



NEWS RELEASE

A COMMUNITY ENERGY PLAN FOR YELLOWKNIFE SUPPORTED BY \$110,000 FROM THE GREEN MUNICIPAL FUND

October 13, 2006, Yellowknife, NT — Mayor Gordon Van Tighem of the City of Yellowknife presented the Honourable Gary Lunn, Minister of Natural Resources, with a report detailing the results from a study to develop a Community Energy Plan (CEP) for Yellowknife that was supported by a Green Municipal Fund grant of \$110,000. Mayor Van Tighem, who is President of the Northwest Territories Association of Communities and serves as a member of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities National Board of Directors, announced that the CEP has provided recommendations on energy use at three levels: in City infrastructure and operations, in the entire community within municipal boundaries, and in activities outside municipal boundaries that are related to operations at the municipal level.

“The new Government of Canada is proud to commit funds towards cities and towns who are taking the initiative to develop a Community Energy Plan. We will continue to work with Canadians, communities and industry to ensure future generations have clean air, water, land and energy,” said the Honourable Gary Lunn, Minister of Natural Resources.

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.

“Due to our sub-arctic climate, lengthy and dark winters, and dependence on imported fossil fuels, per capita greenhouse gas emissions in the City of Yellowknife average approximately 27 tonnes per year, in comparison with the Canadian per capita average of 20 tonnes,” said Mayor Van Tighem. “The recommendations from this project will help Yellowknife achieve the goal set by its Community Energy Planning Committee to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 20 per cent in municipal operations and 6 per cent in community-wide activities over the next 10 years — translating into an annual reduction of 22,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide by 2015.”

The City of Yellowknife is moving forward quickly on the CEP recommendations. City Council has approved them in principle and has instructed the City administration to develop an implementation strategy to put the CEP in action, based on its recommendations. The strategy will be presented to Council in the New Year.

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For information on the City of Yellowknife, visit <http://www.yellowknife.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 <http://www.fcm.ca>

For information on Natural Resources Canada, visit <http://www.nrcan-rncan.gc.ca>

For information on Environment Canada, visit <http://www.ec.gc.ca/>