

**Mayor's Office news release
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Project Green is good news for Vancouver

The federal government's commitment to achieve Kyoto Protocol objectives through its new "Project Green" is good news for Vancouver, says Mayor Larry Campbell, and could accelerate the creation of a 200-hectare sustainable energy project in the False Creek area to reduce greenhouse gases and cut energy costs.

"Vancouver's Community Climate Change Action Plan puts us in the forefront of cities ready to implement Kyoto measures," Campbell said. "Just yesterday Council agreed to seek proposals for a cutting-edge energy program to be operated by a city-owned utility. It could save energy, reduce emissions and reduce the cost of development if the business plan proves out. Today's federal announcement indicates we will see senior government support for this kind of initiative."

Campbell said the energy precinct, if built, could reduce development costs, cut greenhouse gas emissions and improve air quality as part of the redevelopment of Southeast False Creek and False Creek Flats. If senior government support is available, the system could be started with the Olympic Village for the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games.

The federal program was unveiled today by Environment Minister Stephane Dion, Resources Minister John Efford and Industry Minister David Emerson. Vancouver Quadra MP Stephen Owen, Minister of Public Works, has also been deeply involved in the project and has worked closely with the city to ensure maximum co-operation, Campbell said.

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