



NEWS RELEASE

\$70,000 GREEN MUNICIPAL FUND GRANT FOR LEDUC-NISKU SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY PLAN

October 2, 2006, Leduc, AB – Councillor Karen Leibovici of the City of Edmonton, representing the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' (FCM) National Board of Directors, and James Rajotte, MP (Edmonton–Leduc), representing the Honourable Gary Lunn, Minister of Natural Resources Canada, announced today a \$70,000 Green Municipal Fund grant to the Leduc-Nisku Economic Development Authority (EDA), a joint venture of the City of Leduc and Leduc County. The funding will help the Leduc-Nisku EDA modify its five year development plan into a sustainable community plan with indicators to guide and assess policy, program, and infrastructure decisions.

"FCM is pleased to support this project through the Green Municipal Fund," said FCM National Board of Directors Member Councillor Karen Leibovici. "It represents an important, new approach to sustainable community planning designed to produce integrated projects with positive environmental outcomes."

"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 James Rajotte, 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 project is the first 'test drive' of the Genuine Wealth Accounting (GWA) framework developed by Mark Anelski. The GWA uses an integrated asset mapping approach to diagnose the sustainability of a community's natural, human, social, built (infrastructure) and financial capital. Leduc-Nisku EDA will also explore natural synergies between the GWA and other frameworks and tools, such as The Natural Step Canada, Ecological Footprint Analysis, Life-Cycle Value Assessment, Triple Bottom Line Accounting Framework, and Material Energy Flow Analysis.

"The Genuine Wealth Accounting Project is a powerful strategic business planning process that engages all members of the community in assessing the community's core quality of life values," said Pat Klak, Executive Director, Leduc-Nisku EDA. "It has developed a set of genuine wealth indicators that align with the values of the community to assess the conditions of well-being of its five capital assets in the interests of improving and sustaining quality of life."

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 Leduc-Nisku Economic Development Authority, visit www.leduc-county.com/business/leduc-nisku.html.

For information on the City of Leduc, visit www.leduc.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/