

FCMGreen Municipal Fund
Fonds municipal vert**Strathcona**
County**Canada**The logo for Sturgeon County features a stylized blue wave above the text "Sturgeon County" in a blue serif font.

NEWS RELEASE

FCM's Green Municipal Fund supports the development of a feasibility study to provide process water to Alberta's Industrial Heartland

March 3, 2011, Strathcona County and Sturgeon County, Alta. – 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 Green Municipal Fund™ (GMF) grant contributions for Strathcona and Sturgeon counties. The Counties put \$194,727 in funding toward developing a water management strategy for Alberta's industrial Heartland.

"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 Sturgeon County, Strathcona County and Alberta build a greener future for our citizens."

Strathcona and Sturgeon are two of five counties that make up what is known as Alberta's Industrial Heartland. About 40 industries (mostly petrochemical) within the area draw water from the North Saskatchewan River. The result is a set of privately-run systems with individual river water withdrawal efforts, independent operations and multiple river intakes.

The North Saskatchewan River has the capacity to handle today's water demands. The focus moving forward will be on managing the demand and economics of process water, including recycled water, for future urban and industrial growth.

A comprehensive water management strategy is being developed by examining and forecasting the requirements of a variety of treatment and conservation options. To support this, a feasibility study was commissioned to determine the total demand for raw water for each existing and proposed industrial facility and for the region, and the total volume and quality of wastewater generation from each industrial facility. The three options identified through the study are: to supply untreated water to industrial stakeholders, with any treatment provided on site; to supply treated process water to industrial stakeholders; or to supply treated process water to industrial stakeholders and collect process wastewater for "closed loop" regional treatment and disposal.

During this process, the Province of Alberta began to study a broader regional water management process that included but reached beyond the boundaries of Strathcona County and Sturgeon County. This project provided important input into that broader study.

"Strathcona County appreciates the support of the Green Municipal Fund for our sustainable initiative," said mayor Linda Osinchuk.

"Dollars from the Green Municipal Fund will allow Sturgeon County and the Alberta Industrial Heartland to accommodate a wider range of industrial activities with the help of a comprehensive water management plan," said Don Rigney, mayor of Sturgeon County and chair of the Alberta Industrial Heartland Association.

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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