



NEWS RELEASE

Green Municipal Fund Commits \$90,000 to the Regional District of Nanaimo for a Residential Food Waste Organics Collection Field Test

November 28, 2007, Nanaimo, BC – Mayor Frank Leonard of the District of Saanich, representing the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), and Dr. James Lunney, Member of Parliament for Nanaimo–Alberni, today announced a \$90,000 Green Municipal Fund grant for the Regional District of Nanaimo (RDN). The funding will help the RDN field test residential food waste organics collection program for 2,000 homes located on three different collection routes. The results will determine the potential for full-scale implementation.

“FCM’s Green Municipal Fund offers a range of resources and services that specifically address the sustainable community development needs of municipal governments and their partners,” said Mayor Frank Leonard, representing FCM. “The financing and knowledge provided by the Fund supports the development of communities that are more environmentally, socially and economically sustainable.”

“This investment in sustainable communities is another example of the Government of Canada’s commitment to deliver real results for all Canadians and help make this country a world-leader on the environment,” said Dr. Lunney. “Through the Green Municipal Fund, our government is assisting municipalities across the country and their partners deliver results for a cleaner, healthier environment.”

“We are pleased that the Green Municipal Fund is supporting this project,” said RDN Chairperson Joe Stanhope. “We estimate that full residential implementation of a curbside food waste organics collection program to approximately 50,000 single-family residences would result in a greater than 60 percent overall diversion rate of all waste. This would offset 1,825 tonnes of methane from the landfill, equivalent to 38,325 tonnes of carbon dioxide.”

The Government of Canada has endowed the Federation of Canadian Municipalities with \$550 million to establish and manage 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 sustainable communities enjoying a high quality of life by promoting strong, effective, and accountable municipal government.

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For information on the Regional District of Nanaimo, visit <http://www.rdn.bc.ca/>

For information on the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, visit www.fcm.ca

For information on the Green Municipal Fund, including details of other approved projects and studies, visit www.sustainablecommunities.fcm.ca

For information on Natural Resources Canada, visit www.nrcan-rncan.gc.ca

For information on Environment Canada, visit www.ec.gc.ca