



# CANADA



## KEY FACTS

### POPULATION (2016 Census):

35,151,728

### AREA:

9,984,670 sq km

### CAPITAL:

Ottawa

### CURRENCY:

Canadian dollar (CAD)

### HEAD OF STATE:

HM Queen Elizabeth II

### GOVERNOR-GENERAL:

Julie Payette

### HEAD OF GOVERNMENT:

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau

### FORM OF GOVERNMENT:

constitutional monarchy

### PARLIAMENTARY SYSTEM:

bicameral

### STATE STRUCTURE:

federal

### LANGUAGES:

English and French (official)

### NATIONAL ELECTIONS:

last: Oct 2015, turnout: 68.4%; next: 2019

### WOMEN IN PARLIAMENT (2015):

27.0% (MPs) 39.0% (Senators)

### LOCAL ELECTIONS:

vary from province to province

### WOMEN COUNCILLORS (2014):

~27%

### LOCAL GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE as a percentage of total government expenditure 2007/08:

31.9%

## SUMMARY

Canada is a federal bicameral parliamentary democracy and a constitutional monarchy with a highly varied local government system. Legislation for local government is unique to each province and territory. Canada's constitution divides powers between the federal government and the ten provincial governments, but municipalities are not recognised as a separate order of government. Provinces and territories have a number of legislative Acts that govern local government within their jurisdiction. Three provinces have a multi-tiered local government system, with a regional tier, while the other provinces and territories have a single-tier system. Provincial and territorial ministers with local government responsibilities oversee local government legislation. Under the ten provincial and three territorial governments are two supra-regional authorities (in Québec), 143 regional authorities and over 3,600 local governments. Property taxes are the main source of revenue for local governments, with individual municipalities determining their own property tax rate. Provincial, territorial and federal government transfers account for around one-fifth of total revenue and include both general and specific-purpose funds. Local governments are generally responsible for services within a city or region, including police and fire protection, water and sewage services, recreation services and local public transportation.

### 1. NATIONAL GOVERNMENT

Canada is a federal parliamentary democracy and a constitutional monarchy with a bicameral parliament. The head of state is HM Queen Elizabeth II, represented by a governor-general who is appointed on the advice of the prime minister. The lower chamber, called the House of Commons, is the major law-making body. Each of the 337 constituencies, or ridings, elects a representative using the first-past-the-post system for a maximum term of five years. The senate, also known as the upper or red chamber, has 105 members appointed by the governor-general on the advice of the prime minister. The senate's purpose is to represent the regional and social diversity of Canada. Members may serve until the age of 75. Following the 2015 national election, 27.0% (91/337) of elected representatives and 39.0% (41/105) of senators were women.<sup>31b</sup> The prime minister appoints a cabinet from members of the House of Commons including, if possible, at least one minister from each province. Canada is a federal state with ten provinces and three territories. Powers are shared between the federal government and the governments of the provinces and the territories. The provincial legislatures can set up local government structures in their area and grant these institutions powers.

### 2. LEGAL BASIS FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT

#### 2.1 Constitutional provisions

Canada's constitution<sup>10.2a</sup> divides powers between the federal government and the ten provincial governments according to function. Municipalities are not recognised as a separate order of government, but Section 92(8) of the Constitution Act 1867 gives the provinces exclusive powers to make laws in relation to 'municipal institutions in the province' (Constitution Act 1867).

#### 2.2 Main legislative texts

There have been significant changes in local government legislation over the last decade, including giving councils greater autonomy to respond to changing circumstances. Most provinces and territories have enacted new or substantially amended legislation in the past ten years. The trend in recent legislation has been to give local authorities powers of general competence, so they can choose how to provide services that fulfil the needs of a specified area of responsibility, rather than specifying formal responsibilities for different services. Each of the ten provinces and three territories has its own Acts, both for general local government and for specific conurbations. Table 1b gives an overview of the main Acts by province or territory. There are many other legislative texts covering specific areas or functions of local government.

#### 2.3 Proposed legislative changes

No legislative changes currently proposed.

