



NEWS RELEASE

FCM's Green Municipal Fund supports Toronto and Region Conservation Authority and Region of Peel action plan for County Court

March 21, 2011, Toronto, ON. – Hans Cunningham, president of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and director of the Regional District of Central Kootenay, B.C., and Natural Resources Minister Christian Paradis today announced a Green Municipal Fund™ (GMF) grant for Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) and the Regional Municipality of Peel. The TRCA and the Region put the \$86,625 in funding toward the creation of a sustainable neighbourhood retrofit action plan for the County Court neighbourhood, in the City of Brampton.

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

With questions being raised about the speed and effectiveness of environmental improvements in established urban communities, Toronto and Region Conservation Authority will pilot the creation of a sustainable neighbourhood retrofit action plan (SNAP) for the County Court neighbourhood as part of a series of three pilots in Brampton, Richmond Hill and Toronto. This collaborative project to increase community sustainability and contribute to climate change mitigation will bring together the Region of Peel, City of Brampton and TRCA — the project management team — with community groups, residents, and businesses.

Phase 1 included the development of a framework of working goals and targets for sustainability and an identification of potential actions for the neighbourhood. In Phases 2 and 3, supported by this GMF funding, a range of integrated retrofit scenarios will be developed and evaluated using multi-objective evaluation criteria. The shortlisted scenario will be integrated into the final retrofit action plan, which will include business cases for the retrofits, an implementation strategy, a performance monitoring plan and a marketing strategy. The SNAP will support the implementation of numerous TRCA, Region of Peel and City of Brampton plans and programs also satisfy municipal EA requirements for local stormwater infrastructure retrofit.

The County Court SNAP is already attracting international interest as the only known planning process for comprehensive neighbourhood retrofit. Experience with the County Court SNAP will be shared at conferences, in publications and through research partnerships.

“As the Regional Councillor for Brampton wards 3 and 4, I am pleased that the pilot project to transform County Court into a more environmentally friendly area for residents and businesses has been recognized by the FCM,” said John Sanderson, Regional Councillor. “Grants like this

are critical for the development of sustainable neighbourhoods that will benefit our future generations.”

“Toronto and Region Conservation Authority appreciates the support of the Green Municipal Fund for our sustainable initiative at Brampton’s County Court neighborhood,” said Brian Denney, CAO, Toronto and Region Conservation Authority. “The SNAP program brings together residents, businesses, community groups and government agencies to help established communities, become more environmentally friendly and be better prepared for climate change.”

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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