May 1, 2006

Please distribute to Members of Council and Senior Staff

New Funding Opportunity for Brownfield Remediation

The Green Municipal Fund (GMF) has a new funding opportunity to offer municipal governments for the remediation of brownfield sites.

The Government of Canada has endowed the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) with $550 million to establish the GMF to provide a long-term, sustainable source of low interest loans and grants for municipal governments and their partners. Annual funding caps have been set limiting the number of projects that will be supported each year.

GMF is now using a competitive Request for Proposals (RFP) process to determine which implementation projects best meet program goals and requirements. There will be at least one RFP each year in the following categories: Energy, Waste, Water, Sustainable Transportation, and Brownfield Remediation.

Through the Brownfield Remediation RFP process, GMF will award funds totaling approximately $20 million in low interest loans. There is a limited amount of funding set aside for this RFP; therefore, not all applicants will necessarily be successful.

The Brownfield Remediation RFP has been designed to encourage the remediation and redevelopment of municipally owned brownfields as well as brownfields owned by private developers. Applicants must be municipal governments. Where permissible under provincial/territorial legislation, municipal governments may use GMF loan proceeds to provide grants or loans to private developers to fund a portion of the cost of site remediation.
The Brownfield Remediation RFP will open May 10, 2006. The Intent to Apply form, along with details of the RFP requirements and process, will be available on-line at FCM’s Centre for Sustainable Community Development website at www.sustainablecommunities.ca or by contacting the Application Co-ordinator named below. The deadline for submission of the Intent to Apply for this RFP is May 31, 2006. Applicants will be notified if their Intent to Apply is accepted and asked to submit a detailed proposal that will be reviewed by a team of independent, third-party experts. Funding offered by GMF will depend primarily on the anticipated environmental benefit (soil quality improvement and the degree of sustainability of the proposed re-development activity) and secondarily on the basis of anticipated social and economic benefits. The RFP closes July 12, 2006.

GMF will accept applications for grants for feasibility studies, field tests, and sustainable community plans in all categories on a continuous basis. Details on these grant opportunities are available on-line at www.sustainablecommunities.ca.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Gloria Kovach
President

For questions on the GMF Brownfield Remediation RFP:
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