



MEMBER RELEASE

October 7, 2010

TO: Gas Tax Eligible Recipients
FROM: Union of BC Municipalities
RE: **Gas Tax General Strategic Priorities Fund and Innovations Fund**

We are pleased to advise that applications are now being accepted for funding under the Gas Tax General Strategic Priorities Fund (GSPF) and the Innovations Fund (IF) programs, **with an application deadline of April 29, 2011**. Applications received prior to February 1, 2011 may be considered for a first round of funding announcements. These programs are funded through contributions made by the Government of Canada under the Canada – British Columbia – UBCM Agreement on the Transfer of Federal Gas Tax Revenues (Gas Tax Agreement).

The available funding for these programs is \$107.3 million for GSPF and \$50.1 million for IF. The General Strategic Priorities Fund is available to all eligible recipients in British Columbia outside of the Greater Vancouver Regional District. The Innovations Fund is available to all eligible recipients in British Columbia.

Both the GSPF and the IF provide investments towards projects that improve local government capacity to develop and implement integrated community sustainability planning or that improve public transit, local roads, bridges and tunnels, active transportation infrastructure, community energy, water, wastewater or solid waste infrastructure that reduce greenhouse gas emissions or provide cleaner air or cleaner water. Within these investment goals, funding is targeted in the GSPF program towards investments that are larger in scale or regional in impact and in the IF program towards projects that reflect innovative approaches to achieving program objectives.

Further information about the programs, including separate Program Guides and Application Forms for capital projects and capacity building/integrated community sustainability planning projects are available on our website at (www.ubcm.ca).

If you would like further information about the GSPF and IF programs and application process, please feel free to contact Gas Tax/Public Transit Management Services by email at gt-pt@ubcm.ca or by phone at 250 356-2947.