



## NEWS RELEASE

### **FCM's Green Municipal Fund Commits \$37,500 to the Town of Fort Erie for a Brownfield Site Environmental Improvement Plan**

**April 17, 2008, Fort Erie, ON** – City of Welland Councillor David Alexander, representing the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), and the Honourable Robert Nicholson, Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada, on behalf of the Honourable Gary Lunn, Minister of Natural Resources, announced today a \$37,500 Green Municipal Fund (GMF) grant for the Town of Fort Erie. The Town is investing this funding in the development of a Community Improvement Plan (CIP) to facilitate the environmental study, remediation, rehabilitation and redevelopment of its brownfield sites.

“FCM’s Green Municipal Fund offers a range of resources and services that specifically address the sustainable community development needs of municipal governments,” said Councillor David Alexander, representing FCM. “The financing and knowledge provided by the Fund supports the development of communities that are more environmentally, socially and economically sustainable.”

“Through the Green Municipal Fund, the Government of Canada is assisting municipalities across the country to ensure a cleaner and healthier environment for Canadians,” said Minister Nicholson. “I am pleased to announce our government is helping the Town of Fort Erie to build a greener future for its citizens by supporting this Community Improvement Plan.”

Fort Erie Mayor Douglas Martin says that thanks to the Green Municipal Fund and contributions from other funding partners—the Fort Erie Economic and Tourism Association and the Regional Municipality of Niagara—the Town of Fort Erie will obtain a CIP consisting of a brownfields redevelopment strategy, a customized financial incentives package, an environmental due diligence procedure, an economic impact assessment, a monitoring program, a municipal leadership strategy, updated brownfield information packages as well as the definition of a public consultation process on brownfields redevelopment. The CIP will use a systems approach that takes into consideration land use, infrastructure and transportation requirements and it will focus on properties with the greatest likelihood for brownfield redevelopment.

“The Community Improvement Plan will provide the opportunity to use innovative brownfield remediation approaches and technologies such as bio-remediation”, says Mayor Martin. “In addition, the Town will be able to evaluate the implications of incorporating Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) standards for building construction on remediated brownfield sites. Ultimately this means Fort Erie gains a Community Improvement Plan that will lead to improved environmental conditions, development and employment opportunities as well as a reduction in urban sprawl.”

The Government of Canada has endowed the Federation of Canadian Municipalities with \$550 million to establish and manage the Green Municipal Fund. The Fund supports partnerships and leveraging of both public and private sector funding to reach higher standards of air, water and soil quality, and climate protection.

*FCM has been the national voice of municipal governments since 1901. It fosters sustainable communities enjoying a high quality of life by promoting strong, effective, and accountable municipal government.*

– 30 –

For information:

Town of Fort Erie, ON

David Heyworth  
Senior Policy Planner  
City of Fort Erie  
Tel: 905-871-1600 (extension 229)  
Fax: 905-871-6411  
Email: [dheyworth@town.forterie.on.ca](mailto:dheyworth@town.forterie.on.ca)

Green Municipal Fund

Raymond Sullivan  
Communications Manager  
Centre for Sustainable Community Development  
Federation of Canadian Municipalities  
Tel: 613-907-6294  
Fax: 613-244-1515  
Email: [rsullivan@fcm.ca](mailto:rsullivan@fcm.ca)

Natural Resources Canada

Louise Girouard  
Director of Communications  
Minister's Office  
Natural Resources Canada  
Tel.: 613-996-2007  
Fax: 613-943-0663

For information on the Town of Fort Erie, visit <http://www.town.forterie.ca>

For information on the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, visit <http://www.fcm.ca>

For information on the Green Municipal Fund, including details of other approved projects and studies, visit <http://www.sustainablecommunities.fcm.ca>

For information on Natural Resources Canada, visit <http://nrcan-rncan.gc.ca>

For information on Environment Canada, visit <http://www.ec.gc.ca>