



## NEWS RELEASE

### **FCM's Green Municipal Fund celebrates support for the City of London's smart growth and renewable energy initiatives**

**March 8, 2011, London, Ont.** – Hans Cunningham, president of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and director of the Regional District of Central Kootenay, B.C., and Ed Holder, member of Parliament for London West, today celebrated the legacy created by Green Municipal Fund™ (GMF) grant contributions for the City of London. In 2007, the city put the \$90,000 in funding toward a project that highlights smart growth and renewable energy solutions for housing.

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

The project examined sustainable energy solutions that could be employed at the individual house level as well as across new developments. At the individual house level, the project piloted the use of an innovative, builder-led process for the evaluation and selection of design, construction, and technology options specific to the London housing market. At the new development level, the feasibility of community-based renewable energy systems was studied in the context of mixed-use, mixed-density development.

This GMF-funded project has created a lasting legacy for the Canadian housing market. The builder-led evaluation of new technologies and techniques, known locally as the London Energy Efficiency Partnership (LEEP) project, led to the use of new technologies, (including drain water heat recovery, heat recovery ventilators, underslab basement floor insulation and insulated concrete forms) in the London home-building market. The consultation process has been used as a model for promoting the adoption of new home-building technologies across Canada. Partnerships modelled on LEEP are under way in the Greater Toronto Area, Hamilton-Halton and Sudbury, and are continuing in London. Natural Resources Canada has plans to roll out similar projects across Canada.

The feasibility study for community-based renewable energy systems found that mixed-use and mixed-density developments effectively balance competing residential and commercial energy demands. This balance is critical for the long-term financial viability of community-based renewable energy systems such as aquifer-based inter-seasonal thermal energy storage systems.

“The City of London appreciates the support of the Green Municipal Fund for our sustainable energy initiatives,” said Mayor Joe Fontana. “The LEEP Project is a great example of how municipal government and local business can work together to meet common goals - to create green jobs, conserve energy, and protect our environment.”

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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