

NO: R140

COUNCIL DATE: **July 10, 2017**

REGULAR COUNCIL

TO: **Mayor & Council**

DATE: **June 30th, 2017**

FROM: **City Manager**

FILE: 0250-03

SUBJECT: **Federation of Canadian Municipalities Building Inclusive & Green Municipalities – South Africa**

RECOMMENDATION

The City Manager's Department recommends that Council:

1. Receive this report as information; and
2. Approve City of Surrey's participation in the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Building Inclusive & Green Municipalities Initiative in South Africa taking place between 2017-2020.

INTENT

The purpose of this report is to obtain Council approval for the City of Surrey to participate in the Federation of Canadian Municipalities Building Inclusive & Green Municipalities Initiative in South Africa between 2017- 2020.

BACKGROUND

In 2017, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities ('FCM') launched a \$5.8 million, five-year initiative to support green infrastructure, trade and economic growth in South Africa's municipalities. Funding includes a \$4.9 million contribution from Global Affairs Canada as well as in-kind contributions from Canadian and South African municipalities.

The current program being implemented includes the Building Inclusive Green Municipalities ('BIGM') project in partnership with the South African Local Government Association ('SALGA'). The Building Inclusive Green Municipalities initiative bolsters ongoing efforts to stimulate local economies and modernize infrastructure and will run from 2017-2020.

The implementation of the BIGM project will involve six (6) Canadian municipal partners (municipalities) to assist small and medium-sized municipalities in the Eastern Cape Province, in South Africa. Three (3) municipalities will be required to work on Local Economic Development projects and three (3) municipalities will be required to work on Asset Management while integrating climate change adaptation measures. All six partnering South African municipalities are located along the coastline.

DISCUSSION

FCM has identified local economic development and asset management/climate change adaptation as key focus areas for this international partnership. For this project, FCM is specifically looking for mid-sized Canadian cities to participate. As a recognized global leader in smart cities excellence with expert municipal practitioners across all City departments, the City of Surrey is prepared to respond to FCM's requests.

In fact, a number of existing Surrey programs could be scaled for application by our potential South African partners and include the following:

- **Responsive business capacity building programs** - Surrey staff are experts at developing responsive business capacity building programming for local businesses and organizations to create competitive business communities. Some examples of these programs and initiatives include: SparkBIZ, our market intelligence-driven business outreach program, as well as FarmableNow, a program aimed to teach aspiring farmers essential business skills and connect them to available farmland in the City using an "AirBnB" model.
- **The Somali Women's Economic Self-Sufficiency Project**- a pilot project that used a community economic development approach to develop the skills and entrepreneurial experience of a group of refugee women facing multiple-barriers to traditional employment programs and paid work. The project was guided by an advisory committee of women and has resulted in the creation of a local "Women 4 Women" foundation.
- **The City's Community Climate Action Strategy**, approved in 2013, which included the Climate Adaptation Strategy that identified key risks and priority actions to prepare for the impacts of climate change. For Surrey, the highest priority risk is flooding and sea level rise which are similar challenges identified by the South African municipalities.
- **The Coastal Flood Adaptation Strategy (CFAS)**, which will help prepare Surrey for a changing climate and help our coastal communities become more resilient. Findings from the participatory planning process developed for CFAS should be directly transferable to coastal South African municipalities to inform their sea level rise planning and adaptation. This partnership will share and build on global expertise already received from the Netherlands for CFAS.
- **Asset management Plan**- The City's Engineering Department has recently developed an asset management vision, adopted an asset management framework, and is currently developing various asset management plans involving condition assessment frameworks, risk assessment frameworks, as well as level of service assessments.

Program Benefits for the City of Surrey

Through participation in FCM's programs, Canadian municipalities are able to learn about the issues that overseas municipalities face. Ties with other localities help overseas municipalities find suitable solutions to issues that transcend borders, such as stimulating local economic development, asset management, climate change adaptation and mitigation issues, youth programming, green economy, trade and/or recovering from natural disasters, etc. The personal

enrichment from international experience would allow municipal staff to see their work from another perspective.

City of Surrey Role and Responsibilities

While FCM, through funding from Global Affairs Canada will cover all participant travel, accommodation and meal expenses, the City will be expected to:

- Be willing to engage in an institutional relationship, including passing a council resolution, with their overseas partner over a period of three years;
- Commit to a minimum level of effort/in-kind contribution from staff/council (approx. 2 two-week missions per year, in addition to hosting study visits and long-distance support between missions);
- Be willing to host delegations from the overseas partner municipality; and
- Be willing to source, within its staff/council, a lead coordinator and team of experts that will work together on project objectives (technical assistance, knowledge sharing, Canadian community engagement, etc.).

A number of City departments have been identified for participation in this program including Engineering, Planning & Development, and Investment & Intergovernmental Relations. The particular makeup of the City staff team will be identified once FCM approves the City's application and a scope of work is jointly identified.

SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS

The FCM Building Green Inclusive Communities program is aligned with the following Sustainability Charter desired outcomes (DO) and strategic directions (SD):

- Inclusion DO 2: Surrey welcomes, includes, embraces and values the diversity of people who live here.
- Inclusion DO 3: Residents have opportunities to build social connections with people from different backgrounds.
- Inclusion SD 15: Work at the neighbourhood level to empower local clubs, groups, individuals and agencies to contribute to a vibrant community.
- Inclusion SD 20: Foster a culture of collaboration and the generation of new ideas and methods for solving complex social issues.
- Public Safety DO 5: Surrey is recognized and perceived as a leader in establishing and maintaining collaborative partnerships for community safety and well-being.

CONCLUSION

The City Manager's Department recommends that Council:

1. Receive this report as information; and
2. Approve City of Surrey participation in the FCM Building Inclusive & Green Municipalities Initiative in South Africa between 2017-2020.

Vincent Lalonde, P.Eng
City Manager

Appendix 1 – Project Brief from FCM on Building Inclusive Green Municipalities (BIGM) Partnerships

Building Inclusive Green Municipalities (BIGM)

OPPORTUNITY:

Up to six (6) Canadian municipal partners (municipalities) sought for small and medium-sized municipalities. Three (3) will be working on Local Economic Development project and three (3) will be working on Asset Management integrating Climate Change Adaptation in the Eastern Cape Province, in South Africa.

Language of work: English

PROJECT:

The Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) has launched a \$5.8 million, five-year initiative to support green infrastructure, trade and economic growth in South Africa's municipalities. Funding includes a \$4.9 million contribution from Global Affairs Canada as well as in-kind contributions from Canadian and South African municipalities. FCM is currently implementing the Building Inclusive Green Municipalities (BIGM) project in partnership with the South African Local Government Association (SALGA). The Building Inclusive Green Municipalities initiative bolsters ongoing efforts to stimulate local economies and modernize infrastructure.

Activities will focus mainly in six (6) municipalities in the Eastern Cape Province. In three (3) municipalities, programming will focus on local economic development while three (3) more will focus on asset management integrating climate change adaptation, with a strong emphasis on vulnerable segments of society, including women and youth.

The Eastern Cape Province

The Eastern Cape is located on the east coast of South Africa between the Western Cape and KwaZulu-Natal provinces. Inland, it borders the Northern Cape and Free State provinces, as well as Lesotho. The Province is divided into two metropolitan municipalities (Buffalo City Metropolitan Municipality and Nelson Mandela Bay Metropolitan Municipality) and in six district municipalities, which are further subdivided into 31 local municipalities.

Map: The Eastern Cape Province



The Eastern Cape Province, with just about 7 million residents, accounted for 13% of South Africa's population in 2014/2015. But it contributed just 8% of the GDP. The Province covers an area of 168 966km², is the second-largest province in South Africa by surface area and has the third-largest population. The capital is Bhishe. Other major cities and towns include Port Elizabeth, East London, Grahamstown, Mthatha (previously Umtata), Graaf Reinet, Cradock and Port St Johns.

The Province has some of the highest poverty indicators in South Africa, with 41% of the population who cannot afford sufficient food, and the slowest rate of poverty alleviation in the country.

The Eastern Cape economy and the national spatial economy is a result of the Apartheid geography, which has had a significant impact on economic structures and especially on access to economic opportunities for ordinary South Africans. The Eastern Cape has:

- A relatively high share of former so-called “homeland” areas within its borders.
- In 2015, 45% of the population lived in former “homeland” regions, compared to 27% for the country as a whole.
- Two metro areas out of a total of 45 municipalities. Metros and secondary cities account for 27% of the province’s population. That compared to 40% of the national population living in metro areas and secondary cities.
- A relatively small share of non-Africans in the total population, at 13% compared to 20% nationally.

These factors help explain the province's economic structure and key constraints on growth. Under apartheid, African areas and especially the former “homeland” regions typically excluded natural resources, and for decades were largely deprived of infrastructure and government services.

The six municipalities

Municipality	Population (Approx.)	Located in the District Municipality of:
Mbizana	230,000	Alfred Nzo District Municipality
Ngqushwa	64,000	Amathole District Municipality
King Sabata Dalindyebo	490,000	OR Tambo District Municipality
Port St-Johns	170,000	OR Tambo District Municipality
Kouga	115,000	Sarah Baartman District Municipality
Ndlambe	65,000	Sarah Baartman District Municipality
	1,134,000	





The Eastern Cape is one of South Africa's poorest provinces incorporating large areas of South Africa's former homelands. The Eastern Cape has excellent agricultural and forestry potential. The fertile Langkloof Valley in the south-west has enormous deciduous fruit orchards, while the Karoo interior is an important sheep-farming area. The Alexandria-Grahamstown area produces pineapples, chicory and dairy products, while coffee and tea are cultivated at Magwa. People in the former Transkei region are dependent on the farming of cattle, maize and sorghum.

