RECOMMENDATION

That, on the recommendation of the Director of Intergovernmental and Community Liaison, the following report **BE RECEIVED** for information.

BACKGROUND

In February 2005, at the invitation of the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) participated in a scoping mission to identify potential opportunities to support the re-building of governance in the tsunami-affected areas in Sri Lanka. FCM submitted a proposal to CIDA for the development of a Canada/Sri Lanka Municipal Cooperation Program (MCP) and this proposal was approved by CIDA in July, with identified goals to support post-tsunami rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts in Sri Lanka and to create an enabling environment for peace building by increasing local government capacities and promotion of good intergovernmental relations.

The Municipal Cooperation Program’s purpose is to improve local governance (operations management, service delivery and strengthened participatory mechanisms) in several local governments that were affected by the tsunami in Sri Lanka through technical assistance provided by Canadian municipal practitioners.

Initiatives of the Program during the next year include developing a Comprehensive Waste Management Plan and improving management and service delivery in waste collection; Organizational Development within the Galle Engineering Department with a focus on Urban Development Planning and Project Management in surface drainage initiatives; and determination of future project initiatives. The first mission will take place from November 28 to December 8, 2005.

I am pleased to advise that London General Manager of Environmental and Engineering Services and City Engineer Peter Steblin has been selected by FCM to serve on the mission team. He is one of six municipal professionals with expertise in the areas of solid waste management and public works/environmental services selected from across Canada. All travel expenses will be paid by FCM.

**SUBMITTED AND RECOMMENDED BY:**

[Signature]

GRANT HOPCROFT
DIRECTOR OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND COMMUNITY LIAISON

cc: Members of CMT
November 1, 2005

Please distribute to all Members of Council

MEMBERS' ADVISORY

**FCM supports post-tsunami reconstruction programs in Asia**

FCM is launching a first program designed to support post-tsunami reconstruction efforts in southern Asia.

The $9-million *Canada/Sri Lanka Municipal Cooperation Program* (MCP) is funded by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and managed by FCM. It supports several local tsunami-affected governments in Sri Lanka that are in urgent need of technical assistance in solid-waste management, sewerage and drainage, road maintenance, land-use planning, emergency management and local economic development.

The initial partners in the MCP are the municipalities of Galle in the south of Sri Lanka, and the municipalities of Trincomalee, Baticaloa and Kalmunai in the northeast.

FCM has posted a Call for Expressions of Interest on its International Centre for Municipal Development website (www.icmd-cidm.ca). The Centre is seeking volunteer municipal professionals with expertise in the areas of waste management and public works, who would be available to go on a technical-assistance mission in December 2005 and possibly on future technical missions.

A separate component of the MCP, the *Canada/Sri Lanka Municipal Strategic Fund*, will finance small-scale infrastructure projects or equipment purchases by all tsunami-affected local governments in Sri Lanka. The fund will be open to Sri Lankan and Canadian municipalities interested in submitting proposals for local initiatives.

A proposal for post-tsunami reconstruction in Indonesia, the *Canada/Aceh Local Government Support Program* (CALGAP), is also currently being reviewed by CIDA and should be approved within the next two months.

FCM is proposing to assist the district of Pidie, the district of Aceh Jaya and the municipality of Banda Aceh, all severely damaged by the tsunami. FCM is proposing that the program specifically address the areas of solid-waste management, strategic reconstruction planning, local council management and operation management.

For more information on FCM’s projects in Sri Lanka and Indonesia and how FCM members can contribute, or to be added to the monthly e-mail update list, contact Katherine Murillo at kmurillo@fcm.ca.