



## NEWS RELEASE

### **FCM's Green Municipal Fund supports the Municipality of Sioux Lookout's Community Sustainability Plan**

**March 3, 2010, Sioux Lookout, Ont.** – Basil Stewart, president of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and mayor of Summerside, P.E.I., and MP Greg Rickford, member of Parliament for Kenora, today announced a Green Municipal Fund™ (GMF) grant for the Municipality of Sioux Lookout. The municipality will use the \$33,000 grant to develop a community sustainability plan to guide current and future capital projects and social, economic, environmental and cultural sustainability initiatives.

"FCM's Green Municipal Fund offers a range of resources and services that specifically address the sustainable community development needs of municipal governments," said Stewart. "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 Mr. Rickford. "Today's announcement is another example of how our government — in partnership with FCM — is helping Sioux Lookout build a greener future for our citizens."

Sioux Lookout has confirmed over \$230 million in capital projects within the community over the next several years. In the face of this level of economic activity, the mayor and council have identified the need to ensure that the municipality is able to sustain this type of growth into the future through the operation and maintenance of current sustainability initiatives, as well as the identified need for additional capital projects.

The plan will encompass the entire community of Sioux Lookout and will provide opportunities for capacity building within both the Municipal Corporation and the community as a whole.

The municipality will identify key community stakeholders and municipal staff, then educate and train them on sustainability in general, and on specific Sioux Lookout initiatives. Through a community engagement process, the municipality will establish a committee and develop the community vision and principles. After taking an inventory of current community assets, the committee will identify strategic areas for sustainability initiatives and set goals, objectives, targets and timelines that are outlined in a comprehensive plan to be updated on an annual basis.

"The Municipality is excited to be a leader in sustainable development in the region," said Sioux Lookout mayor Kathy Poling. "We anticipate that the Sustainability Plan will be an additional tool in which to strategically view the growth and development of our community – an additional lens in which to view our municipal strategic plan."

The Green Municipal Fund is an endowment financed by the Government of Canada and managed by FCM. 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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For information:

**Municipality of Sioux Lookout**

Brian MacKinnon,  
Community Development Coordinator  
Municipality of Sioux Lookout  
Tel.: 807-737-2700  
E-mail: [bmackinnon@siouxlookout.ca](mailto:bmackinnon@siouxlookout.ca)  
[www.siouxlookout.ca](http://www.siouxlookout.ca)

**FCM's Green Municipal Fund**

Lorie Boucher  
Manager, Communications and Marketing  
Green Municipal Fund  
Federation of Canadian Municipalities  
Tel.: 613-907-6298  
Fax: 613-244-1515  
E-mail: [lboucher@fcm.ca](mailto:lboucher@fcm.ca)  
[www.fcm.ca/gmf](http://www.fcm.ca/gmf)

**Natural Resources Canada**

Margaux Stastny  
Director of Communications  
Office of the Minister  
Natural Resources Canada  
Tel.: 613-996-2007

Media Relations  
Natural Resources Canada  
Tel.: 613-992-4447