

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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New Meade Creek Recycling Centre in the Cowichan Valley now open to the public Project made possible thanks to Federal Gas Tax Fund and the Green Municipal Fund

Duncan, BC – The upgraded Meade Creek Recycling Centre is now open to the public, serving residents in Lake Cowichan, Youbou and western communities in the Cowichan Valley Regional District. The Meade Creek Recycling Centre is a state-of-the-art recycling drop-off facility built on the site of an old municipal waste incinerator. The ash landfill was closed per the Provincial Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy requirements, and the design enabled siting of all amenities on the remediated land.

The Meade Creek Recycling Centre gives residents local access to a full range of recycling programs, something that residents in neighbouring communities have enjoyed for years. Site design considered convenience, public safety and environmental sustainability through improvements to on-site stormwater management, incorporating the re-use of demolition materials where possible, and full closure and remediation of an old incinerator ash landfill. The facility now provides recycling options for over 650 products, as well as a Free Store, where residents can pick up gently used items for free.

The landfill closure and upgrades to the existing facility would not have been possible without the funding and support of the Federal Gas Tax Fund and the Green Municipal Fund™ (GMF). The Federal Gas Tax Fund contributed \$2,560,000 in funding, and the total project budget was an estimated \$5,494,120.

Each year, the Government of Canada provides over \$278 million in funding for local government infrastructure across British Columbia through the Federal Gas Tax Fund. The Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) administers the Federal Gas Tax Fund in British Columbia in partnership with the Government of Canada and the Province of British Columbia.

GMF is a \$625-million program, delivered by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and funded by the Government of Canada. GMF supports innovative solutions to environmental challenges, funding projects that improve air, water and land quality, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and generate economic and social benefits for local communities. Through GMF, municipalities also share lessons learned and successful new models for advancing sustainability in communities of all sizes across Canada. The Green Municipal Fund provided \$1,447,100 in grants and loan to the Cowichan Valley Regional District for the Meade Creek Recycling Centre project.

Quotes

“Investing in green infrastructure projects like the Meade Creek Recycling Centre is vital to safeguarding our environment and developing clean sustainable communities. The Government of Canada is proud to have supported this facility which will increase the community’s recycling capacity and promote a greener way of life for residents.”

- The Honourable François-Philippe Champagne, Minister of Infrastructure and Communities

“The new Meade Creek Recycling Centre in the Cowichan Valley is such a great asset to the community and will make a positive impact in the lives of the people who live here. This is an example of how a partnership between all levels of government can work together toward real action on climate change that fights pollution, and grows our economy to make life better for people in British Columbia.”

- Selina Robinson, BC Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

“FCM is proud to help communities like the Cowichan Valley Regional District lead the way on the triple bottom line — environmental, social and economic sustainability. Projects like the Meade Creek Recycling Centre have a tangible impact on both the environment and the lives of local residents. At the same time, this is the kind of local innovation that can inspire other communities on the path to a greener Canada.”

- Vicki-May Hamm, FCM President

“UBCM appreciates the ongoing support provided by the Government of Canada for the renewal of community infrastructure in British Columbia. The CVRD’s new recycling facility provides a vital expansion to service delivery in the region and is good news for local residents.”

- Wendy Booth, UBCM President

“This new facility will greatly contribute to the CVRD’s long-term goal of reducing waste that would otherwise be transported to a landfill. We are excited to now be able to offer a full range of recycling services in a local, safe and modern facility to residents and visitors in the Lake Cowichan, Youbou and surrounding communities.”

- Jon Lefebure, CVRD Board Chair

Links

To learn more about the federal Gas Tax Fund visit: <http://www.infrastructure.gc.ca/plan/gtf-ft-eng.html>.

To learn more about the Green Municipal Fund visit: <https://fcm.ca/home/programs/green-municipal-fund/about-gmf.htm>

To learn more about the Meade Creek Recycling Centre facility: <https://www.cvrld.bc.ca/meadecreek>

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