

ITEM	7
MANAGER'S REPORT NO.	9
COUNCIL MEETING	93/02/09

TO: CITY MANAGER 1993 February 3

FROM: ACTING DIRECTOR PLANNING AND BUILDING OUR FILE: 00.890

SUBJECT: 1993 FCM RESOLUTION

PURPOSE: To provide for Council's consideration a resolution for submission to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' 1993 Annual Conference.

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**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. THAT Council endorse the resolution contained in Section 3.0 of this report for submission to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' 1993 Annual Conference.
2. THAT a copy of this report be forwarded to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, 24 Clarence Street, Ottawa, Ontario, K1N 5P3.
3. THAT a copy of this report be forwarded to the Members of Parliament for Burnaby.

**R E P O R T**

**1.0 BACKGROUND**

At its meeting on 1993 January 04, Council received correspondence from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) advising that the deadline for submission of resolutions to FCM's National Board of Directors meeting or to FCM's 1993 Annual Conference is 1993 February 15.

In response to this correspondence, Council adopted the following motion:

"THAT staff prepare a resolution on the need for the Federal Government to share in the cost of upgrading infrastructures in municipalities across Canada."

## 2.0 MUNICIPAL INFRASTRUCTURE – BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Concerns about the state of municipal infrastructure and the need for financial assistance from the federal government for infrastructure upgrading have been expressed by many municipalities to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) in recent years.

A Task Force on Municipal Infrastructure was created by the FCM in 1983 to assess the magnitude of the municipal infrastructure problem and to develop a means to deal with the problem. A study entitled "Municipal Infrastructure in Canada: Physical Condition and Funding Adequacy" was carried out by a technical committee comprised of senior municipal officials and academics. The report was published in 1985.

In summary, the study made the following conclusions:

- . There is a serious municipal infrastructure problem in Canada. Such essential facilities as roads, sidewalks, bridges and sewer and water systems are in poor condition and deteriorating rapidly.
- . There are high costs in bringing the deteriorating infrastructure to an acceptable standard. The cost for upgrading would be too great to be borne exclusively by municipalities.
- . Delays in repair and replacement have increased operating costs to municipalities while compounding the total capital cost for a major national infrastructure program.
- . Costs should be shared equally by the three levels of government.
- . The construction and manufacturing sectors would benefit from an infrastructure program.

Since the 1985 study, the municipal infrastructure funding problem has been addressed at Premiers' Conferences and Big City Mayors' Conferences. As well, the problem has been the subject of numerous resolutions presented at the FCM Annual Conferences. Last year the cities of Vancouver, North Vancouver, Prince George and Ottawa each submitted a resolution to the FCM pertaining to funding for municipal infrastructure programs. Three of the resolutions were adopted by the FCM Conference delegates, and the fourth resolution was referred for further study.

**3.0 RESOLUTION FOR THE 1993 FCM ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

The City of Burnaby wishes to further emphasize the urgent need for the federal government to share in the high cost of upgrading infrastructures in municipalities across Canada.

The following resolution is submitted for consideration at the 1993 FCM Annual Conference to be held in June.

**WHEREAS** there is a need for clean water, adequate sewer systems and waste disposal facilities, safe roads and bridges;

**WHEREAS** there have been growing concerns about the need to protect our environment, to address public health and safety problems, and to meet environmental and other legislated requirements enacted by the senior governments;

**WHEREAS** federal and provincial regulations with respect to environmental protection have significant cost implications for municipal and regional governments;

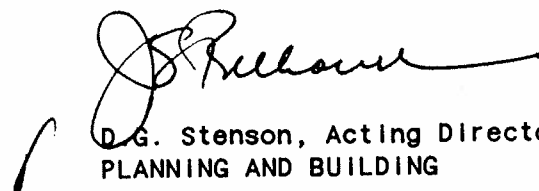
**WHEREAS** there is a growing backlog of inadequate and deteriorating water, sewer, solid waste disposal, and transportation infrastructure systems which pose significant safety and health risks to the public; and

**WHEREAS** the high costs of providing infrastructure replacement and improvements are beyond the ability of many municipal and regional governments to finance;

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**BE IT RESOLVED** that the federal government place a priority on providing financial assistance to municipal governments towards the upgrading of the infrastructure.

  
D.G. Stenson, Acting Director  
PLANNING AND BUILDING

SL/mm

cc: Director Engineering