



Mr. Mayor Garth Frizzell
President, Federation of Canadian Municipalities
24 Clarence Street
Ottawa, Ontario, K1N 5P3
Email: info@fcm.ca

December 22, 2020

Dear Mr. Frizzell,

Let me begin by congratulating you on your election as the President of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) earlier this fall. Since 2019, I am the President of the Canadian Association of Fire Chiefs (CAFC). I would welcome a meeting with you to discuss how FCM and CAFC may work together.

I am writing today about your correspondence to Minister Blair, copied to past President Ken Block, regarding FCM's support of our longstanding recommendation for a modified version of a Joint Emergency Preparedness Program (JEPP). We were very appreciative of this support.

In the letter, you discuss the JEPP as a means of capital support to volunteer departments and FCM's conversation with the CAFC Answer the Call Committee. We would like to clarify that while we certainly need support for volunteer departments, it is also our view that the JEPP should be made available to *all* fire departments. This avoids arbitrary exclusions caused by variations in definitions and false perceptions of resource availability.

You are hopefully also aware of our other requests. We have attached our pre-budget submission for you. Once again, I would welcome the opportunity to meet virtually with you. It would be a pleasure to meet you and to align our organizations' shared goals. If you are so willing, I welcome your staff to contact our Executive Director, Dr. Tina Saryeddine at tsaryeddine@cafc.ca.

Thank you again for your support of the fire sector. We look forward to the possibility of meeting. In the meantime, we wish you, FCM members, and staff a very happy and healthy holiday and new year.

Sincerely,

Chief John McKearney
Whistler Fire Chief
CAFC President

CC: CAFC Board of Directors