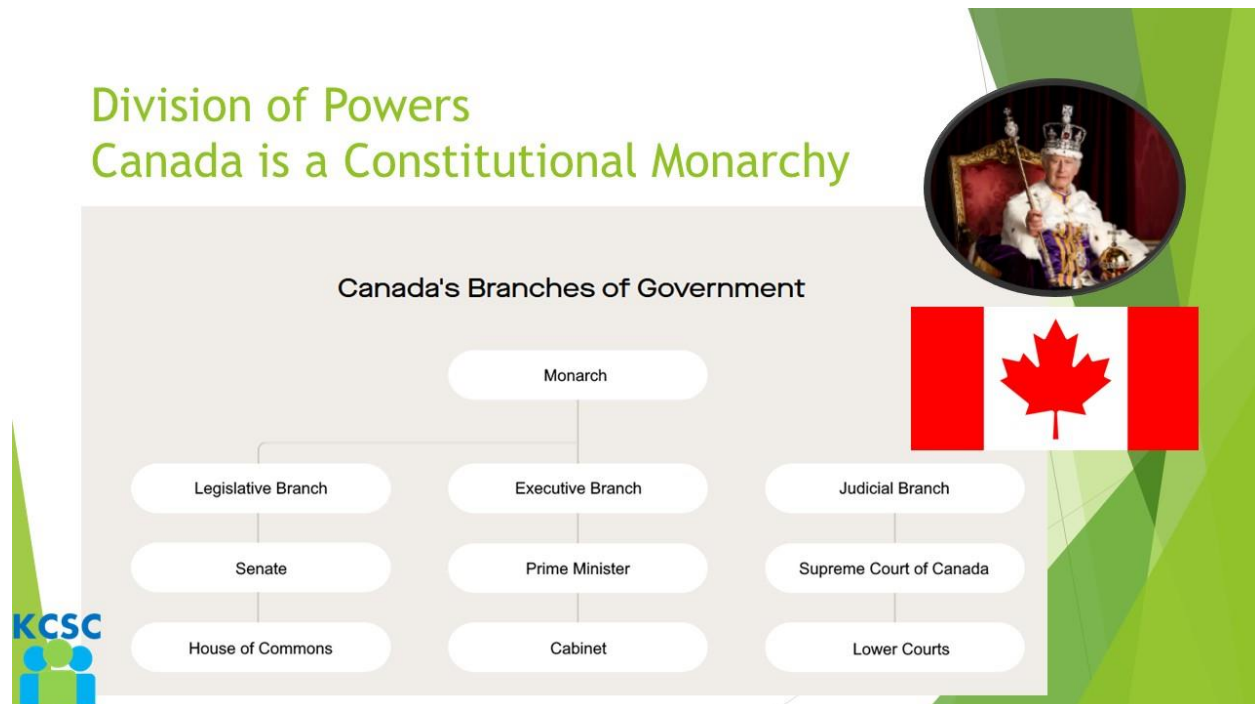
According to Section 92 of the Constitution, municipalities fall under the exclusive jurisdiction of provinces.

Last November, provincial premiers expressed their united opposition at the Council of the Federation in Halifax to Ottawa's direct agreements with municipalities. These agreements effectively disregard the priorities and programs of provincial governments.

The federal government's participation in municipal affairs through the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) may have implications for the traditional roles of provincial and local governance.

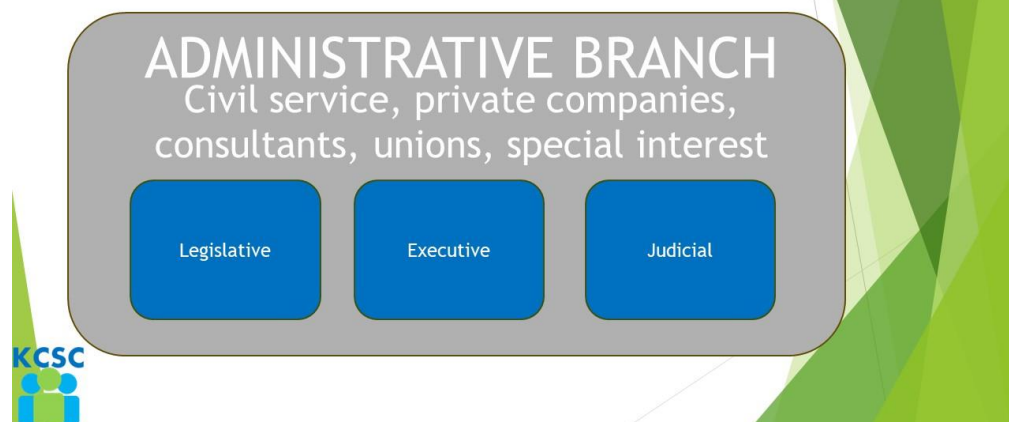
The Federation of Canadian Municipalities is collaborating with global entities to bypass governmental branches and legislative restrictions by utilizing the administrative branch.

Canada has a governance system consisting of three branches: Legislative, Executive, and Judicial, which create, enforce, and interpret laws.



Additionally, there exists an administrative branch that handles administrative duties. This branch is comprised of civil service, private companies, consultants, unions, and special interest groups and performs its tasks regardless of who is elected.

The 4th Branch of Government



The FCM collaborates directly with the United Nations through ICLEI (Local Governments for Sustainability) to augment the duties of staff; and partners municipalities with UN-focused NGOs such as Sustainable Peterborough. As a result, the U.N. can bypass government branches and legislative limitations.

Working in the Gray

How can we affect change when legislation and distribution / separation of powers prevents it?

- ▶ Bypass 3 branches of Government
 - ▶ Work directly with civil service
 - ▶ Training & associations
 - ▶ Unions
- ▶ Public Private Partnerships
 - ▶ Non-Governmental Organizations NGOs
 - ▶ Not limited by legislation
 - ▶ Receive government money
 - ▶ Corporate Partnerships
 - ▶ Economic and social infrastructure

Can be **GOOD** or **BAD**

The infographic includes a background image of a forest, a speech bubble with the question, and a circular logo with the text "SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS". The KCSC logo is also present in the bottom left corner.

Further Reading

[Council of the Federation, November 5-6, 2023](#)

***A Municipal Primer on the United Nations Conference
on Environment and Development***

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