



PRESS RELEASE



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Mahoney Announces Seed Funding for Housing Projects [Vancouver]

VANCOUVER, British Columbia, October 23, 2003 — Forty-seven housing organizations and developers from B.C. and Yukon will receive up to \$20,000 each to help develop housing project proposals under Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation's (CMHC) Seed Funding initiative.

The Honourable Steven Mahoney, Secretary of State Responsible for CMHC, made the announcement, saying the selected submissions in B.C. and Yukon are just part of the 240 housing proponents selected from across Canada.

"This proposal call provided Canadians with a terrific opportunity to take the lead in presenting their proposals on how to solve some of our country's housing challenges" said Secretary of State Mahoney. "The impressive response proves the importance of housing to communities across Canada."

Seed Funding offers financial assistance, complemented by training, to groups and individuals for housing projects that will be affordable or innovative or community-based, or any combination of these characteristics. The financial assistance is in the form of a grant of up to \$10,000 and an interest-free loan of up to \$10,000. Total funding for this round could be as much as \$4.8 million nationally.

Seed Funding recipients will use the money to pay for a variety of activities including housing market studies to evaluate need and demand for the proposed project, development of a business plan and preliminary architectural drawings.

In evaluating the applications for Seed Funding, received through a Canada-wide proposal call, CMHC looked at the clarity of the proponent's objectives, compatibility with program criteria, ability of applicants to carry out the proposed activities and the need for funding.

"I am confident that this initiative will create the momentum needed to get community support and draw out the resources needed to turn ideas into tangible bricks and mortar," added Secretary of State Mahoney. "I look forward to seeing these housing proposals taking shape as homes for Canadians."

A backgrounder listing successful applicants follows.

For more information:

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CMHC Seed Funding Recipients 2003

BRITISH COLUMBIA AND YUKON

Helen's Court Co-operative Housing Association, Vancouver
Canadian Cohousing Network, Burnaby
United We Can, Vancouver
Rotary Club of New Westminster, New Westminster
Tsawwassen First Nation First Nation Cultural Society, Delta
The Parents Support Group for Families of Mentally Handicapped Adults, Vancouver
Queen Charlotte Heritage Housing Society Terrace International Association of Lions Clubs, Vancouver
Ms. Kathryn Walker, Vancouver
The Campbell River & District Association for Community Living, Campbell River
SFU Community Trust, Burnaby
Westcoast Genesis Society, New Westminster
Abbeyfield House of Bowen Island Society, Bowen Island
North Peace Senior Housing Society, Delta
Haisla Building Society, Vancouver
Urban Native Youth Association, Vancouver
Columbia Housing Advisory Association, Vancouver
Mayne Island Affordable Housing Network, Vancouver
Habitat for Humanity Upper Fraser Valley, Abbotsford
O.U.R. Ecovillage, Shawnigan Lake
Community Friendship Circle Society, Port Hardy
Wrinch Memorial Hospital, Hazelton
Community First Health Co-operative, Nelson
Robson Valley Home Support Society, McBride
Victoria Cool Aid Society, Victoria
Maple Ridge / Pitt Meadows Homelessness Coalition, Maple Ridge
Parkdale Place Housing Society, Summerland
Elk Valley Family Society, Fernie
Cridge Center for the Family, Victoria
W.V. Housing Corporation (D.B.A. Whistler Housing Authority), Whistler
Haugen Centre Committee, Delta
Victoria Native Friendship Centre, Victoria
Pleasant View Housing Society 1980, Mission
The Society of St Vincent de Paul Central Okanagan, Kelowna
Muks Kum Ol Housing Society, Terrace
Royal Canadian Legion Br # 91, Maple Ridge
Royal Canadian Legion Br # 48, Maple Ridge
Royal Canadian Legion Br # 133, Maple Ridge
Avon Lea Seniors' Housing Society, Abbotsford
Grey Mountain Housing Society, Whitehorse
John Howard Society, Thompson Region, Kamloops
Mayne Island Assisted Living Society, Mayne Island
Social Planning Council for the North Okanagan, Vernon,
Penticton United Church, Penticton
South Fraser Community Services Society, Surrey
South Okanagan Women in Need Society, Penticton
Richmond Community Services Centre, Richmond