

## NEWS RELEASE

### **FCM's Green Municipal Fund supports the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority's Pearson Eco-business Zone**

**February 10, 2011, Toronto, 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 Green Municipal Fund™ (GMF) grant of \$68,069 for the Region of Peel, the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority and the Greater Toronto Airports Authority. Together the partners have made an investment to develop North America's largest eco-business zone on more than 12,000 hectares of industrial, commercial and institutional (ICI) land surrounding Toronto Pearson International Airport

"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 Toronto and Region Conservation Authority build a greener future for our citizens."

The strategy focuses on public-private partnerships between businesses, governments and community organizations, and serves as a sustainable community plan focused on improving the ICI sector's environmental impact. Through the use of sustainability indicators, the plan assesses baseline levels of energy and water consumption and land use, while also setting targets for improvement in these areas.

The plan lays the groundwork for eco-business infrastructure projects in the areas of transit, district energy, wastewater treatment, waste-to-energy initiatives and brownfield redevelopment.

"Partners in Project Green is the first large-scale effort at addressing climate change in a retrofit setting," said Greater Toronto Airports Authority spokesperson Toby Lennox, Vice President of Corporate Affairs and Communications, "It's significant because it takes an integrated approach. It doesn't just focus on energy and waste management issues — as important as they are — it also looks at greenspace improvements, employee health and productivity and, ultimately, green jobs."

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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