



NEWS RELEASE

Green Municipal Fund supports the Sunshine Coast Regional District's sustainability initiative

August 19, 2010, Sunshine Coast, B.C. – Hans Cunningham, president of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and director of the Regional District of Central Kootenay, B.C., and John Weston, member of Parliament for West Vancouver–Sunshine Coast–Sea to Sky Country, today announced a Green Municipal Fund™ (GMF) grant contribution for the Sunshine Coast Regional District. The regional district put the \$55,000 in funding toward the development of a governance framework for sustainability.

“FCM’s Green Municipal Fund offers a range of resources and services that specifically address the sustainable community development needs of municipal governments,” said Cunningham. “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 Mr. Weston. “Today’s announcement is another example of how our government — in partnership with FCM — is helping the Sunshine Coast build a greener future for our citizens.”

The regional district consists of the Town of Gibsons, the District of Sechelt, and the Sechelt Indian Government District, as well as five unincorporated electoral areas. Through this initiative, the Sunshine Coast will develop a governance framework for sustainability that integrates and informs all aspects of its governance and operations.

The strategy and vision will include goals and objectives and prioritize actions for land use patterns, agriculture, brownfields, energy, infrastructure, transportation, waste, and water. The Energy and Emissions Sustainability Plan will identify specific linkages across local governments and with community partners to facilitate the implementation of energy and emissions reduction initiatives, particularly as they apply to climate change mitigation and adaptation at the community level.

When complete, this planning project will provide a template for developing sustainable community and energy-use planning for multiple communities through a single, cost-effective regional planning process.

“The Sunshine Coast Regional District appreciates the support of the Green Municipal Fund for our sustainability initiative,” said Sunshine Coast Regional District Board Chair Donna Shugar. “The partnership of all the local governments in this project is of particular interest to the SCRD Board. This is a truly regional initiative.”

The Government of Canada endowed the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) with \$550 million to establish 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 the development of sustainable communities to improve quality of life by promoting strong, effective, and accountable municipal government.

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