



NEWS RELEASE

FCM's Green Municipal Fund commits \$200,000 to the City of Sudbury for a photovoltaic power study

March 17, 2011, Sudbury, Ont. – Hans Cunningham, president of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and director of the Regional District of Central Kootenay, B.C., and the Honourable Christian Paradis, Minister of Natural Resources, today announced a \$200,000 Green Municipal Fund™ (GMF) grant for the City of Greater Sudbury. The city has invested the funding in a feasibility study of photovoltaic power generation designed to increase local energy production and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

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

To minimize energy dollars leaving the community and reduce local greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, the City of Greater Sudbury and Greater Sudbury Utilities are conducting a feasibility study of photovoltaic power generation. The study will gather information on peak generation periods, equipment location requirements and system maintenance issues as well as power generation levels under extreme weather conditions. If successful, the pilot project’s energy production will be expanded to full capacity (two megawatts) after the first year.

The feasibility study includes full-cost accounting that evaluates energy generation and GHG reduction levels as well as construction and installation issues to determine the most profitable solar panel for the capital project. An analysis using Natural Resources Canada’s RETScreen renewable energy software program has identified a project site installation that will take advantage of southern exposure and offer low environmental impact.

All feasibility study data will be posted for public viewing. In addition, study results will be made available to educational institutions to allow students to gain practical research experience. The data from all project stages could provide guidelines for other municipalities considering photovoltaic energy generation.

“The City of Greater Sudbury appreciates the support of the Green Municipal Fund for this feasibility study,” said Mayor Marianne Matichuk. “This project will help us further protect our environment and capitalize on an important potential local energy production source.”

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 sustainable communities enjoying a high quality of life by promoting strong, effective, and accountable municipal government.

– 30 –

For information:

City of Greater Sudbury

Eliza Bennett
Manager
Corporate Communications
City of Greater Sudbury
Tel.: 705-674-4455, ext. 4507
E-mail: eliza.bennett@greatersudbury.ca
www.greatersudbury.ca

FCM's Green Municipal Fund

Maurice Gingues
Media Relations Officer
Green Municipal Fund
Federation of Canadian Municipalities
Tel.: 613-907-6399
Fax: 613-244-1515
E-mail: mgingues@fcm.ca
www.fcm.ca/gmf

Natural Resources Canada

Richard Walker
Director of Communications
Office of the Minister
Tel.: 613-996-2007

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