



## PRESS RELEASE



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### **Ingamo Family Homes Celebrates Opening After Major Renovations**

**WOODSTOCK, Ontario, October 15, 2003** — Victims of violence have a place to turn to in times of need thanks to funding from the Government of Canada, through Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC), and Ingamo Family Homes of Woodstock. The newly renovated 21-townhouse Ingamo housing project was officially opened today by John Baird Finlay, M.P., Member of Parliament for Oxford.

"The renovation of this complex demonstrates the Government of Canada's commitment to providing housing for at-risk women and their children. Ingamo is an excellent example of federal strategies and funds helping those most in need," said John Baird Finlay, Member of Parliament for Oxford on behalf of the Honourable Steven Mahoney, Secretary of State responsible for Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation. "Together we can provide safe, secure shelter for those members of our community who need it most."

"On behalf of the Board of Directors, Residents and Staff, I want to thank CMHC for creating this opportunity for organizations such as Ingamo," said Executive Director Diane Harris. "At Ingamo, we believe that the healing process can begin immediately if families can obtain beautiful, affordable housing. With the financial support of CMHC we were able to achieve this by installing a new roof, flooring, and windows and play-equipment for the children. I also want to thank the staff of CMHC for their helpful expert advice and support through this renovation."

Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation funded \$256,231 to the project through its Shelter Enhancement Program. The Shelter Enhancement Program (SEP) assists in repairing, rehabilitating and improving existing shelters for women and children, youth or men who are victims of family violence and in acquiring or building new shelters and second-stage housing where needed.

Ingamo is a second stage project for abused women and their children, and offers housing along with support programs for both women and children to prepare them for independent living.

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Left to right: Diane Harris, Executive Director, Ingamo Family Homes and John Baird Finlay, Member of Parliament for Oxford, on behalf of the Honourable Steven Mahoney, Secretary of State responsible for Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation.