

NEWS RELEASE

FCM's Green Municipal Fund supports the Town of Banff's LEED Silver Recreation Centre

January 23, 2012, Banff, Alta. – Berry Vrbanovic, president of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and councillor for the City of Kitchener, Ontario, and Blake Richards, Member of Parliament for Wild Rose, today announced Green Municipal Fund™ (GMF) loan and grant contributions for the Town of Banff. The Town put the \$4.4 million in funding toward a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certified expansion of its recreation centre, to meet the growing community's recreational and cultural needs.

"FCM's Green Municipal Fund offers a range of resources and services that specifically address the sustainable community development needs of municipal governments," said Vrbanovic. "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 Mr. Richards. "Today's announcement is another example of how our government — in partnership with FCM — is helping the Town of Banff build a greener future for our citizens."

Built to the LEED Silver standard, the new recreation centre is expected to exceed the energy performance specifications of the Model National Energy Code for Buildings by 42.5%. This will generate an estimated energy saving of 6,328 gigajoules per year and save at least 37.3 per cent (about \$100,000) per year on operating costs.

Banff used 90 per cent of the material salvaged from the old building in the construction of the new four-sheet curling rink and curling lounge area.

Areas previously used for paved parking and buildings—including the new curling rink—are set farther back from Whiskey Creek. The riparian zone habitat is being restored through the planting of native species and mitigation of soil contamination.

"The Fenlands is helping Banff achieve its sustainability goals in many ways," says Mayor Karen Sorensen. "It strengthens our community's bond, offers a contemporary gathering place for our residents and visitors that showcases green technology, and it celebrates our connection with the majestic nature around us. We are grateful for the support from FCM Green Municipal Fund in helping us realize our vision for a new recreation centre."

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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