June 6th

10:10 am arrived in Calgary

12pm – registered at the Telus conference centre.

First day was mostly familiarizing with the venue, There was a Prairies and Territories caucus meeting at 4pm that I was late for. Met with Rob and Rebecca as we headed to dinner with the NWTAC group.

We met with other Northern communities and discussed key issues for each of us while enjoying a great meal.

June 7th

8am start-

Opening comments by FCM CEO Mrs. Saab.

Remarks by Marvin Rees, former Mayor of the City of Bristol, Martin Luther King Jr quote

"One of the greatest problems of history is that the concepts of love and power are usually contrasted as polar opposites. Love is identified with a resignation of power and power with a denial of love. What is needed is a realization that power without love is reckless and abusive and that love without power is sentimental and anemic. Power at its best is love implementing the demands of justice. Justice at its best is love correcting everything that stands against love."

After lunch I had the opportunity to attend a tour, Tipis and IndigiTrail at the Inglewood Bird Sanctuary. The NGO had teamed up with and indigenous organization called USAY that was created multiple trail apps for Calgarians and some BC location, incorporating stories and legends of the Indigenous groups of the area to the trail. The NGO has also received funding to use Tipis that will be erected around Calgary, with this they have made a lot of effort in learning Indigenous customs in gift giving and receiving.

4:45 in the main conference room we were lucky enough to hear from the Prime Minister of Canada, Justin Trudeau. It was an open mic session, question for approx. 45 minutes from concerned municipal leaders.

Mayors' reception- meet and greet with other conference attendees.

June 8th-

Breakfast was a treat as it was open tables and we had the opportunity to be seated with anyone, it was a great opportunity to network.

Morning was resolution consideration, there was much discussion on wording to make the resolution inclusive. I really enjoyed the debate on one resolution that made recommendation to

protect women in leadership roles from abuse, this debate lasted 30 minutes. It was amazing to see that this issue not only is being taken seriously but thoughtfully.

After lunch I joined a session called sacred fire dialogue. It was noted in the session that this was dialogue that was meant to discuss indigenous needs within municipality and reconciliation but there was few indigenous involved in the process of this dialogue, the doing to and not with mentality. Again, demonstrates how much work is still needed at the FCM level to make the environment inclusive and considerate of Indigenous needs.

That evening was the Rural, northern and remote reception. Hands down ours was the best. Not only did participants enjoy bison tacos but they had the opportunity to see performances from Nunavut and from the Tlicho, Ty Lafferty. We even had a good group of participants learn how to do handgames, it was an amazing sight to see, the sound of the drum and the laughter got all the participants in a frenzy.

June 9th

Breakfast again was another opportunity to network; this was one of my favorite parts of the event.

The morning was voting for the 3rd vp as well as going through the official documents, agenda and approving the wording on the resolutions. We heard a farewell from the President who will now be the past president and welcomed the newest president to FCM.

Awards were also issued during this period.

Remainder of the morning we spent in the Territorial member meeting discussing funding with FCM and what is working, and our northern communities need when it comes to FCM supports. There is much that is unique about Northern Canada, what works for southern communities/municipalities is not what works for the north, cost and accessibility has always been a barrier and we urged FCM to take that into consideration.

The Afternoon was the AGM and ratification of the 2024-2025 bard of directors.

This concluded my time at the FCM conference, I would like to attend this conference again, it was very informative, and I believe it is very important for people like myself to attend. One thing I do note is that Indigenous peoples are still not part of these events. Though communities are trying to incorporate reconciliation it does still feel like they are trying to tick a box and not actually immersing themselves in Indigenous knowledge. We need to be present in the conversation and as elected officials, I was one of few indigenous people in attendance and I was shocked, thus I want to be present at as many of these as possible. Masi for the opportunity to represent the City of Yellowknife.

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CITY OF YELLOWKNIFE - EXPENSE CLAIM

Travel Per Diem Rates DM#388418v14

DM# 450945v12

Alexe.