

This evening's vote concerns the candidacy of Councillor Duguay for the board of directors of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities. While we appreciate Councillor Duguay's commitment and passion for representing our city's interests, we have some concerns that we feel are important to address.

Established in 1937, the FCM *has* been recognized as a national voice for local governments, earning a high level of prestige over the years.

However the organization has shifted its priorities. In 1994, it released a municipal primer on the United Nations' Conference on Environment and Development, which emphasized the need to *think globally* and *act locally*.

Today the FCM website 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.

It appears the FCM has now re-ordered its priorities and now advocates for the interests of Ottawa, as well as various international organizations over local interests.

Secondly, It is essential to emphasize the significance of Section 92 of the Canadian Constitution, which places municipalities under the exclusive jurisdiction of provinces.

Last November, provincial premiers expressed their opposition at the Council of the Federation to Ottawa's direct agreements with municipalities.

The federal government's participation in municipal affairs through the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) may have implications for the traditional roles of national, provincial and local governance. Therefore, it may be prudent to carefully examine this situation before making any decisions that could exasperate this provincially identified problem.

Lastly, 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 which performs their tasks regardless of who is elected.

The FCM collaborates directly with the United Nations through ICLEI, the International Council on Local Environmental Initiatives now called (Local Governments for Sustainability) to encompass the broader scope of UN Sustainability Goals.

The FCMs programs 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 by utilizing the administrative branch.

This is a potential national security concern which is currently under investigation.

Therefore We Recommend...

That the Council of the City of Peterborough respectfully decline Councillor Duguay's endorsement to run for a position on the FCM board of directors.

We would like to assure Councillor Duguay that our recommendation is in no way a reflection on his qualifications or commitment to the city of Peterborough.

We simply believe that it would be in the best interest of our city to focus on local priorities rather than involving ourselves in national and international interests.

If the council chooses to endorse Councillor Duguay's candidacy, we kindly request that he bring our concerns to the attention of the FCM board of directors. We respectfully urge them to reconsider their shift in priorities. It is our sincere hope that they will prioritize Canada's local interests and national sovereignty moving forward.

Thank You