



## NEWS RELEASE

### **FCM's Green Municipal Fund supports feasibility study of water treatment infrastructure upgrades in the Town of Pictou**

**March 17, 2011, Pictou, N.S.** – Hans Cunningham, president of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and director of the Regional District of Central Kootenay, B.C., and the Honourable Peter MacKay, Minister of National Defence and Member of Parliament for Central Nova, today announced a Green Municipal Fund™ (GMF) grant for the Town of Pictou. The town has invested the \$33,863 in funding in a feasibility study of water treatment infrastructure upgrades to modernize local water treatment, improve water quality, reduce water service interruptions and meet regulatory requirements.

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

The feasibility study consists of a detailed engineering pre-design report on the town’s existing water utility. The report lists the required infrastructure upgrades and their related financial costs. Pictou is implementing the feasibility study’s recommendations in two phases, the first of which is now underway.

In December 2010, the town awarded a contract to Kitson Construction of New Glasgow for the installation of approximately 1,100 meters of transmission piping in the Caribou wellfield. The new transmission line will connect five pre-existing wells in the wellfield and attach a new well drilled in 2010 to the system. Phase one is designed to address water quality issues and has a projected cost of \$1.7 million dollars.

Phase two will deal with water treatment and is intended to further improve water quality and aesthetic issues such as discoloration. Additional engineering and design work is required before this phase can begin.

“The Town of Pictou appreciates Green Municipal Fund support of its feasibility study,” said Mayor Joe Hawes. “The study was an essential first step in the town’s total approach to providing high quality water treatment for its residents. Implementation of the study’s recommendations on water treatment system upgrades and related water quality issues will lead to better water for all of Pictou’s residents to enjoy.”

The Government of Canada endowed the Federation of Canadian Municipalities 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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For information:

**Town of Pictou**

Michelle Young  
Waterfront Transition Co-ordinator  
Pictou Recreation, Tourism and Culture  
Tel.: 902-485-6057 or 1-877-5-PICTOU, ext. 255  
E-mail: [michelle.young@townofpictou.ca](mailto:michelle.young@townofpictou.ca)  
[www.townofpictou.ca](http://www.townofpictou.ca)

**FCM's Green Municipal Fund**

Maurice Gingues  
Media Relations Officer  
Green Municipal Fund  
Federation of Canadian Municipalities  
Tel.: 613-907-6399  
Fax: 613-244-1515  
E-mail: [mgingues@fcm.ca](mailto:mgingues@fcm.ca)  
[www.fcm.ca/gmf](http://www.fcm.ca/gmf)

**Natural Resources Canada**

Richard Walker  
Director of Communications  
Office of the Minister  
Tel.: 613-996-2007

Media Relations  
Natural Resources Canada  
Tel.: 613-992-4447