



NEWS RELEASE

\$5.5 MILLION FROM THE GREEN MUNICIPAL FUND FOR THE HINTON ECO-INDUSTRIAL PARK

October 11, 2006, Hinton, AB – Strathcona County Councillor Ken Lesniak, representing the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), and Rob Merrifield, MP (Yellowhead), representing the Honourable Gary Lunn, Minister of Natural Resources Canada, announced today a Green Municipal Fund grant of \$3,316,400 and loan of \$2,210,933 for a pilot project to guide the planning and construction of the Town of Hinton's innovative eco-industrial park, newly named the Innovista Industrial Park.

"FCM is pleased to support this project through the Green Municipal Fund," said Councillor Ken Lesniak, a member of FCM's National Board of Directors. "The Town of Hinton's integrated approach to eco-industrial infrastructure and building construction will produce maximum environmental benefits in the areas of energy, water, wastewater, stormwater, solid waste, and transportation. It will also reduce the overall demand for conventional utility services (electricity, gas, and water) compared to a traditional industrial park and create opportunities for new utility services like non-potable water and alternative energy."

"Through the Green Municipal Fund, Canada's new government is demonstrating its commitment to clean air, clean water, clean land, and clean energy. This government is also showing its dedication to combining community support with stronger accountability and transparency practices," said Rob Merrifield, MP. "Investments based on the Fund's feasibility studies, field tests and pilot projects allow project partners to be confident that taxpayers' dollars are being spent efficiently and effectively."

The Town of Hinton will act as the land developer and build green municipal infrastructure for the eco-industrial park, which totals just over 42 hectares. Development will occur in three phases. The Town is now selling lots in Phase 1, which is approximately 16 hectares. As part of the project, the Town has developed Canada's first exclusive eco-industrial zoning designation, as well as guidelines to ensure that buyers use land efficiently and preserve natural features, build facilities that align with the park's eco-industrial concept, complement its green infrastructure approach and reduce environmental impact.

"We estimate that compared to traditional industrial park development, Hinton's eco-approach will reduce greenhouse gas emissions by over 15,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e) per year," said Mayor Glenn Taylor of the Town of Hinton. "An annual reduction of over 4,000 tonnes of CO₂e is expected from the inclusion of an on-site wood waste biomass co-generation facility."

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 is dedicated to improving the quality of life in communities by promoting strong, effective and accountable municipal government.

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For information on the Town of Hinton, Alberta, visit www.town.hinton.ab.ca

For information on the Green Municipal Fund, including details of other approved projects and studies, visit www.sustainablecommunities.fcm.ca

For information on the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, visit www.fcm.ca

For information on Natural Resources Canada, visit www.nrcan-rncan.gc.ca

For information on Environment Canada, visit www.ec.gc.ca/