

NEWS RELEASE

FCM's Green Municipal Fund supports the development of the City of Cambridge's Sustainable Community Plan

November 8 2011, Cambridge, Ont. – Berry Vrbanovic, president of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and councillor for the City of Kitchener, Ontario, and the Honourable Gary Goodyear, Minister of State for Science and Technology, today announced a Green Municipal Fund™ (GMF) grant to the City of Cambridge. The city put the \$60,800 in funding toward the development of a sustainable community plan (SCP).

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

Cambridge is a city of more than 131,000 people, strategically situated along the heritage Grand River in Waterloo Region, an area known as Canada's Technology Triangle. The area's growing knowledge-based economy has generated significant increases in both population and employment for the region as a whole, and for Cambridge in particular. The city's SCP will provide a framework for growth that places municipal decision-making in an economically, socially and environmentally sustainable context. The Cambridge process will identify a community vision; analyze the present context; create a plan with measurable targets and actions for the short, medium and long term; and establish a monitoring, evaluation and reporting framework.

The process will generate an action plan to achieve the vision, identify issues and propose actions to address energy, transportation, water, waste and brownfields.

“Cambridge is known for its focus on environment and sustainable development, but we needed a comprehensive plan that will bring all of this activity together to build a corporate approach for now and into the future,” said Mayor Doug Craig. “We are pleased to be the recipient of this important funding and appreciate the partnership.”

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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