



Federation of Canadian Municipalities

5.6

December 8, 2005

Please Distribute to All Members of Council

MEMBERS' ADVISORY

First FCM Technical Mission to Sri Lanka in Progress As Tsunami Anniversary Approaches

FCM received many responses to last month's Call for Expressions of Interest from highly qualified municipal experts for the first technical mission for the Canada/Sri Lanka Municipal Cooperation Program (MCP). A strong team has been assembled for the planning process.

The team includes: Mark Hymers, Senior Engineer, City of Fredericton; Mutiah Yathindra, Senior Project Engineer, City of Toronto; Peter Steblin, General Manager of Environmental and Engineering Services and City Engineer, City of London; Todd Pepper, General Manager, Essex-Windsor Solid Waste Authority; Derrick Bellows, Manager of Solid Waste, City of Regina; Emily Chu, Manager, Planning and Development, City of Coquitlam; and Kenneth Watson, City Manager, City of Port Alberni.

Their mandate is to develop a needs assessment and comprehensive work plan with each of the Sri Lankan municipalities of Galle, Trincomalee, Batticaola, and Kalmunai. Team members will also provide immediate advice on the most pressing municipal issues facing these communities. In addition, the team will establish a field office and hire local staff. The mission started on November 24 and all will return to Canada by December 18, 2005.

This is the first of many MCP missions. As needs and priorities become clear, new opportunities for other municipal experts will be posted on our website: www.fcm.ca (click "International").

Media Interest in the Anniversary of the Tsunami

As the anniversary of the December 26, 2004 tsunami approaches, media interest in reconstruction efforts is increasing. We will soon send out a news release highlighting the Canadian municipal response. Members are encouraged to contact their local media about their municipality's contributions where applicable. To assist, a backgrounder and media advisory are available on the FCM website (see "Tsunami").

FCM's Canada/ Aceh Local Government Assistance Program (CALGAP)

We are now in the last phase of negotiations with the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) regarding the Canada/Aceh Local Government Assistance Program (CALGAP) in Indonesia. The first technical mission to Indonesia is scheduled for February.

For more information on our projects in Sri Lanka and Indonesia and how members can contribute, or to be added to the monthly e-mail update list, please contact Shelly Desjardins at sdesjardins@fcm.ca.