

Edmonton, January 7, 2005

Five affordable housing projects receive \$19.6 million in new funding

Approximately \$19.6 million in federal and provincial funds will help create 432 affordable housing units in Calgary, Edmonton, Fort McMurray, Stony Plain and Villeneuve. The units will be built in five affordable housing projects funded under the Canada-Alberta Affordable Housing Program.

The announcement was made by the Honourable Joe Fontana, federal Minister of Labour and Housing and the Honourable Yvonne Fritz, provincial Minister of Seniors and Community Supports.

“Federal funding is able to help meet the housing needs of seniors and families in these neighbourhoods, particularly those who need it the most,” said Minister Fontana. “These affordable housing units will provide a fresh start for local tenants and allow them to remain active members of the community.”

“The need for low-cost rental housing in Alberta exists in Calgary and Edmonton as well as in smaller communities like Villeneuve and Stony Plain so it pleases me that we are able to partner with these communities to create affordable housing for lower-income residents,” said Fritz. “These five projects truly exemplify a commitment on our part to work with the federal government to improve the quality of life for lower-income Albertans.”

Funding for the projects announced today is part of the \$134 million in federal and provincial funding allocated under the Canada-Alberta Affordable Housing Program Agreement that was signed in June 2002. To date, more than \$106 million of that funding has been allocated towards the creation of 2,368 affordable housing units throughout the province. These communities now include Brooks, Calgary, Camrose, Canmore, Cochrane, Edmonton, Fort McMurray, Grande Prairie, the MD of Greenview, Hythe, Leduc, Lethbridge, the MD of Opportunity, Red Deer, Rocky Mountain House, Stony Plain, Villeneuve and the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo.

Federal and provincial contributions to affordable housing projects are enhanced by contributions from other partners including municipalities, local community housing authorities, non-profit organizations and private sector companies.

Details of the affordable housing projects announced today can be found in the accompanying backgrounders. For more information on the Canada-Alberta Affordable Housing Program, visit the Alberta Seniors and Community Supports website at www.seniors.gov.ab.ca.

Canada-Alberta Affordable Housing Program:
News Conference:

To be attended by:

Federal Minister of Labour and Housing

Provincial Minister of Seniors and Community Supports

Mayor of Calgary

Honourable Joe Fontana

Honourable Yvonne Fritz

His Worship David Bronconnier

Location:

Manchester Affordable Housing Project - Seniors Residence - Dining Room

Address:

5700 - 3 Street SW - Calgary

Date/Time:

Friday, January 7, 2005 - 10:00 a.m.

For more information, contact:

Ed Conway

Alberta Seniors and Community Supports

Ph: (780) 415-9950

Dial 310-0000 for toll free access outside Edmonton

Jason Cobb

Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation

Ph: (403) 515-2903

Canada – Alberta Affordable Housing Program

Project Name / Location: **Holy Cross Manor - Calgary**
Applicant: Holy Cross Manor
Project Address: 2310 – 2 Street SW (1950 Building)
Target Clients: Low- to moderate-income families and seniors
Number of Units: 130 units
Unit type: 65 x studio/bachelor units
65 x one-bedroom units
Proposed Rents: Studio/bachelor units \$455 per month
One-bedroom units \$590 per month
Total Project Cost: \$9,947,750
CAAHP Grant: \$2,275,000 (Federal)
\$2,275,000 (Provincial)
Other contributions: \$1,974,591 (Holy Cross Manor)
\$2,556,666 (Land – Holy Cross Manor)
Contact: Nancy Chung, Manager – Holy Cross Manor
Ph: (403) 286-3335

Project Name / Location: **Claridge East - Edmonton**
Applicant: Bridgeton Properties Inc.
Project Address: 3147 – 151 Avenue
Target Clients: Low- to moderate-income working families and working singles
Number of Units: 99 units
Unit type: 41 x one-bedroom units
58 x two-bedroom units
Proposed Rents: One-bedroom units \$529 per month
Two-bedroom units \$650 per month
Total Project Cost: \$8,960,000
CAAHP Grant: \$2,475,000 (Federal)
\$2,475,000 (Provincial)
Other contributions: \$1,010,000 (Bridgeton Properties Inc. - Equity contribution)
Contact: Gordon Wilson, Project Manager – Bridgeton Properties Inc.
Ph: (780) 441-5800

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For more information, contact:

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Alberta Seniors and Community Supports
Communications
Ph: (780) 415-9950
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Jason Cobb
Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation
Communications
Ph: (403) 515-2903

Project Name / Location: **Millennium Village Apartments – Fort McMurray**
Applicant: Wood Buffalo Housing and Development Corporation
Project Address: Parsons Creek Drive / Powder Drive
Target Clients: Low- to moderate-income families, singles and couples and lower-income subsidized clients
Number of Units: 106 units
Unit type: 73 x one-bedroom units
 33 x two-bedroom units
Proposed Rents: One-bedroom units \$535 - \$630 per month
 Two-bedroom units \$835 per month
Total Project Cost: \$10,983,000
CAAHP Grant: \$2,650,000 (Federal)
 \$2,650,000 (Provincial)
Other contributions: \$583,000 (Land – Wood Buffalo Housing and Development Corporation)
Contact: Gillis Huizinga, Chief Administrative Officer
 Wood Buffalo Housing and Development Corporation
 Ph: (780) 799-4050

Project Name / Location: **Whispering Waters Manor (Phase Two) – Stony Plain**
Applicant: Meridian Foundation
Project Address: 5303 – 47 Street
Target Clients: Low- to moderate-income seniors
Number of Units: 42 units
Unit type: 32 x studio/bachelor units
 2 x one-bedroom units
 8 x one-bedroom (double occupancy) units
Proposed Rents: Studio/bachelor units \$344 per month
 One-bedroom units \$414 per month
Total Project Cost: \$4,370,000
CAAHP Grant: \$1,050,000 (Federal)
 \$1,050,000 (Provincial)
Other contributions: \$270,000 (Meridian Foundation)
Contact: Alice Markland, Executive Director – Meridian Foundation
 Ph: (780) 963-2149

For more information, contact:

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 Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation
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<i>Project Name / Location:</i>	West Sturgeon Seniors Residence - Villeneuve
<i>Applicant:</i>	West Sturgeon Aging in Place Foundation
<i>Project Address:</i>	n/a
<i>Target Clients:</i>	Low-income seniors
<i>Number of Units:</i>	55 units (total of 64 units of which 55 are affordable)
<i>Unit type:</i>	18 x studio/bachelor units 25 x one-bedroom units 12 x units (Alzheimer Pod)
<i>Proposed Rents:</i>	Studio/bachelor units \$440 per month One-bedroom units \$520 per month Two-bedroom units \$640 per month Alzheimer units \$450 per month
<i>Total Project Cost:</i>	\$7,512,507
<i>CAAHP Grant:</i>	\$1,375,000 (Federal) \$1,375,000 (Provincial)
<i>Other contributions:</i>	\$181,000 (West Sturgeon Aging in Place Foundation) \$140,000 (Fundraising) \$128,000 (Fire protection grant) \$900,000 (Promissory Note) \$4,214 (interest waived)
<i>Contact:</i>	Colleen Soetaert, Chairperson West Sturgeon Aging in Place Foundation Ph: (780) 459-3233

For more information, contact:

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Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation
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