

## **NEWS RELEASE**

### **FCM's Green Municipal Fund Supports the City of Saskatoon's Study of Retrofitting Rapid Stabilization and Gas Collection in Older Landfills**

**March 16, 2009, Saskatoon, SK** – Saskatoon City Councillor Bev Dubois and Maurice Vellacott, Member of Parliament for Saskatoon-Wanuskewin, on behalf of the Honourable Lisa Raitt, Minister of Natural Resources, announced today a Green Municipal Fund (GMF) grant for the City of Saskatoon.

As part of the City's Brownfield Programs Strategy, the \$262,500 grant will be used to conduct a feasibility test on retrofitting rapid stabilization and gas collection in older landfills.

"FCM's Green Municipal Fund offers a range of resources and services that specifically address the sustainable community development needs of municipal governments," said Dubois, representing FCM. "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," said Mr. Vellacott. "I am pleased to announce today that our Government – in partnership with the FCM – is helping Saskatoon build a greener future for its residents by supporting this green energy project that will enhance the community's sustainability and economic growth."

The goal of this field test is to enhance landfill gas (LFG) production and collection at the City of Saskatoon Landfill by adding moisture to the landfill to stabilize the existing waste mass. Gas wells and monitoring systems, moisture probes, gas headers, water lines, condensate traps and wellhead assemblies will be installed over a portion of the landfill during the first five months of the project.

A full-scale LFG project will be considered if it is proven that water addition will not pose a significant increase in risk to water resources such as the South Saskatchewan River, and that gas generation rates can be increased enough to justify a collection system.

Once operational, a new LFG utilization facility could generate approximately 6.5 million cubic meters per year of LFG. This amount has the potential to increase in the long run. Initial net emission reductions are forecast to be in the order of 50,000 tonnes per year of CO<sub>2</sub>.

"Making use of this green alternative energy source is great news for Saskatoon," said Saskatoon Mayor Donald Atchison. "There are several possible uses for this energy and we are excited to move this project forward."

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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