



## NEWS RELEASE

### **FCM's Green Municipal Fund Commits \$42,941 to the City of Prince Rupert, BC for Development of Liquid Waste Management Plan**

**May 26th, 2009, Prince Rupert, BC** – Jean Perrault, President of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and Mayor of Sherbrooke, Que. and Richard Harris, MP for Cariboo – Prince George, on behalf of the Honourable Lisa Raitt, Minister of Natural Resources, announced today a \$42,941 Green Municipal Fund (GMF) grant for the City of Prince Rupert. The City is using the grant to initiate the first stage of developing a Liquid Waste Management Plan (LWMP) to manage the City's wastewater.

"FCM's Green Municipal Fund offers a range of resources and services that specifically address the sustainable community development needs of municipal governments," said FCM President Jean Perrault, Mayor of Sherbrooke, Qué. "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 Mr. Harris. "Today's announcement is another example of how the Government of Canada – in partnership with the FCM – is helping Prince Rupert build a greener future for our citizens."

The City of Prince Rupert's Liquid Waste Management Plan (LWMP) will allow the municipality to address the complex issues relating to Prince Rupert's outdated wastewater infrastructure. The City estimates that more than half of its sewer infrastructure is more than sixty years old. The goal of the first stage of the LWMP development is to lay the foundation for a comprehensive plan to guide the City in effectively managing its liquid waste, and improving marine water quality in Prince Rupert harbour.

The outcome of stage one of the plan development was the identification of four critical issues: wastewater source control, required wastewater treatment levels, management of wet-weather water flows, and the costs of infrastructure replacement and rehabilitation. As the LWMP is developed and implemented, marine water levels of both biochemical oxygen demand and total suspended solids are expected to improve dramatically.

"The City of Prince Rupert appreciates the financial support we have received from the Green Municipal Fund to assist us with Stage One of our new Liquid Waste Management Plan," said Prince Rupert mayor, Jack Mussallem. "The Stage One work will allow us to fully identify our long-term options with respect to protecting both human health and the environment. This will give the City a firm footing on which to build a liquid waste management strategy that will guide us for many years to come. It is exciting to finally move this forward. Prince Rupert is proud to be leading this initiative and looks forward to completing this and later stages of the plan."

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.*

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