January 15, 2009

Dear Mayor:

We are writing to invite your municipality to be part of a nationwide survey documenting and measuring municipal initiatives that reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

Climate change is an ever present and increasing concern for municipalities. Municipal governments have been playing a leadership role in Canada and around the world in taking practical steps to reduce GHG emissions despite limited resources and national or international direction. However, despite our leadership in this area, we have not been able to consistently demonstrate quantifiable municipal reductions in carbon emissions.

The importance of being able to report our results was raised by FCM's Big City Mayors' Caucus last spring and at FCM's annual conference last year. The ability to report our actual and potential GHG reductions, and its cost, is critical to building a case for greater federal investment in municipal initiatives to reduce carbon emissions.

FCM has contracted ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability, as a leading expert in this field, to provide support in conducting this national survey on GHG emissions. Through the Partners for Climate Protection (PCP) program, your municipality will be contacted to fill out the survey with technical support from ICLEI Canada.

We must position municipalities as solution providers and active partners in the fight against climate change. But only hard evidence and real numbers can prove this.

Your assistance and the input from your municipality will help make the case for a long-term, federal funding commitment to municipalities for climate change. If you require further information please contact the project coordinator, Lisa Scott at 647-728-4390.

We look forward to working with you on this important project.

Sincerely,

Jean Perrault
President of FCM
Mayor of Sherbrooke

Stephen Mandel
Mayor, City of Edmonton

Jean

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