



PRESS RELEASE



Canadian Mortgage News - National Archive 2002

York Region and CMHC Celebrate New Affordable Housing for Seniors in Newmarket

NEWMARKET, Ontario, October 16, 2002 — David Collette, Minister of Transport and Minister responsible for CMHC joined York Regional Chair and CEO Bill Fisch, Newmarket Mayor Tom Taylor and council members of York Region and the Town of Newmarket at a wall-breaking ceremony today to celebrate the beginning of work to create new affordable housing for seniors.

Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation's Residential Rehabilitation Assistance Program is providing funding of close to \$1.8 million towards the project. York Region is making a capital contribution of \$1.5 million and the provincial government has committed approximately \$500,000. The Town of Newmarket has waived \$132,000 in fees and charges typically associated with residential development.

The vacant east wing of the Newmarket Health Centre, formerly used as a nursing home, is being converted into 58 self-contained apartments for seniors and adults with disabilities. The building is located on Eagle Street in Newmarket.

"This co-operative effort, between various levels of government and private sources, demonstrates that partnerships can be truly effective in helping communities to address the challenge of providing affordable housing to seniors and others in need", said Minister Collette.

"Housing plays an important role in supporting a strong and vibrant community. Thanks to the efforts behind this project, seniors and adults with disabilities in need of affordable housing will be better served", said Karen Kraft Sloan, Member of Parliament for York North.

"Good partners create good opportunities", said Chair Fisch. "York Region, together with the federal and provincial governments and the Town of Newmarket have joined hands to create new affordable housing for seniors."

"This project represents one of the largest affordable housing projects in York Region since 1995", said Newmarket Mayor Tom Taylor, Chair of the Region's Community Services and Housing Committee. "It also demonstrates the Region's commitment to creating 100 new subsidized rental units a year as outlined in our Housing Supply Strategy."

The Newmarket Health Centre is a not-for-profit facility operated by York Region Health Services. The conversion of the east wing to affordable housing for seniors and adults with disabilities is scheduled for completion in 2003.

For more information on The Regional Municipality of York, the services we offer and links to our nine area municipalities, please visit our Web site at www.region.york.on.ca

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