



SEP 19 2014

September 15, 2014

Les Gamble, Chair  
District Services Board of Manitoulin-Sudbury  
210 Mead Boulevard  
Espanola ON P5E 1R9

Dear Mr. Gamble,

I want to personally thank you for organizing, mobilizing, and passing a council resolution supporting FCM's nationwide Fixing Canada's Housing Crunch campaign. Your actions and the success of this campaign demonstrate that when municipalities across this country stand together, our voices do grow louder.

When we first imagined this campaign, you, perhaps like me, wondered if we could connect the diverse experiences of cities and towns across Canada into one resounding message. Now, as we reflect on the over 200 municipalities representing more than 70 percent the Canadian population that have passed council resolutions supporting the campaign, it is clear that we have achieved just that. We have shown that whether we make our home in a small-town harbour, a towering urban skyline, or the hills of a rural horizon, we are united in our belief that everyone benefits from a stable and secure housing system.

Your organizing and leadership have raised the profile of housing as an issue of national concern. In addition to the over 200 resolutions passed, our message was amplified by an active social media campaign, community roundtable discussions, nation-wide media coverage, and outreach to members of parliament and by-election candidates. As our campaign comes to a close, we are preparing a report that summarizes what we heard in community housing roundtables and resolutions passed across the country. I look forward to sharing that report with you in the coming months.

The Housing Crunch campaign taught us what a powerful message it sends when grassroots leaders across the country mobilize their communities. Your resolution joined the chorus of voices asking the government to take stock of the state of housing in Canada and to work with all orders of government to develop a long-term plan for the future.

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Looking forward, we want to build on this success and apply it to our advocacy work in the 2015 Federal Election. This past month, at FCM's Annual Conference in Niagara Falls, we launched a national campaign encouraging all federal parties to recognize that a strong Canada begins with strong hometowns. To learn more about this exciting new campaign, you can visit [fcm.ca/hometowns](http://fcm.ca/hometowns) and sign up to become a Hometown Champion.

Thank you again for passing a council resolution and taking a leading role in fixing Canada's housing crunch. With your help, we can continue to keep the concerns of our hometowns front and centre with all orders of government.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Brad Woodside".

Brad Woodside  
Mayor, City of Fredericton  
FCM President