

## NEWS RELEASE

### **FCM's Green Municipal Fund Supports the Village of Pemberton's Potable Water Sustainability Study**

**May 27th, 2009, Pemberton, B.C.** – Jean Perrault, President of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and Mayor of Sherbrooke, Que. and the Honourable Charles Strahl, MP for Chilliwack – Fraser Canyon and Minister of Indian Affairs, on behalf of the Honourable Lisa Raitt, Minister of Natural Resources, announced today a Green Municipal Fund (GMF) grant for the Village of Pemberton, British Columbia. The Village has used the \$80,000 grant to conduct a multifaceted study relating to water security and the sustainable management of the Village's potable water 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 Jean Perrault, President of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and Mayor of Sherbrooke, Que. "The financing and knowledge provided by the Fund supports the development of communities that are more environmentally, socially and economically sustainable."

"Our government 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 Strahl. "Today's announcement is another example of how our Government of Canada – in partnership with FCM - is helping Pemberton build a greener future for our citizens."

The Village of Pemberton's ability to meet the water needs of its residents and industrial-commercial sector is under pressure from rapid population growth, a single-well water resource, and historical data indicating that the Village's per-capita water use is nearly double the national average.

To better manage its water resource, the Village has undertaken a thorough study of water loss, water conservation measures, and the identification of new municipal water resources. One facet of the study detected leaks within the Village water mains. These leaks were subsequently repaired and inaccurate water meters were repaired or replaced.

To promote water conservation, the Village conducted a cost-benefit analysis of a water-metering program that would see a 10-20 per cent reduction in water use. A geotechnical analysis identified secondary groundwater supplies to create redundancy in the system. Additionally, to address issues relating to water quality, new water treatment and conditioning systems have been identified and planned.

"The Green Municipal Fund has been a key enabling factor as the Village of Pemberton addresses the important issue of water security and sustainability," said Village of Pemberton Mayor, Jordan Sturdy. "With the recent water loss study, cost-benefit analysis for water metering, and the location and drilling of secondary wells, we can have security that our community will not outgrow our available water resources."

The Green Municipal Fund is an endowment financed by the Government of Canada and

managed by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities. 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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