#### 2.4 National urban policy

Canada does not have a national urban policy, as cities and municipalities are a provincial responsibility<sup>10.2b</sup>

### 3. STRUCTURE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

#### 3.1 Local government within the state

Local government is highly varied across Canada, differing across the country and relying on legislation from each province and territory for specific powers and areas of responsibility. The names given to local governments, such as city, village, town, urban or rural, in general reflect the type of area rather than powers or responsibilities, which are specific to each province or territory. This makes direct comparison complex.



Table 10.1a Distribution of councils and population

Province/territory	Local	Regional	Supra-regional	Population (2011 census)	Population (2017 estimate)	% rural (2011)
Alberta	338	–	–	4,067,175	4,286,100	17
British Columbia	186	27	–	4,648,055	4,817,200	14
Manitoba	137	–	–	1,278,365	1,338,100	28
New Brunswick	105	–	–	747,101	759,700	48
Newfoundland and Labrador	276	–	–	519,716	528,800	41
Northwest Territories	30	–	–	41,786	44,500	46
Nova Scotia	55	–	–	923,598	953,900	43
Nunavut	25	–	–	35,944	38,000	52
Ontario	444	30	–	13,448,494	14,193,400	14
Prince Edward Island	74	–	–	142,907	152,000	53
Québec	1,133	86	2	8,164,361	8,394,000	19
Saskatchewan	782	–	–	1,098,352	1,163,900	33
Yukon	13	–	–	35,874	38,500	39
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,598</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>35,151,728</b>	<b>36,708,100</b>	<b>19</b>

Note: 'rural' refers to persons living outside a centre of 1,000 persons

Sources: FCM communication with CLGF and 2011 Census<sup>10,3a</sup>

### 3.2 Ministerial oversight

Provincial and territorial ministers with responsibility for local government are responsible for local government legislation, as well as other local plans and programmes, the amalgamation and restructuring of councils and the annexation of unincorporated land. These provincial and territorial ministers also have powers to intervene if a council is not operating in the interests of its residents and may, by order of the lieutenant governor, dismiss the council. Local government ministers also have powers to appoint a municipal administrator if a council does not fulfil its duties, and they can further recommend that a municipality provide additional services.

### 3.3 Council types

The three provinces of British Columbia, Ontario and Québec have a multi-tiered local government system, with a regional tier which has some authority over local authorities. The other provinces and territories have a single-tier system, although different municipalities have different powers and responsibilities.

**3.3.1 Supra-regional bodies** exist for both Montréal and Québec metropolitan areas, each with their respective metropolitan communities.

**3.3.2 Regional authorities** exist for three provinces. British Columbia has a two-tier system composed of regional districts and municipalities, Ontario has both single-tier and two-tier municipalities, the latter made up of upper and

lower tiers, and Québec has a two-tier system comprising regional county municipalities and local municipalities. The local government system in British Columbia, however, is unique in Canada because, in addition to the 160 municipal governments, it is comprised of 27 regional districts. Each regional district is divided into smaller areas called electoral areas. Regional districts are modelled as a federation composed of municipalities and electoral areas, each of which has representation on the regional board. Regional districts have three basic roles: to provide regional governance and services for the region; to provide a political and administrative framework for inter-municipal or sub-regional service partnerships; and, in the absence of municipalities, regional districts are the 'local' government for rural areas.

**3.3.3 Single-tier authorities** are governed by a single tier of municipal government, with the exception of the regional municipalities of Waterloo, Niagara, Halton, Peel, York and Durham, and urban areas in Ontario. In Québec, the Montréal and Québec city-regions have since 2002 both been covered by municipal institutions known as 'metropolitan communities', but these have very limited functional authority. Municipalities may be complemented by a variety of local agencies, boards and commissions, for instance school, social services and health boards, transit corporations, water and wastewater boards. These are also governed by elected bodies, but are not considered local governments.

**3.3.4 Disorganised territories or unincorporated areas** are large areas with sparse populations and do not have local governments. In British Columbia, for example, local municipalities cover only 1.5% of the total provincial territory, but they account for 87.3% of the total population; regional districts however cover the entire province. In New Brunswick, 269 local service districts provide services to 37% of the total population. In the unincorporated areas, some services are provided by the province or the territory; others by a regional body.

