

For immediate release

## **Communities of Tomorrow Awards Funding to Ground Effects Environmental Services**

Communities of Tomorrow (CT) announced today that Ground Effects Environmental Services will receive *Signature* funding of \$250,000 to develop a prototype of an electrochemical remediation process that will remove salt deposits from contaminated soil sites around the world.

Salt is one of largest soil contaminants in the world, and the electrochemical remediation process is a groundbreaking technology. This environmentally sustainable project will eliminate salt contaminated soils that are generated from the oil and gas industry, dump sites for salt used on winter roads, and municipal salt storage yards. Normally, these soils are simply excavated and moved to a local landfill, but this technology will enable companies to clean up the soil right on site.

“As a result of the \$250,000 investment from Communities of Tomorrow in the project, we will have the opportunity to tap a market of over \$40 million annually, according to an independent study we commissioned,” says Sean Frisky, President and CEO of Ground Effects Environmental Services.

John Lee, President of Communities of Tomorrow commented, “We are very pleased to be investing in local innovative companies, like Ground Effects Environmental Services, that have significant potential to create economic benefits for Saskatchewan and at the same time have a positive impact on the environment.”

Funding for CT is provided in part by the Government of Saskatchewan with \$5 million in funding through the Western Economic Partnership Agreement to support business development, marketing, research and development, and commercialization and is cost-matched by Western Economic Development.

“Ground Effects exemplifies the exciting innovation that Saskatchewan companies are capable of and this grant further enables the contributions it makes to our economy,” Industry and Resources Minister Maynard Sonntag said. “The development of salt remediation technology will benefit not only Saskatchewan’s environment, but will also be applied in countries around the world to improve soil and water quality and provide jobs here at home.”

Ground Effects Environmental Services is a multi-national corporation based in Regina that designs and manufactures new technologies to remove contaminants from soil and groundwater sites. To date the company has developed 70 such technologies and their services have been used by companies around the world, including the United States and Australia.

CT offers *Seed*, *Strategic* and *Signature* funding to industry and researchers to support their research and development initiatives in the sustainable infrastructure sector, with the overall goal of enabling commercialization of their products and services. Up to \$15,000 is available through *Seed* funding for short-term exploratory research, while *Strategic* funding offers between \$15,000 and \$150,000 and *Signature* funding offers more than \$150,000 for long-term applied research and product testing initiatives.

CT, a non-profit enterprise, is working to facilitate a regional-based Cluster of research, municipal and industry partners, which will grow to become a concentration of innovative, interconnected companies around a nucleus of research and development facilities. Members of the Cluster will include industry firms, institutions, and governments working together to achieve competitive advantages and economic development through greater, accelerated innovation. Together with our research partners and their facilities, we are creating a centre of excellence in applied infrastructure research that will be at the forefront of providing industry with the right expertise and momentum to successfully develop their commercial products.

The development of this Cluster will have a significant economic impact on Regina and Saskatchewan, and will play a key role in the creation of numerous successful commercial products that will be available in the global marketplace. As the Cluster of research and industry continues to evolve, the CT partnership envisions that new businesses will be created in the city, existing businesses will have expanded, and new and existing businesses will have relocated to the city. Visit [www.ctinfo.ca](http://www.ctinfo.ca) for further information on CT.

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