

news release

The Corporation of the City of North Vancouver
Corporate Services Department



Subject	City of North Vancouver Wins First-Ever Green City Award for Innovation & Leadership in Sustainability
Date	September 26, 2007

The City of North Vancouver has received the inaugural **Green City Award** for cities with a population between 25,000 and 100,000, a prestigious honour that recognizes the City's outstanding efforts and progress in sustainability.

Sponsored by the Province of British Columbia and Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM), the annual Green City Awards challenge local governments to be leaders in creating greener, healthier communities. The awards program recognizes those municipalities that are making a difference in the area of sustainability and provides them with the funds to develop and invest in further initiatives.

Valued at \$2.5 million over five years, the Green City Awards program provide up to \$500,000 annually for local governments in eight categories.

To be considered for a Green City Award, the City of North Vancouver was evaluated on its innovative approach, implementation of best practices, and efforts to design a sustainable, vibrant community that encourages physical activity, energy conservation and produces environmental benefits. Entrants were also judged by the following criteria:

- Triple Bottom Line: how the City integrates social, environmental and economic values throughout the community
- Liveability & Demographics: how the City addresses issues that may affect specific demographics
- Climate Change: how the City's proactively reduces greenhouse gas emissions and mitigates climate change
- Innovation & Transferability: the City provides examples that other local governments can learn from and apply in their communities and which showcase BC communities internationally

As one of the densest municipalities in the Greater Vancouver region, the City takes a comprehensive approach to building a sustainable community. Social, environmental and economic considerations are integrated into the Official Community Plan, one of the City's most important policy documents. The City's OCP serves not only as a land use planning guide, it also provides long-range direction for development, enabling the City 'to be a vibrant, diverse and highly liveable community.' The OCP also considers other government policies such as Smart Growth BC and the GVRD's Livable Region Strategic Plan.

The City of North Vancouver was further recognized for its 'transferable' sustainability projects and initiatives, which can serve as examples for other municipalities. They include the City's district energy system, Lonsdale Energy Corporation; Sustainable Development Guidelines for green building construction and design; and innovative Greenhouse Gas Action Plan.

The inaugural Green City Award was presented to the City today at the UBCM Convention in Vancouver. For more information on the City's green initiatives and innovative solutions for building a sustainability community, visit www.cnv.org/environment

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