**3.3.5 Committees.** Councils in most provinces and territories can appoint committees and delegate responsibilities to them. In certain areas, legislation mandates which areas can be delegated, while others only allow for the creation of advisory committees. In Québec, local councils subject to the Cities and Towns Act may adopt a by-law to establish an executive committee; newly amalgamated cities and other charter cities are required to do so. The City of Winnipeg, in Manitoba, must establish an executive policy committee composed of the mayor, the chairpersons of any standing committees established by the council, and any other member appointed by the mayor. Typically, councils set up committees for finance, land use planning, recreation and culture and public security.



Table 10.1b Main legislative texts by province or territory

Province/territory	Legislation	What is covered by the legislation
Alberta	Municipal Government Act	A consolidation of municipal and planning legislation
British Columbia	Local Government Act	Applies to regional districts and local governments, except Vancouver
	Community Charter	All local governments, except Vancouver, though some provisions apply
	Vancouver Charter	City of Vancouver
Manitoba	The Municipal Act	Urban and rural municipalities
	The City of Winnipeg Charter	City of Winnipeg
	The Planning Act	Planning legislation
New Brunswick	Municipalities Act	Cities, towns and villages
	An Act respecting Rural Communities	Governance and service needs of local service districts/small villages
	Community Planning Act	Planning legislation
Newfoundland and Labrador	Municipal Act	All municipalities and regions except St John's, Corner Brook and Mount Pearl
	City of St John's, City of Corner Brook & City of Mount Pearl Acts	The three city Acts grant separate statutes for the three cities
	Urban and Rural Planning Act	Planning legislation
Northwest Territories	Cities, Towns and Villages Act	Cities, towns and villages
	Hamlets Act	Hamlets
	Charter Communities Act	Charter communities
	Planning Act	Planning legislation
Nova Scotia	Municipal Government Act	Municipalities, towns and rural municipalities, including planning legislation
Nunavut	Cities, Towns and Villages Act	Cities, towns and villages
	Hamlets Act	Hamlets
	Planning Act	Planning
Ontario	Municipal Act 2001	Covers all incorporated municipal governments
	City of Toronto Act	City of Toronto
	Planning Act	Planning
Prince Edward Island	Municipalities Act	Towns and communities
	Charlottetown Area Municipalities Act	Established a new city and two towns
	City of Summerside Act	Created a new city
	Municipal Planning Act	Planning
Québec	An Act respecting Municipal Territorial Organisation	All municipalities and unorganised territories
	Municipal Code	Regional county municipalities, and other municipalities
	Cities and Towns Act	Cities, towns, villages and parishes – including charter cities
	Municipal Powers Act	All municipalities
	Charter of Ville de Montréal	Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal A supra-regional body for Montréal
	Charter of Ville de Québec	Communauté métropolitaine de Québec. A supra-regional body Québec
	An Act respecting land use planning and development	Planning legislation
Saskatchewan	The Cities Act	Covers the 12 cities
	The Municipalities Act	Towns, villages, hamlets and rural municipalities in the south
	Northern Municipalities Act	Northern communities, towns, villages and hamlets
	Planning and Development Act	Planning legislation
Yukon	Municipal Act and Municipal Finance & Community Grants Act	Cities and towns



### 3.4 Traditional leadership

Section 35 of the Constitution Act 1982 recognises and affirms the existing aboriginal and treaty rights of the Indian, Inuit and Métis peoples of Canada. Canada's Inherent Right Policy 1995 is based on the recognition of an aboriginal right (or 'inherent right') of self-government. This is based on the view that the aboriginal peoples of Canada have the right to govern themselves in relation to the matters that are internal to their communities, integral to their unique cultures, identities, traditions, languages and institutions, and with respect to their special relationship to the land and resources. Negotiations under the Inherent Right Policy, however, do not define the legal scope and content of the inherent right. The policy focuses on the negotiation of practical self-government arrangements that are tailored to meet the specific needs of individual aboriginal communities or groups. Currently, an aboriginal group must use the courts to define the legal scope and content of an inherent right to self-government. These self-government arrangements are not considered local government. Under the existing federal policy, qualifying aboriginal groups can negotiate self-government arrangements that recognise jurisdiction, or authority, over a variety of issues, including government structure, land management, healthcare, child welfare, education, housing and economic development. Negotiations are between aboriginal groups, the federal government and, in areas affecting its jurisdiction and interests, the relevant provincial or territorial government.

