



PRESS RELEASE



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Affordable Seniors' Housing in Yorkton

YORKTON, Saskatchewan, September 26, 2002 — There will be more affordable housing for seniors in Yorkton, thanks to an innovative funding arrangement involving intergovernmental Centenary Affordable Housing Program and seniors themselves.

Fairview Arms, a \$5 million, 50-unit seniors' project on 5th Avenue South, Yorkton was officially opened today.

The Centenary Affordable Housing Program provided \$2.75 million in government funding for Fairview Arms, under the auspices of the Canada-Saskatchewan Affordable Housing Program Agreement. The City of Yorkton contributed \$275,000. The residents of Fairview Arms provided the rest of the funding by investing equity from their former homes.

"Today's ceremony is a tangible demonstration of the significant support of the Government of Canada to ensure affordable housing for the people of Saskatchewan," Minister of Public Works and Government Services Ralph Goodale said, on behalf of Minister of Transport and Minister responsible for Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation David Collenette. "The recent affordable housing agreement reached with Saskatchewan is a key part of the Government of Canada's \$680 million affordable housing commitment across Canada."

"The province has been working closely with communities over the past number of years to develop innovative, cost-effective housing solutions," Saskatchewan Social Services Minister Glenn Hagel said. "Fairview Arms is the latest in a series of housing projects tailored to address the unique needs of individual Saskatchewan communities. As we look forward to the province's Centenary in 2005, the recent establishment of the Centenary Affordable Housing Program will increase Saskatchewan residents' access to adequate, affordable housing."

"The City of Yorkton recognizes the need for new affordable housing for seniors," Yorkton Mayor Phil DeVos said. "Our partnership with the federal and provincial governments is evidence of their concern and commitment to our city."

Most of the provincial government funding for the Centenary Affordable Housing Program is being drawn from the Saskatchewan Centenary Fund. The fund was established to help accelerate social housing and a variety of other important capital projects leading up to the province's Centenary.

The Fairview Arms facility will be able to accommodate the delivery of special services, such as meals, housekeeping, laundry and recreation, at the discretion of residents. This will translate into more independence and an enhanced quality of life for residents.

Established in June 2002, the Centenary Affordable Housing Program will receive \$45.86 million under the Canada-Saskatchewan Affordable Housing Program Agreement over the next five years from federal, provincial and municipal levels of government and other sources to increase the supply of affordable housing in Saskatchewan.

For more information, contact:

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