



## NEWS RELEASE

### **FCM's Green Municipal Fund commits \$2.2 million to the town of Vulcan's Healy subdivision wood and solar based district energy initiative**

**January 18, 2010, Vulcan, Alta.** – Basil Stewart, president of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and mayor of Summerside, P.E.I., and Ted Menzies, member of Parliament for Macleod, on behalf of Natural Resources Minister Lisa Raitt, today, announced Green Municipal Fund™ (GMF) grant and loan contributions to the town of Vulcan. The town will use the \$2,200,000 in funding to help create a subdivision heated with renewable fuels.

“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 Menzies. “Today’s announcement is another example of how our government — in partnership with FCM — is helping Vulcan build a greener future for our citizens.”

Vulcan’s 63-acre Prairie Vista Estate subdivision is on the southern boundary of the current residential neighborhoods. Vulcan wishes to differentiate the Prairie Vista Estate subdivision as a community heated with renewable fuels, through a district energy system enables the use of both wood biomass and thermal solar collectors.

When completed, the development—with renewable branding that will be an attractive selling feature—will consist of 300 units in a mix of multifamily apartments and detached homes. Low cost housing and senior-oriented housing will be significant components of the development.

The utility connections within the new subdivision will include buried hot water pipes connecting each new home and apartment building. The town will own and operate the low pressure hot water thermal plant that will provide home heating and domestic water heating.

Vulcan is pursuing summer thermal demand and interruptible demand clients so that underutilized thermal plant capacity can be used in spring, summer and fall. The nearby hospital, high school and proposed emergency services building are all potential customers with summer and or interruptible demand.

This is part of a growing cluster of renewable energy projects in and around Vulcan A waste combustion facility has also been proposed.

“The Town of Vulcan is looking forward to build this district heating project that would

provide stable energy costs to the residents of the new Prairie Vista Estate residential subdivision” said Vulcan Mayor Tom Grant. “Once we overcome the current economic issues, this project could become one of a kind in our region thanks to FCM’s Green Municipal Fund and the Government of Canada”.

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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