



PRESS RELEASE



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Two Affordable Housing Pilot Projects Approved in York Region

NEWMARKET, Ontario, February 26, 2004 — Two pilot projects that will create 118 units of affordable housing in York Region were allocated more than \$3.1 million under the Canada-Ontario Affordable Housing Program.

The announcement was made by the Honourable Joseph Volpe, Minister of Human Resources and Skills Development, and Greg Sorbara, MPP Vaughan - King - Aurora, as part of \$56 million allocated today to communities across Ontario.

"Today's investment in York Region demonstrates the Government of Canada's commitment to provide affordable housing in partnership with the province and region. We are working together to 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. Sorbara.

"These two pilot projects will provide a blend of housing choices for seniors - a growing population in York Region," said York Regional Chair and CEO Bill Fisch. "In addition, they also go a long way in helping York Region meet its affordable housing goals."

The \$3.1 million allocation to York Region includes:

- \$1.62 million for a 60-unit project on Fieldstone Drive in Vaughan. The project is a seniors active living centre and seniors apartment being built through a partnership between the Regional Municipality of York and the City of Vaughan. The seniors apartments will comprise a mix of market and rent-geared-to-income units.
- \$1.56 million for the conversion of a vacant east wing of the Newmarket Health Centre on Eagle Street in Newmarket into 58 self-contained apartments for seniors and adults with disabilities. The apartments, which have been formally named Armitage Gardens, will also comprise a mix of market and rent-geared-to-income units.

Today's federal and provincial allocation will be complemented by more than \$5.3 million in York Region capital funding plus other area municipal financial incentives.

In York Region, the Government of Canada, through Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC), has contributed \$2.9 million through the Canada-Ontario Affordable Housing Program Agreement.

The pilot projects are 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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