

NEWS RELEASE

FCM's Green Municipal Fund supports the City of Rimouski's ecocentre to encourage the recovery, reuse, recycling and diversion of waste materials

June 18, 2010, Rimouski, Que. – Michel Morin, Green Municipal Fund™ (GMF) Council Vice-Chair and Mayor of Rivière-du-Loup (Québec), and Bernard Généreux, member of Parliament for Montmagny-L'Islet-Kamouraska-Rivière-du-Loup, today announced GMF funding for the City of Rimouski. The city invested the \$250,000 in funding to create an ecocentre to encourage the recovery, reuse, recycling and diversion of waste materials produced locally.

"FCM's Green Municipal Fund offers a range of resources and services that specifically address the sustainable community development needs of municipal governments," said Mr. Morin. "The financing and knowledge provided by the Fund support 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 Mr. Généreux. "Today's announcement is another example of how our government — in partnership with FCM — is helping the City of Rimouski build a greener future for our citizens."

Rimouski's ecocentre encourages the recovery, reuse, recycling and diversion of waste materials not accepted by the curbside collection service. The ecocentre also promotes environmentally sound resource management, as well as an extended life expectancy for the Rimouski landfill site. Residents of Rimouski and the Municipalité régionale de comté (MRC) of Rimouski-Neigette now have greater access to waste disposal services, and the ecocentre supports the development and collaboration of companies and organizations already working to recycle local and regional waste materials.

"Since its October 2007 opening, the ecocentre has welcomed 66,000 visitors and has succeeded in diverting approximately 19,000 tonnes of waste from the Rimouski landfill site," said Donald Bélanger, deputy mayor of the City of Rimouski. "In addition, strong resident engagement in this project shows their high level of commitment to protection of the environment. While all this is gratifying, Rimouski now wants to increase ecocentre infrastructure results by enhancing resident engagement on environmental issues as well as working to increase waste diversion levels."

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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