



## PRESS RELEASE



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### **Windsor Receives \$3.7 Million for Affordable Housing**

**WINDSOR, Ontario, February 26, 2004** — More than \$3.7 million, allocated under the Canada-Ontario Affordable Housing Program, will help fund up to 140 units of affordable housing for low-income people in the City of Windsor and Essex County.

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

"Today's investment in the City of Windsor and Essex County demonstrates the federal government's commitment to provide affordable housing and make a difference in the lives of those Canadians who need it most," 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. Crozier.

"The allocation is welcomed as an opportunity to further assist those in need of quality, affordable housing in our community. We are encouraged by this funding initiative and look forward to further investment from the Federal and Provincial governments to restore, build and sustain our infrastructure and neighbourhoods," said Windsor Mayor Eddie Francis.

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.

#### **For further information please contact:**

Mary Johnson  
Office of Minister of State Scott  
(613) 952-1684

Ross Parry  
Office of Minister Caplan  
(416) 325-1657

## Canadian Mortgage News - Windsor Receives \$3.7 Million for Affordable Housing

Brian Worrall  
City of Windsor  
(519) 255-6384  
(519) 255-6100 ext. 6384

**For more information visit:**  
[www.mah.gov.on.ca](http://www.mah.gov.on.ca)