

CAMA Awards 2011

Nunavut Municipal Training Organization 2011 Environment Award, Presented by Citi Canada (Population under 20,000) Household Hazardous Waste Management Training Program for Operators

A household hazardous waste diversion training program for municipal employees, developed by the Nunavut Municipal Training Organization, will help create safer communities in Canada's North and bring landfill operations into compliance with existing environmental acts and regulations.

Through the initiative, the Government of Nunavut Department of Environment is piloting a two-week training program for municipal landfill operators. The training program will provide hands-on instruction to support the development of hazardous waste diversion programs for communities.

This program has been in development for more than two years, and addresses a real need to assist Nunavut communities in achieving compliance with Federal and Territorial environmental protection legislation. It has the potential to significantly improve waste management practices by instructing operators how to effectively sort and store household hazardous waste materials entering landfill sites.

This initiative will have tangible and lasting impacts for the people of Nunavut. Plans are underway to build on the success of this pilot program and see it expand to all Nunavut communities in the future. This new course has also attracted the attention of other jurisdictions, and may potentially be used as a model program for First Nations and other small communities across Canada that face similar challenges.

The Nunavut Municipal Training Organization is a non-profit agency formed as a partnership between the Nunavut Association of Municipal Administrators and the Government of Nunavut Department of Community and Government Services. Its mandate is to identify, develop and implement programs to provide municipal staff with skills and knowledge that can contribute to excellence in municipal program and service delivery.