



## PRESS RELEASE



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### **The Salvation Army Centre of Hope Celebrates Official Opening**

**LONDON, Ontario, January 21, 2005** — The Government of Canada, the Government of Ontario, and the City of London celebrated the official opening of The Salvation Army Centre of Hope today. The opening was part of \$3.18 million in funding allocated to five housing projects that will create 147 new affordable housing units in London under the Canada-Ontario Affordable Housing Program.

The Honourable Joe Fontana, Minister of Labour and Housing, Deb Matthews, MPP London North-Centre, and Anne Marie DeCicco, Mayor of the City of London, attended today's ceremony.

"When it comes to building communities and the housing within them, it takes the efforts of many to achieve success," said Minister Fontana. "Today is about celebrating the partnerships that make these affordable housing projects a reality for the residents of the city."

"The McGuinty government is committed to strengthening Ontario's communities, and to providing our citizens with a quality of life that is second to none," said Ms. Matthews. "These five projects in the City of London will both further improve accessibility to affordable housing and improve the lives of many people in our community."

"A community is only as strong as its commitment to care for those most in need," said Ms. DeCicco. "That is why the City of London is pleased to do its part to provide interim comfort and care to those Londoners most affected by these social issues, through support of this wonderful new Centre of Hope in the heart of our city."

The \$3.18 million allocation to the City of London includes:

- \$1.86 million for 93-units at The Salvation Army Centre of Hope at 218-287 Wellington St. The project is sponsored by the Governing Council of the Salvation Army. The units will be occupied by lower-income senior citizens, families, single persons, and disabled individuals.
- \$675,000 for a 25-unit project at 129 Dundas St. The project is sponsored by 129 Dundas Development Inc., and the units will be occupied by lower-income senior citizens and single persons.
- \$475,000 for a 19-unit project at 457 York St. The project is sponsored by the non-profit group, Mission Services of London, and the units will be occupied by lower-income senior citizens and single persons.
- \$108,000 for a four-unit project at 357 Clarence St. The project is sponsored by 2055217 Ontario Limited, and the units will be occupied by lower-income families.
- \$62,000 for a six-unit project at 211 Dundas St. The project is sponsored by Chai-El Holdings, and the units will be occupied by lower-income senior citizens and single persons.

The allocation will be complemented by more than \$2.6 million in City of London capital funding plus other municipal financial incentives.

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In the City of London, the Government of Canada, through Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC), has contributed \$5.49 million to date, through the Canada-Ontario Affordable Housing Program Agreement — and almost \$3.15 million through the Supporting Communities Partnership Initiative (SCPI).

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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In the back row, from left to right: the Honourable Joe Fontana; Minister of Labour and Housing, London Mayor Anne Marie DeCicco, MPP Deb Matthews and MPP Chris Bentley In the front row, from left to right, Major Alfred Richardson (Divisional Commander), Jerry Cassin, Commissioner M. Christine MacMillan (Territorial Commander Canada & Bermuda Territory), David Monk