## 4. ELECTIONS

Some provinces have elections based on wards, others on a general vote.<sup>10,4a</sup> Eligibility to vote is uniformly 18 years of age and above. Candidates for election normally stand either as independents or less commonly on the basis of local political parties independent of provincial or federal parties.

### 4.1 Recent local elections

Table 1c gives the dates for the latest and next local elections, along with the term of office, across the provinces and territories.

### 4.2 Voting system

Councillors in single-tier and lower-tier governments are generally elected directly by the first-past-the-post system. Mayors may be directly or indirectly elected; those in single-tier councils or lower-tier councils are almost always directly elected. Members of upper-tier governments may be drawn from the mayors of lower-tier councils, or

**Table 10.1c Term of office, last and upcoming elections across jurisdictions**

Jurisdiction	Last election	Upcoming election	Election term	Election date formula
Alberta	16 Oct 17	18 Oct 21	4 years	Third Monday of October
British Columbia	15 Nov 14	20 Oct 18	4 years	Third Saturday of November
Manitoba	24 Oct 18	26 Oct 22	4 years	Fourth Wednesday of October
New Brunswick	09 May 16	11 May 20	4 years	Second Monday of May
Newfoundland and Labrador	26 Sept 17	28 Sep 21	4 years	Last Tuesday of September
Northwest Territories	19 Oct 18	15 Oct 21	3 years	Third Friday of October
Nova Scotia	15 Oct 16	17 Oct 20	4 years	Third Saturday of October
Nunavut	19 Oct 18	15 Oct 21	3 years	Third Friday of October
Ontario	22 Oct 18	24 Oct 22	4 years	Fourth Monday of October
Prince Edward Island	05 Nov 18	01 Nov 22	4 years	First Monday of November
Québec	05 Nov 17	07 Nov 21	4 years	First Sunday of November
Saskatchewan	31 Oct 18	27 Oct 21	3 years	Fifth Wednesday of October
Yukon	15 Oct 15	04 Oct 18	3 years	Third Thursday of October

Source: FCM communication with CLGF

councillors may be appointed from the lower tiers proportionally to the populations of the constituent governments. Direct elections or a combination of direct and indirect elections do sometimes take place for upper-tier authorities, but these are rare. Wardens (see Section 4.3 below) in rural municipalities are almost always elected by the members of the council. Mayors, reeves (see Section 4.3 below) or chairpersons of regional authorities are usually indirectly elected by members of the council; there are a few cases where they are directly elected.

### 4.3 Elected representatives

Terminology varies from province to province: council leaders may be called mayors, reeves, wardens (in some rural municipalities), or chairpersons (within regions). In some authorities, the elected members are called aldermen rather than councillors.

### 4.4 Women's representation

Women represented 16% of mayors and 27% of councillors as of August 2014.<sup>10,4b</sup> There is however wide variation across the different jurisdictions: in the three territories, women account for one-quarter to three-fifths of all elected local government members, while Manitoba and Saskatchewan have the lowest representation of women. In 2012, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) – see section 6, produced the policy note 'Women in Local Government: Getting to 30% by 2026'.

## 5. SYSTEMS FOR COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

### 5.1 Legal requirement

In all provinces and territories, council meetings must be open to the public. Legislation prescribes under what circumstances a council meeting might be closed (personal information, labour relations, law enforcement, litigation or similar issues).

### 5.2 Implementation

There are a wide variety of participatory structures, both formal and informal. In some jurisdictions, citizens may serve on standing or advisory committees of the local councils. In many provinces and territories, eligible petitioners have the right to petition for a referendum on a by-law or resolution, or any matter within the jurisdiction of the council, except for the annual operating and capital budgets. In Prince Edward Island only, citizens vote to approve the annual operating and capital budgets, and on any amendments to these. In Québec, local government borrowing by-laws and some amendments to zoning and planning by-laws are subject to referenda under provincial legislation.