The metropolitan economies of Port Elizabeth and East London are based primarily on manufacturing, the most important industry being motor manufacturing. The province is the hub of South Africa's automotive industry.

Amongst the six (6) targeted municipalities already selected, three (3) will work on the component focusing on more effective, innovative and inclusive local economic development (in particular for women and vulnerable populations) and three (3) will focus on the component to improve asset management policies and practices related to climate change adaptation and mitigation.

FCM/SALGA are presently confirming the component distribution amongst the municipalities because of current municipal discussions and needs assessments.

Alfred Nzo District – MBIZANA

Description: The Mbizana Local Municipality is a municipality situated within the Alfred Nzo District in the Eastern Cape Province. It is one of four municipalities in the district. A female-dominated society, the municipality makes efforts to integrate and incorporate women in key decision-making roles within the institution to reflect this demographic. The majority of households in Mbizana are of a rural nature. This results in natural resources providing a strong base for basic survival as those living in rural areas turn to subsistence farming for their livelihoods.

More information is available at this link:

<https://www.localgovernment.co.za/districts/view/1/Alfred-Nzo-District-Municipality>

Or Tambo District – KING SABATA DALINDYEBO

Description: The King Sabata Dalindyebo Municipality is a municipality situated within the OR Tambo District in the Eastern Cape Province. It is the largest of the five municipalities in the district, accounting for a quarter of its geographical area. The municipality was formed before the local government elections in the year 2000, when the Mqanduli and Mthatha Transitional and Rural Councils were merged. The majority population of the municipality resides in the rural areas, where they still practice cultural tradition. King Sabata Dalindyebo Municipality retains many of the earliest buildings of the neoclassical style that was popular during the colonial times.

More information is available at this link:

<https://www.localgovernment.co.za/locals/view/32/King-Sabata-Dalindyebo-Local-Municipality>

Or Tambo District – PORT ST JOHNS

Description: The Port St Johns Local Municipality is a [Category B](#) municipality situated within the OR Tambo District on the coast of the Indian Ocean in the largely rural province of the Eastern Cape. It comprises coastal and inland areas that fall under the jurisdiction of the former Transkei. The seat of the municipality is in the main town of Port St Johns, which is known for its beautiful beaches and mountainous terrain, with hills, cliffs and sandy dunes.

The municipality's beautiful scenery, its natural vegetation and the pristine beaches referred to above are the main attractions for tourism. It has land for commercial use and an environmentally friendly residential area. There are 1 053 types of plants and 164 plant families found around Port St Johns. This unique vegetation harbors rare bird species, providing evidence of the rich biodiversity in Port St Johns.

More information is available at this link:

<https://www.localgovernment.co.za/locals/view/38/Port-St-Johns-Local-Municipality>

Sarah Baartman District – KOUGA

Description: The Kouga Local Municipality is a [Category B](#) municipality situated in the Eastern Cape Province within the Sarah Baartman District Municipality. It comprises the coastal region and the fertile Gamtoos Valley, which also happens to be the gateway to the famous Baviaanskloof wilderness area. It is one of seven municipalities in the district. The Gamtoos Valley is recognized as one of the prime exporting areas for citrus and avocado pears. It also competes with the best that South Africa has to offer with its potato crops. Port St Francis, situated in St Francis Bay, is home to the squid industry. The Kouga region is of strategic importance in the energy industry. Two large wind farms are already in operation in the area, with more to follow. The area is also home to Thyspunt, one of the sites under consideration for Eskom's proposed new nuclear power station.

More information is available at this link:

<https://www.localgovernment.co.za/locals/view/15/Kouga-Local-Municipality>

Sarah Baartman District – NDLAMBE

Description: The Ndlambe Local Municipality is a Category B municipality situated within the Sarah Baartman District Municipality in the Eastern Cape Province. Makana borders it to the north, the Atlantic Ocean to the south, Ngqushwa to the east and Sundays River Valley to the west. It is the smallest of the seven municipalities in the district, making up only 3% of its geographical area.

The Ndlambe municipal area forms part of the Eastern Coastal Zone, which can be described as having a pristine coastal area, well-preserved river mouths and intertidal areas, diverse vegetation, relatively low density development along the coast, and major tourism potential.

More information is available at this link:

<https://www.localgovernment.co.za/locals/view/18/Ndlambe-Local-Municipality>

Amathole District – NGQUSHWA

Description: The Ngqushwa Local Municipality is a Category B municipality. It is one of the six municipalities within the jurisdiction of the Amathole District Municipality, situated within the Eastern Cape Province. The Keiskamma River to the east and to the west, the Great Fish River,



borders it. The southern boundary comprises part of the coastline of the Indian Ocean. Ngqushwa is one of the smaller municipalities in the district, accounting for 10% of its geographical area. It is predominantly rural in nature.

More information is available at this link:

<https://www.localgovernment.co.za/locals/view/8/Ngqushwa-Local-Municipality>