



NEWS RELEASE

FCM's Green Municipal Fund Commits \$51,189 to the Town of Quispamsis for Groundwater Resource and Energy Management Plans

September 4, 2008, Quispamsis, NB –Jean Perrault, Mayor of Sherbrooke, Québec and President of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) with Rob Moore, Member of Parliament for Fundy Royal and Parliamentary Secretary for the Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada, on behalf of the Honourable Gary Lunn, Minister of Natural Resources, announced today Green Municipal Fund (GMF) grants in total of \$51,189 for the Town of Quispamsis. The Town will use a \$10,000 grant to develop an energy management action plan for its municipal operations and vehicle fleet, and a \$41,189 grant to conduct a hydrogeological study and initiate a long-term management plan for its groundwater resources.

“FCM’s Green Municipal Fund offers a range of resources and services that specifically address the sustainable community development needs of municipal governments,” said Mayor Perrault, representing FCM. “The financing and knowledge provided by the Fund supports the development of communities that are more environmentally, socially and economically sustainable.”

“Through the Green Municipal Fund, our government is assisting municipalities across the country in achieving their goal of a cleaner and healthier environment for Canadians,” said MP Rob Moore. “Today’s announcement is another example of how the Government of Canada is helping Quispamsis build a greener future for its citizens.”

The Town of Quispamsis is taking proactive measures relating to the long-term sustainability of its fresh water supply, by first conducting a thorough hydrogeological study, and then developing an aquifer protection and management plan. Once the Town’s groundwater model is completed, Quispamsis will assess future infrastructure requirements and costs associated with achieving long-term security of the Town’s public water supply.

Under its Sustainable Community Development plan, the Town recently conducted a detailed energy audit of its facilities. A local action plan is now underway to implement facility energy efficiency measures, such as the installation of a low-e ceiling curtain for its arena, new energy-efficient windows and siding for the civic centre, the addition of lighting timers for municipal sports fields, and automation and efficiency measures for its wastewater treatment facilities. Fuel efficiency measures for its vehicle fleet are also underway, and include the implementation of an automated fuel management system and vehicle monitoring to reduce idling time.

The goal of the local action plan is an annual greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction of approximately 826 tonnes by the year 2011 – which represents a 20 per cent decrease from 1994 levels. The Town of Quispamsis was the first municipality in New Brunswick to join FCM’s Partners for Climate Protection (PCP) network and was one of its inaugural network members when FCM launched the program in 1994.

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, soil quality, and climate protection.

“FCM’s Green Municipal Fund has been instrumental in supporting the Town of Quispamsis as it proactively assesses its groundwater resources, reduces its greenhouse gas emissions from municipal operations and works with its citizens to ensure long-term sustainability within our community,” said Quispamsis Mayor Murray Driscoll. “Through energy efficiency measures undertaken at a number of our municipal buildings following the energy audit and local action plan, we are already experiencing energy cost savings and GHG emissions reductions. We feel confident that we are on track to meet our goal of a 20 per cent reduction in GHG emissions from 1994 levels by 2011. And we are looking forward to our next phase of the initiative as we engage community members and raise awareness on how simple, everyday actions can result in significant reductions in personal carbon footprints.”

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 Town of Quispamsis, visit <http://142.166.3.145/index.cfm>

For information on the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, visit <http://www.fcm.ca>

For information on Partners for Climate Protection and the Green Municipal Fund, including details of other approved projects and studies, visit <http://www.sustainablecommunities.fcm.ca>

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

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