### 5.3 ICT use in citizen engagement

Local authorities across Canada use information technology to provide greater access to services, promote activities online, and encourage and develop citizen participation, including through surveys on municipal budgets, priorities and/or other initiatives. In seven of the 13 provinces and territories, council and committee meetings can air via a webcast. The federal government has funded broadband for rural and remote communities as part of its 'Building



**Table 10.1d Proportion of elected women representatives 2014**

Province/territory	% women elected in municipalities		% women elected in town/rural councils		TOTAL
	Mayors/deputy mayors	City councillors	Chairpersons/deputy chairpersons	Councillors	
Alberta	20%	24%	22%	27%	26%
British Columbia	19%	34%	32%	32%	32%
Manitoba	9%	20%	9%	16%	15%
New Brunswick	10%	30%	20%	32%	30%
Newfoundland and Labrador	0%	19%	20%	38%	34%
Northwest Territories	0%	25%	15%	41%	36%
Nova Scotia	6%	21%	16%	30%	24%
Nunavut	0%	0%	12%	33%	30%
Ontario	15%	24%	16%	26%	24%
Prince Edward Island	0%	11%	28%	30%	29%
Québec	17%	31%	17%	34%	32%
Saskatchewan	22%	27%	11%	17%	16%
Yukon	0%	50%	43%	33%	37%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>16%</b>	<b>27%</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>28%</b>	<b>27%</b>

Source: FCM communication with CLGF

Canada' plan. Many provinces and territories have also established their own programmes in order to connect rural and remote communities to the internet.

**6. ORGANISED LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

**6.1 National local government association**

The Federation of Canadian Municipalities<sup>16.6</sup> (FCM) has been recognised since 1901 as the national advocate for municipal government. It represents local governments at the national level on federal policy and programme matters. Key provincial and territorial associations are members along with approximately 2,000 local governments. FCM has an international office to provide support to local government on international projects and policies, and this work is supported by the Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development (DFATD).

**6.2 Other associations of local government**

All provinces and territories have at least one local government association and some have different associations for urban and rural interests. There are currently 24 associations in total and membership of each is voluntary. Five of the associations were created under a provincial Act and in four of the provinces and one of the territories the associations have been formally recognised in legislation as official bodies for consultation on

matters relating to changes to municipal legislation, responsibilities or funding. Nine of the 13 provinces and territories provide annual grants to municipal associations to support their activities.

**7. INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS**

Intergovernmental relations mostly occur bilaterally between the federal and the provincial or territorial governments, and between the provincial/territorial and the municipal governments, for a range of ministerial portfolios including finance, energy, environment, housing, transportation, culture and heritage. The federal and provincial/territorial ministers meet at least once a year. Provincial and territory leaders also meet once a year at the Council of the Federation. Established in December 2003, the Council provides a leadership role in building a constructive and cooperative federal system. A range of federal activities, such as transportation and infrastructure, can at times necessitate direct contact or coordination between federal and municipal governments, but these interactions can be considered exceptional. In Québec, it is a requirement of provincial law that municipal bodies obtain provincial government authorisation before signing any agreement with the government of Canada, its departments or agencies, or any federal public agency. Individual provinces and territories have their own legislation that ensures communication and consultation between

provincial and local governments. For example, in Nova Scotia the minister is legally required to consult with the municipal association on any proposed amendment to the Municipal Government Act, and must furthermore notify the association one year in advance of the effective date of any legislation, regulation or administrative action that could either decrease revenues or increase expenditures of local governments. Furthermore, in 2005 Nova Scotia signed a memorandum of understanding with the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities to guide the provincial-municipal relationship.

**8. MONITORING SYSTEMS**

Most provincial and territorial legislation prescribes that each local government must appoint a chief administrative officer or corporate officer, a financial officer or treasurer, and an auditor. Additionally, the majority of provinces have municipal boards or commissions that are appointed by the provincial government to review certain aspects of the municipal government's actions, including capital expenditure, public borrowing, community planning and specific local by-laws. If a council is not operating in the interests of its residents, provincial and territorial ministers have the power to investigate and intervene, and ultimately dismiss the council. Ministers can also appoint a municipal administrator if a council does not discharge its duties.

