



NEWS RELEASE

FCM's Green Municipal Fund Supports the City of Salmon Arm's Wastewater Treatment Nutrient Recovery Pilot Study

May 28th, 2009, Salmon Arm, B.C. – Jean Perrault, President of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and Mayor of Sherbrooke, Que. and Colin Mayes, MP for Okanagan – Shuswap, on behalf of the Honourable Lisa Raitt, Minister of Natural Resources, announced today a Green Municipal Fund (GMF) grant for the City of Salmon Arm, British Columbia. The City has used the \$49,750 grant to conduct a pilot study to evaluate a process of nutrient recovery at the City's wastewater treatment plant.

"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 Mr. Mayes. "Today's announcement is another example of how the Government of Canada – in partnership with the FCM – is helping Salmon Arm build a greener future for our citizens."

The City of Salmon Arm has completed the four-month pilot study on the recovery of dissolved phosphorus from the City's wastewater using a crystallizer. The benefits of removing this nutrient from waste water are threefold: reduced accumulation of the nutrient in water system equipment that can lead to operational problems; reduced eutrophication of the City's water source, Shuswap Lake; and, the potential development of a new source of income for the City through the sale of recovered phosphate crystals, a slow release fertilizer.

Included in the pilot study report are recommendations for further investigation to fully assess operational efficiencies of the crystallizer by examining factors such as scale and temperature. Additional future studies may be pursued by Salmon Arm to assess the economic feasibility of the nutrient recovery process where the sale of the phosphorus struvites as fertilizer may offer the city a financial return on investment.

"The Green Municipal Fund has been a tremendous asset to the City of Salmon Arm as it endeavours to maintain Shuswap Lake as a sustainable and pristine water source," said City of Salmon Arm Mayor, Marty Bootsma. "The City is committed to providing quality drinking water to the citizens of Salmon Arm and this pilot project assesses new techniques that support that commitment as well as other potential benefits to the City and the environment."

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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