



PRESS RELEASE



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Brantford Receives \$2.7 Million for Affordable Housing

BRANTFORD, Ontario, February 26, 2004 — Up to 100 units of affordable housing for low-income people in the City of Brantford and Brant County will be funded by a \$2.7 million allocation under the Canada-Ontario Affordable Housing Program.

The announcement was made by the Honourable Joseph Volpe, Minister of Human Resources and Skills Development, and Dave Levac, MPP Brant, as part of \$56 million allocated today to communities across Ontario.

"Affordable housing is an important part of healthy, sustainable communities. The Government of Canada recognizes this and is pleased to be working in partnership to provide affordable housing for those who need it most here in the City of Brantford and Brant County," said Minister Volpe.

"The affordable housing program is an important part of the provincial government's efforts to strengthen the communities in which we live, and provide our people with a quality of life that is second to none," said Mr. Levac.

"This grant will go a long way towards enabling the City of Brantford to meet its affordable housing targets. I am grateful to both the provincial and federal governments for living up to their commitments to help cities with their infrastructure requirements," said Brantford Mayor Mike Hancock.

As a next step, municipalities participating in the program will sign agreements with the province, and will use a competitive process for project proposals. Units built under the program must be modest in size, with rents that remain affordable for a minimum period of 15 years. Private-sector companies, and non-profit, service club, religious and charitable organizations are eligible for the program.

The allocation is part of a five-year commitment that will create affordable housing units in Ontario. This partnership combines Government of Canada funding of \$245 million with matching contributions of the Government of Ontario, municipalities and other private and non-profit partners.

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