**9. FINANCE, STAFFING AND RESOURCES**

**9.1 Local government expenditure**

In 2007/08, local government expenditure was 0.3% of total government expenditure – see Table 10.2a.

**9.2 Locally raised revenue**

Property taxes are the single most important source of revenue for local governments in Canada. Individual municipalities determine their own property tax rate to ensure they can cover the cost of services not funded by various provincial/territorial and federal government transfers. See Table 10.2c for a breakdown by province.

**9.3 Transfers**

Provincial financial transfers to municipal governments are roughly 80% specific-purpose and 20% general-purpose. Federal transfers to local governments tend to be divided evenly between specific-purpose and general-purpose transfers. There are significant differences across the country: the local governments in the territories (Northwest Territories, Nunavut and Yukon) are highly dependent on transfers, with transfers accounting for between 41.5% and 59% of total local government revenues in 2004. In the provinces of Manitoba, New Brunswick,



Table 10.2a Aggregate local government revenue and expenditure 2008

Income	XC\$m	Expenditure	XC\$m
<b>Centre-local transfers</b>	15,825.882	General government services	7,194.190
General-purpose transfers	2,476.750	Protection of persons and property	12,124.248
Federal government specific-purpose transfers	1,212.374	Transportation and communication	15,843.316
Provincial government specific-purpose transfers	12,136.758	Health	1,927.045
<b>Locally raised revenue</b>	56,708.600	Social services	6,864.131
Property and related taxes	36,519.419	Education	239.646
Other taxes	939.614	Resource conservation and industrial development	1,526.196
Sales of goods and services	16,029.346	Environment	12,826.647
Investment income	3,220.221	Recreation and culture	9,188.788
		Housing	2,787.509
		Regional planning and development	1,381.794
		Debt charges	2,438.763
		Other expenditures	148.269
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>72,534.482</b>	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>74,310.542</b>

Source: FCM correspondence with CLGF

Prince Edward Island and Saskatchewan, general-purpose transfers were more important than specific-purpose transfers, while in the other provinces the opposite is true. Many areas are exploring new revenue sources for local governments. Some recently implemented initiatives include: transfers of a portion of the provincial gas or fuel tax, revenue-sharing of video lottery and/or casino revenues, transfer of a portion of personal and corporate income tax, and revenue-sharing of traffic and other provincial fines. Most jurisdictions enable local governments to collect fees and issue licences, and charge for development permits. For the most part, federal transfers to municipalities flow through provinces and territories prior to being distributed to the local governments. One example of a federal transfer to municipalities is the Gas Tax Fund (GTF), which is helping to build Canada's communities by providing predictable and long-term funding in support of municipal infrastructure that contributes to cleaner air, cleaner water

and reduced greenhouse gas emissions. In addition, the GTF benefits communities by providing funding to increase the capacity of communities to undertake long-term planning. Municipalities can pool, bank or borrow against this funding, which affords them significant additional financial flexibility. To ensure accountability to Canadians, communities report on their use of the funds on an annual basis. Provincial financial transfers vary from province to province and territory to territory. For example, in Prince Edward Island, financial assistance is directed to municipalities through two programmes: the municipal support grant and the comprehensive urban services agreement. In Manitoba, municipalities have a share of the provincial fuel tax and income tax revenues to support priority services such as public safety, roads and transit. In 2007, the federal government launched the seven-year (2007-14), CA\$33bn 'Building Canada' plan ([www.buildingcanada.gc.ca](http://www.buildingcanada.gc.ca)), which included CA\$17.6bn in base funding for municipalities through an

Table 10.2b Percentage of total revenue from property taxes, by province (2008)

Province	% of total revenue from property taxes 2008
Newfoundland and Labrador	28%
Prince Edward Island	39%
Nova Scotia	51%
New Brunswick	52%
Québec	54%
Ontario	39%
Manitoba	30%
Saskatchewan	37%
Alberta	30%
British Columbia	42%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>na</b>

Source: FCM communication with CLGF

increased GST rebate for municipalities and the GTF. GTF was subsequently made permanent in 2008 and legislated in 2011, allowing municipalities to count on this stable funding for their infrastructure needs now and in the future. The 2009 budget provided almost CA\$15bn in new infrastructure stimulus funding over two years to help restart the economy in the long term after the global economic crisis of 2008. The 2013 budget renewed the expiring programmes from the 2007 budget – a noteworthy accomplishment given the tight fiscal conditions facing the federal government – and added a 2% index to the GTF to protect its purchasing power over time. This budget also renewed expiring affordable housing programmes, and formalised a role for the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (see section 6.1) in the design of both housing and infrastructure programmes. The government worked very closely with the Federation in the development of this budget, representing a major step forward in the federal-municipal partnership.

