



NEWS RELEASE

FCM's Green Municipal Fund supports the construction of the Town of Bredenbury's water distribution and treatment facility

Bredenbury, Sask., December 17, 2009 – Basil Stewart, president of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and mayor of Summerside, P.E.I., and Garry Breitkreuz, member of Parliament for Yorkton-Melville, on behalf of Natural Resources Minister Lisa Raitt, today announced a Green Municipal Fund™ (GMF) grant of \$171,875 and a below-market loan of \$103,125 for the Town of Bredenbury. The town will use the combined \$275,000 in funding to build a water distribution and treatment facility that will complete the modernization of its infrastructure.

"FCM's Green Municipal Fund offers a range of resources and services that specifically address the sustainable community development needs of municipal governments," said Stewart. "The financing and knowledge provided by the Fund supports the development of communities that are more environmentally, socially and economically sustainable."

"The Government of Canada is assisting municipalities across the country in achieving their goal of a cleaner and healthier environment for Canadians through the Green Municipal Fund," said Breitkreuz. "Today's announcement is another example of how our government — in partnership with FCM — is helping the town of Bredenbury build a greener future for our citizens."

The area surrounding Bredenbury is experiencing an economic boom that has created hundreds of permanent jobs and, in the next 10 years, is anticipated to increase the town's population by as much as 50 per cent, to 450 to 500 residents. The infrastructure to support modest growth is, in almost every respect, in place.

The only major gap is the lack of controlled treatment of the water that flows into residents' homes. To date, treatment has consisted of injecting large amounts of chlorine — at levels that react with the manganese and iron in the water — into the mains just prior to distribution.

The new treatment facility will use holding cells to prolong contact between the bacteria and the chlorine, reducing the amount of chlorine required to a modest amount. It will filter out manganese and iron prior to contact with the chlorine, to eliminate discoloration, and will reduce the need for system-wide flushing. The facility is expected to reduce water consumption (and associated wastewater treatment costs) by eliminating the need to rewash laundry or to leave taps running to get clear water. The reintroduction of water meters is also anticipated to significantly reduce water consumption.

This project is an exciting example of how funding from GMF can be stacked against funding from other programs — in this case, the Government of Canada's Building Canada Fund — to improve municipal infrastructure.

"The Town of Bredenbury appreciates this financial support from FCM," said Bredenbury mayor Garry Dutchak. "Without it we would not have been able to afford our new water facility."

The Green Municipal Fund is an endowment financed by the Government of Canada and managed by FCM. 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 the development of sustainable communities to improve quality of life by promoting strong, effective, and accountable municipal government.

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For information:

Town of Bredenbury, Sask.

Kim Varga
Administrator
Town of Bredenbury
Tel: 306-898-2055
E-mail: bredenbury@sasktel.net
www.townofbredenbury.ca

FCM's Green Municipal Fund

Lorie Boucher
Manager, Communications and Marketing
Green Municipal Fund
Federation of Canadian Municipalities
Tel : 613-907-6298
Fax: 613-244-1515
E-mail: lboucher@fcm.ca
www.fcm.ca/gmf

Natural Resources Canada

Jocelyne Turner
Press Secretary
Office of the Minister
Natural Resources Canada
Tel.: 613-996-2007
Fax: 613-943-0663
www.nrcan-rncan.gc.ca