



NEWS RELEASE

**City of Yellowknife
February 14, 2011
11:00 AM**

Yellowknife recipient of 2011 FCM Sustainable Community Plan Award for Smart Growth Development Plan

Yellowknife, NT -

The Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) unveiled the winners of the 2011 Sustainable Community Awards on Tuesday, February 8th in Victoria, BC. The Awards are designed to recognize municipalities from across Canada for their excellence towards community sustainability projects. Within the nine development categories, the City of Yellowknife was the recipient of an Award in the Sustainable Community Planning category for its Smart Growth Development Plan.

Mayor Gordon Van Tighem stated “This Award reflects once again the City’s leadership in sustainable planning and will over time lead to a measurable improvement in quality of life for Yellowknifers, while respecting the efforts of those who brought us thus far.”

The Smart Growth Development Plan was created as an integrated long-range vision and development strategy for Yellowknife. The Plan was developed over a three year period based on a diverse project team, fourteen member volunteer Committee, and an extensive public consultation process. Moving forward the Plan provides a framework for the City to proactively pursue “smart” projects and development improvements such as active transportation, revitalization and redevelopment, affordable housing and waterfront accessibility.

Jeffrey Humble, Director of Planning and Development for the City of Yellowknife stated, “the development of the Plan’s vision was a three year process with an incredible amount of public input. The long range vision will help us focus on projects and initiatives that will derive the most benefit from a strategic planning perspective”.

The former Smart Growth Development Plan Committee, chaired by Councillor Shelagh Montgomery, has been replaced by the Smart Growth Implementation Committee, Chaired by Councillor Bob Brooks. The Implementation Committee, which held its first meeting this February, will be pursuing the action items in the Plan’s Recommendations Report along with integrating the mandate of the former Downtown Enhancement Committee.

The City acknowledges the funding support of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, and the GNWT Education Culture and Employment.

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Or visit the City's website to review the Smart Growth Development Plan Recommendations Report and Background Reports at:

http://www.yellowknife.ca/City_Hall/Forms_and_Publications/Planning_and_Lands_Documents.html