Table 10.2c Local government expenditure as a percentage of total government expenditure (alternate years 2013-17)

	2007/08 actual
Total government expenditure	232.8
Total local government expenditure	74.3
<b>Local government expenditure as a percentage of total government expenditure</b>	<b>31.9%</b>

Source: FCM communication with CLGF



#### 9.4 Loans

No information is available.

#### 9.5 Local authority staff

Councils determine the remuneration of their councillors in all councils apart from Québec, where provincial legislation dictates the maximum remuneration for municipal officials. In most jurisdictions, councils must publicly report total remuneration for each councillor on an annual basis. Local governments have full authority to appoint, promote, discipline and determine the pay of staff.

### 10. DISTRIBUTION OF SERVICE DELIVERY RESPONSIBILITY

The legislation passed by the various provinces and territories gives local governments considerable discretion on the services they provide. Increased public demand for government services and improved performance standards for existing services has changed the division of responsibility between governments, particularly at the local and provincial levels. In general, however, local governments in most provinces and territories manage the treatment of drinking water and wastewater, the construction and maintenance of local roads, the collection and disposal of waste, the protection of persons and property (police, fire protection), the planning and development of land use, public transit, economic development services and recreational and cultural facilities.

#### 10.1 ICT use in service delivery

No information is available

#### 10.2 The role of local government in achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

The Federal Sustainable Development Strategy 2016-2019 for Canada is the third to be developed following the adoption of the 2008 Federal

Sustainable Development Act and guides Canada's national programmes in sustainability.<sup>10,10</sup>

