



PRESS RELEASE



Canadian Mortgage News - National Archive 2004

215 Social and Community Housing Units in the Québec City Borough of Des Rivières

QUÉBEC CITY, Québec, March 2, 2004 — The Minister of Canadian Heritage and Member of Parliament for Louis-Hébert, the Honourable Hélène Chalifour Scherrer, on behalf of the Honourable Andy Scott, Minister of State (Infrastructure) and Minister Responsible for Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation; the Minister of Justice and the Member of Parliament for Vanier, Mr. Marc Bellemare, on behalf of the Minister of Municipal Affairs, Sports and Recreation; Mr. Jean Marc Fournier; and the municipal councillor responsible for housing on the Québec City Executive Committee, Mr. Claude Larose, inaugurated five housing projects totalling 215 social and community housing units in the borough of Des Rivières.

Also present were the presidents of the boards of directors of the Coopérative d'habitation Le Saule Rieur, the Coopérative d'habitation Botany, the Coopérative d'habitation Le Tournesol, the Office municipal d'habitation de Québec (for Habitations du Gardénia) and Habitations Saint-André.

These housing projects were created through the participation of public, community and private partners. More than \$10 million in funding for the housing projects and rent supplements are paid under the affordable-housing agreement between the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) and the Société d'habitation du Québec (SHQ). Fifty per cent of these funds are provided by CMHC and the other fifty per cent by SHQ and the community, including a contribution of \$1,715,406 by Québec City. Other costs are assumed by each organization through mortgage loans guaranteed by the SHQ.

Among residents of the housing projects, 75 households can benefit from the Rent Supplement program, financial assistance for low-income individuals who, without this additional support, would be required to allocate more than 25 per cent of their income to housing.

"The Government of Canada is pleased to work with the province, the municipality and community representatives to meet the housing needs of the citizens of Québec City," stated Minister Chalifour Scherrer. "Social housing is a source of individual and collective pride. It enhances quality of life, encourages commercial investment and contributes to the sustainable development of communities."

"In a context of a rental housing shortage," stated Minister Bellemare, "I am very happy to see the creation of these 215 units, which will allow low-income seniors, families and single people to have affordable housing."

"It is significant for Québec City that more than 200 affordable housing units have been created between 2001 and 2003 in order to meet some of the needs of the population of Des Rivières. We know that demand is still high and we hope to continue this effort in co-operation with the federal and provincial governments," emphasized Mr. Larose.

An affordable-housing agreement was reached between CMHC and SHQ, providing for a total contribution of \$323.3M to increase the availability of affordable housing in Quebec, including \$161.65M from the federal government, \$104M

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from the Government of Quebec and \$57M from municipalities participating in the program.

Sources:	Patricia Lord Communications Advisor Société d'habitation du Québec (418) 644-2024 Marie-Chantale Lortie Communications and Marketing CMHC (514) 496-4025 Marie-Andrée Germain Québec City (418) 641-4111, ext. 2526	Information:	Stéphane Gosselin Press Assistant, Minister of Municipal Affairs, Sports and Recreation (418) 691-2050 Mylène Dupéré Press Secretary, Minister of Canadian Heritage (819) 997-7788
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Summary of Housing Projects Inaugurated in the Québec City Borough of Des Rivières

1) Les Habitations Saint-André

Phase 3

Construction of a 43-unit seniors building, at a cost of \$2,507,127, built as part of the AccèsLogis Québec program. Thirteen households can benefit from the Rent Supplement program.

Phase 4

Construction of a 59-unit seniors building, at an estimated cost of \$4,254,973, built as part of the AccèsLogis Québec program. Twenty households may take advantage of the Rent Supplement program.

2) Coopérative d'habitation Le Tournesol

Phase 1

Acquisition and renovation of a 16-unit building for low-income families, at a cost of \$1,306,469. The building was acquired and renovated as part of the AccèsLogis Québec program. Ten households can benefit from the Rent Supplement program.

Phase 2

Construction of a 29-unit building for low-income families, at a cost of \$2,552,973, built under the AccèsLogis Québec program. Fifteen households can take advantage of the Rent Supplement program.

3) Coopérative d'habitation Le Saule Rieur

Construction of a 15-unit building for low-income families, at a cost of \$1,293,034, built as part of the AccèsLogis Québec program. Eight households can benefit from the Rent Supplement program.

4) Les Habitations du Gardénia

Construction of a 23-unit building for families and singles, at an estimated cost of \$2,131,605, built as part of the AccèsLogis Québec program.

5) Coopérative d'habitation Botany

Phase 1

Construction of an 18-unit building for low-income families and singles, at an estimated cost of \$1,798,713, built as part of the AccèsLogis Québec program. Nine households can benefit from the Rent Supplement program.

Phase 2

Construction of a 12-unit building for low-income families and singles, at an estimated cost of \$1,360,565, built under the AccèsLogis Québec program.