

## NEWS RELEASE

### **FCM's Green Municipal Fund Supports the City of Summerside's Wind Farm Feasibility Study**

**Oct. 6, 2009, Summerside, P.E.I.** – FCM President Basil Stewart, and mayor of Summerside, P.E.I. and the Honourable Lisa Raitt, Minister of Natural Resources, announced today a Green Municipal Fund (GMF) grant for the City of Summerside, Prince Edward Island. Summerside has used the \$62,399 grant for the final phase of evaluating the feasibility of a municipally-owned and operated wind farm.

"FCM's Green Municipal Fund offers a range of resources and services that specifically address the sustainable community development needs of municipal governments," FCM President Basil Stewart, and mayor of Summerside, P.E.I. "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 Raitt. "Today's announcement of a \$62,399 grant for the final phase of evaluating the feasibility of a municipally-owned and operated wind farm is another example of how the Government is working in partnership with FCM to help the citizens of Summerside to build a greener future."

The City of Summerside used the GMF grant to conduct an environmental assessment and geotechnical study as the final steps of a 12 MW wind farm project feasibility study. The proposed project, consisting of four 3 MW turbines, is expected to produce 30 GWh of electricity annually for the municipality.

When combined with the power the city is already purchasing from a commercial wind farm in P.E.I., 100 per cent of its residential electricity requirements, and 42 per cent of its commercial electricity requirements will be met by wind energy. At certain times of the day and year when wind is abundant, wind-powered electricity will meet all of the community's power needs. The city expects greenhouse gas emissions reductions to be 8,999 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>, 147.9 tonnes of SO<sub>2</sub> and 98.6 tonnes of NO<sub>x</sub> annually, as a result of the project.

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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