### REFERENCES AND USEFUL WEBSITES

- 10.1a Government of Canada [www.canada.gc.ca](http://www.canada.gc.ca)
- 10.1b Women in national parliaments. Inter-Parliamentary Union [www.ipu.org/wmn-e/classif.htm](http://www.ipu.org/wmn-e/classif.htm)
- 10.2 Constitution of Canada [www.justice.gc.ca/eng/csj-sjc/just/05.html](http://www.justice.gc.ca/eng/csj-sjc/just/05.html)
- 10.2b The state of national urban policy in Canada - OECD 2015 [www.oecd.org/regional/regional-policy/national-urban-policy-Canada.pdf](http://www.oecd.org/regional/regional-policy/national-urban-policy-Canada.pdf)
- 10.3a Canada 2011 Census [www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2016/rt-td/population-eng.cfm](http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2016/rt-td/population-eng.cfm)
- 10.3b Infrastructure Canada [www.infc.gc.ca](http://www.infc.gc.ca)
- 10.3d Alberta [www.municipalaffairs.gov.ab.ca](http://www.municipalaffairs.gov.ab.ca)
- 10.3e British Columbia [www.gov.bc.ca/cd](http://www.gov.bc.ca/cd)
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- 10.3h Newfoundland and Labrador [www.ma.gov.nl.ca/ma](http://www.ma.gov.nl.ca/ma)
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- 10.3k Nunavut <http://cgs.gov.nu.ca/index.html>
- 10.3l Ontario [www.mah.gov.on.ca](http://www.mah.gov.on.ca)
- 10.3m Prince Edward Island [www.gov.pe.ca](http://www.gov.pe.ca)
- 10.3m Québec [www.mamrot.gouv.qc.ca](http://www.mamrot.gouv.qc.ca)
- 10.3n Saskatchewan: [www.municipal.gov.sk.ca](http://www.municipal.gov.sk.ca)
- 10.3o Yukon [www.community.gov.yk.ca](http://www.community.gov.yk.ca)
- 10.4a Elections Canada [www.elections.ca](http://www.elections.ca)
- 10.4b FCM 2012 ' Women in Local Government: Getting to 30% by 2026' [http://iknowpolitics.org/sites/default/files/getting\\_to\\_30\\_percent\\_by\\_2026\\_en.pdf](http://iknowpolitics.org/sites/default/files/getting_to_30_percent_by_2026_en.pdf)
- 10.5 No reference for this section
- 10.6 Federation of Canadian Municipalities [www.fcm.ca](http://www.fcm.ca)
- 10.7 No reference for this section
- 10.8 No reference for this section
- 10.9 Based on figure of CA\$74,310.542 provided in Table 10.2a and the executive summary of the federal government budget 2007/08 [www.fin.gc.ca/afr-rfa/2008/afr2008\\_1-eng.asp](http://www.fin.gc.ca/afr-rfa/2008/afr2008_1-eng.asp)
- 10.10 Federal Sustainable Development Strategy [www.fsds-sfdd.ca/index.html#/en/intro/what-is-fsds](http://www.fsds-sfdd.ca/index.html#/en/intro/what-is-fsds)
- 10.11a UN statistics surface area <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/demographic/products/dyb/dyb2006/Table03.pdf>
- 10.11b Commonwealth Local Government Knowledge Hub [www.clgf.org.uk/resource-centre/knowledge-hub](http://www.clgf.org.uk/resource-centre/knowledge-hub)
- 10.11c Provincial Municipal Statistics [www.muniscope.ca/research/municipal\\_facts/Provincial\\_Municipal\\_Statistics/index.php](http://www.muniscope.ca/research/municipal_facts/Provincial_Municipal_Statistics/index.php)
- 10.11d Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada [www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/al/lcdc/ccl/pubs/sg/sg-eng.asp](http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/al/lcdc/ccl/pubs/sg/sg-eng.asp)
- 10.11e Council of the Federation [www.councilofthefederation.ca](http://www.councilofthefederation.ca)
- 10.11f UNDP HDR Canada country profile <http://hdr.undp.org/en/countries/profiles/CAN>



## Annex 10a Summary of service provision in different spheres of government in Canada

Services	Delivering authority			Remarks
	National government	Province	Local authority	
<b>GENERAL ADMINISTRATION</b>				
Police	■	■	■	Varies between provinces
Fire protection		■	■	
Civil protection		■	■	
Criminal justice		■		
Civil status register		■		
Statistical office	■	■		
Electoral register	■	■	■	
<b>EDUCATION</b>				
Pre-school (kindergarten and nursery)		■		
Primary		■		
Secondary		■		
Vocational and technical		■		
Higher education		■		
Adult education		■		
<b>SOCIAL WELFARE</b>				
Family welfare services		■	■	
Welfare homes		■	■	
Social security		■	■	
<b>PUBLIC HEALTH</b>				
Primary care		■	■	
Hospitals	■	■	■	
Health protection	■	■	■	
<b>HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING</b>				
Housing		■	■	
Town planning		■	■	
Regional planning		■	■	
<b>TRANSPORT</b>				
Roads	■	■	■	
Transport	■	■		
Urban roads		■		
Urban rail		■		
Ports	■	■	■	
Airports	■	■	■	
<b>ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC SANITATION</b>				
Water and sanitation		■	■	
Refuse collection and disposal		■	■	
Cemeteries and crematoria		■	■	
Slaughterhouses	■	■	■	
Environmental protection	■	■		
Consumer protection	■	■	■	
<b>CULTURE, LEISURE AND SPORTS</b>				
Theatre and concerts				
Museums and libraries	■	■	■	
Parks and open spaces	■	■	■	
Sports and leisure	■	■	■	
Religious facilities	■	■	■	
<b>UTILITIES</b>				
Gas services		■	■	
District heating				
Water supply			■	
Electricity		■	■	
<b>ECONOMIC</b>				
Agriculture, forests and fisheries	■	■		
Local economic (run text on) development/promotion		■	■	
Trade and industry	■	■		
Tourism	■	■	■	

■ sole responsibility service ■ joint responsibility service ■ discretionary service