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## Truro and Bolivian municipality partner to develop a local economic development strategy

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(Truro) – In an initiative implemented by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities and funded by the Government of Canada, the Town of Truro is working with the Bolivian Municipality of Pailón to develop a local economic development strategy for their community.

“Truro has been actively involved with FCM’s International Programs since 2011 and during that time we’ve had the opportunity to work with municipal partners in the Caribbean and South America sharing our economic development expertise,” said Jason Fox, Truro’s Director of Planning and Development. “We’re honoured to have been once again selected from a number of municipal applicants across Canada to participate in the FCM’s Municipal Partners for Economic Development initiative.”

Pailón is a growing municipality with a population of about 38,000 people. It is located about 50 kilometres east of the city of Santa Cruz on the main highway connecting Bolivia with Brazil. A railway and pipeline connection to Brazil also pass through Pailón. The community is an agricultural service centre but it is also home to the Laguna Concepción, a protected natural wetland area featuring a variety of flora and fauna.

“This project is an excellent opportunity to stimulate sustainable economic growth both in Truro and in Pailón,” said Roger Anderson, Chair of FCM’s Standing Committee on International Relations. “The participants are excited to expand their expertise and make a real difference in the community.”

Travel, accommodation and meal costs for participants will be covered by FCM through funding from Global Affairs Canada. The Town of Truro is contributing staff time for technical missions to Bolivia and for two technical missions bringing the Pailón team to Truro. The Pailón team will be arriving in Truro for their first mission on Sunday June 10, 2018.

### **About FCM International**

*In leading the municipal movement, FCM works to align federal and local priorities, recognizing that strong hometowns make for a strong Canada. Through its international program, FCM brings together Canadian and international municipalities to strengthen local leadership, stimulate economic development, respond effectively to disasters and conflicts and foster environmental leadership and innovation.*

*Partners for Municipal Innovation (PMI) is undertaken with the financial support of the Government of Canada provided through Global Affairs Canada. Learn more at [www.fcm.ca/international](http://www.fcm.ca/international).*

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