



PRESS RELEASE



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Affordable Rental Housing Dedicated Today in Toronto

TORONTO, Ontario, October 17, 2002 — New Frontiers Aboriginal Residential Corporation hosted a dedication and ribbon-cutting ceremony today to celebrate the completion of a housing development in Toronto's east end. Amik, as the development is called, will provide 74 units of much-needed affordable housing for over 100 low-income seniors, singles, families and children. By Christmas, residents, many who have been on waiting lists for social housing for years, will be moving into their new homes.

"The Government of Canada is working closely with the Province of Ontario, City of Toronto and other partners to bring quality, affordable housing to the people of this city. Successes such as Amik's are key to developing strong communities, not just here in Ontario, but throughout Canada", said the Honourable Maria Minna, MP for Beaches-East York, on behalf of the Honourable David Collenette, Minister of Transport and Minister responsible for Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC). The Government of Canada, through CMHC is proud to be a part of these efforts, along with the National Homelessness Initiative, which also provided support to this project through the Supporting Communities Partnership Initiative (SCPI).

"It is exciting to see the Federal and Provincial Governments and the City of Toronto working together to assist community groups to provide housing", said Councillor Sandra Bussin, Ward 32 Beaches - East York. "The Let's Build program represents a way government, housing proponents and the community can successfully work together. Congratulations to New Frontiers for their leadership in providing real housing solutions for families in need."

"Rent supplements will help make housing affordable for individuals in need", said Chris Hodgson, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing. "We believe that it is important to provide direct funding for people to help pay their rent."

Amik has been integrated within the surrounding neighbourhood and has included a park, daycare centre and made use of an existing historic warehouse as part of the development. Residents will have easy access to transit, shopping and schools.

Through the Let's Build program, the City of Toronto has provided \$1,570,000 in land, a \$888,000 grant from Toronto's Capital Revolving Fund for construction, a \$91,000 loan to pay the Toronto Catholic District School Board development charge and has waived fees and charges valued at \$166,000.

The Government of Canada contributed \$942,000 through CMHC's Residential Rehabilitation Assistance Programs (\$150,000 under RRAP for Persons with Disabilities and \$792,000 under RRAP-Conversion).

CMHC, through the Canadian Centre for Public-Private Partnerships in Housing also provided an interest-free repayable proposal development loan of \$75,000 to help New Frontiers with their upfront development expenses. In addition, CMHC mortgage loan insurance assisted New Frontiers in obtaining financing of close to six million dollars.

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The National Homelessness Initiative (NHI) provided \$46,928 in funding from the Supporting Communities Partnership Initiative (SCPI), to provide outreach services to potential Amik residents. The Government of Ontario, utilizing its \$50 million Homelessness Rent Supplement Program will be providing in rent geared to income supplements of up to \$2.6 million over the next five years. As well, the province will provide \$148,000 PST rebate for building materials.

All three levels of government have been innovative in assembling as many resources as possible to help New Frontiers make this project happen.

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