



PRESS RELEASE



Canadian Mortgage News - National Archive 2002

Official Opening of Women's Shelter in Halton

MILTON, Ontario, December 12, 2002 — Halton Women's Place celebrated the official opening and relocation of its North Shelter, today in Milton. The new 20-bedroom crisis facility is for women and children who are victims of family violence and is funded by a partnership involving all levels of government, community organizations and business. .

The Government of Canada is contributing \$750,000 towards the project through Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation's (CMHC) Shelter Enhancement Program (SEP). The shelter also received \$1.5 million from the Government of Ontario through the Ministry of Community Family and Children's Services. In addition, Halton Women's Place raised funds of approximately \$400,000 through extensive campaigning and fundraising events.

"The Government of Canada's contribution is part of an ongoing commitment to providing safe and affordable housing for Canadians," said the local Member of Parliament, Julian Alexander Arnott Reed on behalf of the Honourable David Collenette, Minister of Transport and Minister responsible for CMHC. "We are pleased to partner with The Halton Women's Place on this important initiative which will provide a safe haven for women and children."

"The Government of Ontario congratulates Halton Women's Place on the official opening of the North Shelter in Milton," said Mr. Ted Chudleigh, MPP Halton. "We are pleased that our partnership with Halton Women's Place and Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation will help ensure a safe and secure shelter for women and children."

Halton Women's Place raised approximately \$1 million in cash donations and gifts-in-kind through extensive campaigning and fundraising events. Major partners included Mattamy Homes Inc., nine Halton Rotary Clubs, five community Aggregate Companies, The Trillium Foundation, Moen, Simmons of Canada, Pollard Windows, Town of Milton and many other corporate and individual donors.

"The opening of our new shelter in Milton is a very proud occasion for Halton Women's Place. Our services for abused women and children have been provided from our old house for over 22 years. Our beautiful new facility will allow for expanded programs for abused women and for the children," said Theresa Greer, Executive Director of Halton Women's Place. "This new facility represents community partnerships at their best."

Halton Women's Place was established in 1980 and operates as a non-profit organization. It is devoted to providing shelter and crisis services for physically, financially, emotionally and sexually abused women and their children. Temporary shelter is provided in Halton through facilities located in Milton and Burlington. Comprehensive, non-residential and residential counseling services are offered as well as legal and other support services.

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