



## NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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### CITY OF PICKERING WINS FCM'S PREMIER SUSTAINABILITY AWARD

Pickering, ON, June 5, 2008 – At a recognition ceremony held at the 71<sup>st</sup> Annual Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Conference and Municipal Expo in Quebec City, the City of Pickering took home arguably the most prestigious award, when it was presented with the *2008 FCM-CH2M HILL Sustainable Community Award in Planning*.

This nationwide competition recognizes the very best of Canadian municipalities' efforts to create more environmentally responsible, livable and sustainable communities. The Planning award is held in such high regard, because it is not focused on a single project or outcome. Rather, it recognizes a municipality's long term vision and corresponding action plan that will balance the multifaceted needs of its residents, businesses and stakeholders today within the framework of tomorrow. Pickering's groundbreaking *Sustainable City Project* was deemed the absolute best of its kind amongst all Canadian cities and towns.

"The City of Pickering is both thrilled and honoured to win FCM's premier Sustainability Award. Being recognized as one of the country's foremost sustainability leaders will empower the City to reach out and engage a broader and more diverse audience with our sustainability message," said Mayor Dave Ryan. "We embarked on this journey to become the most sustainable community in North America, and this award affirms the progress we are making."

As Chair of Sustainable Pickering, Councillor Doug Dickerson believes that what has been learned by visiting and observing the best of what other cities are doing with respect to the environment and sustainability has really propelled Pickering forward. "We have combined the best practices of others with our own innovations to engage our community's residents and businesses," said Councillor Dickerson. "In large measure, it is their enthusiasm and support for the sustainable projects we have undertaken that has led to and made this award possible."

*As the gateway city to the east GTA, Pickering (population 94,000) is strategically located between Toronto and Durham Region. Pickering is an affluent community that is steeped in history, natural beauty and small town charm with all the amenities and services that a big city has to offer. The City of Pickering is considered a municipal leader in fiscal management, service delivery, sustainability and the environment; and offers a wealth of sports, leisure and recreation opportunities for its residents. Pickering has been recognized by Profit magazine as one of the ten best cities in Canada for growth companies and received the 2008 FCM-CH2M Sustainable Community Planning Award.*

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