



NEWS RELEASE

FCM's Green Municipal Fund Supports the Town of Collingwood's Sustainable Community Plan

June 1st, 2009, Collingwood, ON – Jean Perrault, President of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and Mayor of Sherbrooke, Que. and the Honourable Helena Guergis, MP for Simcoe-Grey and Minister of State (Status of Women), on behalf of the Honourable Lisa Raitt, Minister of Natural Resources, announced today a Green Municipal Fund (GMF) grant for the Town of Collingwood, Ontario. Collingwood has used the \$166,783 grant to develop a Sustainable Community Plan.

"FCM's Green Municipal Fund offers a range of resources and services that specifically address the sustainable community development needs of municipal governments," said Jean Perrault, President of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and Mayor of Sherbrooke, Que. "The financing and knowledge provided by the Fund supports the development of communities that are more environmentally, socially and economically sustainable."

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

The Town of Collingwood released its Sustainable Community Plan (SCP) in late 2008. The SCP has a 40-year outlook, includes guidelines for developing action plans to support six main goals of sustainability for the municipality and defines nine principles of a sustainable community as the framework for municipal decision-making.

Community participation in developing the plan was facilitated through the use of an interactive, on-line scenario-based modeling tool and surveys. Prior to its release, the process of developing the SCP initiated sustainable development decision-making that resulted in town council's approval of plans for a LEED-certified library, the construction of road measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and the use of biodeisel buses.

"The Green Municipal Fund has been an integral component of our achievements thus far as the Town of Collingwood has worked to develop a process that aligns the Town's activities with its commitment to sustainability," said Town of Collingwood Mayor, Chris Carrier. "The Sustainable Community Plan is the 'made in Collingwood Solution' for an integrated decision-making model and furthers our goal to define a strong community of active residents who have respect for the natural and built form heritage, as well as, the social and cultural fabric of Collingwood."

The Green Municipal Fund is an endowment financed by the Government of Canada and managed by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities. 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.

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