



NEWS RELEASE

Green Municipal Fund Commits \$700,000 to the City of Edmonton for Research on the Gasification of Municipal Waste and on Street Sand Recycling

March 25, 2008, Edmonton, Alta. – Edmonton Councillor Karen Leibovici, representing the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), and Rahim Jaffer, Member of Parliament for Edmonton-Strathcona, on behalf of the Honourable Gary Lunn, Minister of Natural Resources, announced two Green Municipal Fund (GMF) grants totalling \$700,000 to the City of Edmonton. The city has invested this funding in supporting innovative waste processing and street sand recycling projects.

With GMF support, the City of Edmonton has helped to advance technology for the gasification of Edmonton's municipal solid waste. The City of Edmonton has also extended its 10-year GMF-funded street sand recycling pilot project to research ways to extract salt from the water that is used to wash recovered street sand.

"FCM's Green Municipal Fund offers a range of resources and services that specifically address the sustainable community development needs of municipal governments," said Councillor Karen Leibovici. "The financing and knowledge provided by the Fund support the development of communities that are more environmentally, socially and economically sustainable."

"Through the Green Municipal Fund, the Government of Canada is assisting municipalities across the country to ensure a cleaner and healthier environment for Canadians," said Rahim Jaffer, Member of Parliament. "I am pleased to announce our government is helping the City of Edmonton to build a more green future for its citizens by supporting these two projects."

"Edmontonians know that the environment affects every aspect of our lives and we work hard to ensure that we make as little impact on it as possible," said City of Edmonton Mayor Stephen Mandel. "We are committed to protecting our environment and we're very pleased to be receiving this funding for these two important city projects."

The Green Municipal Fund has invested over \$1.8 million in Edmonton to date. The city will share information and results of the two GMF-supported initiatives with other Canadian municipalities that could benefit from the new technologies.

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 fosters sustainable communities enjoying a high quality of life by promoting strong, effective, and accountable municipal government.

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For information on the City of Edmonton, visit www.edmonton.ca.

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

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

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

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