



For immediate release

reThink Green selected to provide training and support for Northeastern Ontario municipalities to foster deep emissions reductions

February 4, 2019 – reThink Green has been granted \$247,000 in funding from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) to work with municipalities across Northeastern Ontario and help them reach significant carbon emission reduction targets.

The grant is part of Transition 2050, an initiative offered through FCM’s Municipalities for Climate Innovation Program (MCIP). Ten organizations have been selected to build a network of communities and support them as they develop long-term plans and projects contributing to a low carbon transition by 2050 in alignment with the target date as set out by the Paris Agreement.

Participating municipalities will undertake commitments to deep emissions reductions through peer learning, strategic planning and operational implementation, while leveraging lessons learned from communities facing similar challenges.

reThink Green has developed the first phase of the project with municipalities from Manitoulin Island and the North Shore of Lake Huron. This project emerged from “a recognition that everyone has a role to play in reducing our impact on the environment. Small to medium communities can be effective leaders in the transition to a low-carbon economy,” says Rebecca Danard, Executive Director of reThink Green.

Mayor Alan MacNevin, of Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands, says his community has benefited from working with the program over the past year. “We’re pretty serious about trying to improve our carbon footprint and to save electricity costs to put money back into programming for our citizens. Working with reThink Green is a great opportunity for small

towns to benefit from their skills and expertise in reducing greenhouse gas emissions,” says Mayor MacNevin.

reThink Green will partner with the Ontario Centre for Climate Impacts and Adaptation Resources (OCCIAR) to develop tailored training for the participating communities. OCCIAR Director Al Douglas states that “this initiative will capitalize on the strong social fabric in northern Ontario as we collaborate to reduce our contribution to climate change and work toward resilient and low-carbon economies. MIRARCO and OCCIAR are excited to be working with reThink Green on this northern Ontario climate change initiative that signals our commitment to tackling climate change.”

By embedding climate goals into diverse facets of municipal planning, and sharing new information with their peers, communities of all sizes can provide greater environmental, economic and social value for Canadians over the long term.

Transition 2050 is available through MCIP, delivered by FCM and funded by the Government of Canada.

Related information

[FCM's Transition 2050 initiative](#)
[FCM's Municipalities for Climate Innovation Program](#)
[reThink Green's Smart Green Communities Program](#)

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