



## PRESS RELEASE



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### **Housing Minister Announces Seed Funding Recipients [Québec]**

#### **40 Affordable Housing Proposals in Quebec Get Early Stage Funding**

**MONTREAL, Québec, March 15, 2005** — A total of 40 community-based organizations and developers in Quebec will receive up to \$20,000 each to develop affordable housing project proposals under Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation's (CMHC) Seed Funding initiative.

The Honourable Joe Fontana, Minister of Labour and Housing, made the announcement today, saying the selected applicants in Quebec are among 204 housing proponents selected from across Canada. The selection was made following a call for applications issued in November 2004, which resulted in 428 proposals being submitted from across Canada.

"With the Seed Funding initiative, the federal government is helping local organizations to develop housing solutions that meet the needs of their community," said Minister Fontana. "The large response received from community groups and leaders across Canada, demonstrates how Canadians want to be involved in their housing solutions."

Seed Funding offers financial assistance to groups and individuals for predevelopment work on proposed housing projects that will be affordable, innovative, community-based, or any combination of these characteristics. Priority was given to proposals that will address affordable housing needs in their community. CMHC financial assistance is in the form of a grant of up to \$10,000 and an interest-free loan of up to \$10,000.

Seed Funding recipients will use the money to pay for a variety of preliminary activities, including studies to evaluate need and demand for the proposed project, development of a business plan, and preliminary design work.

Once the initial viability of the proposed housing project has been established, proponents may be eligible for other supports to turn their housing proposals into homes. These can include CMHC's interest-free proposal development loans, mortgage loan insurance to facilitate financing, and/or Federal-Provincial or Federal-Territorial Affordable Housing funds.

Where a training need is identified, CMHC's capacity development initiative will assist Seed Funding recipients to acquire the information and skills they need to organize themselves and obtain a general understanding of the housing development process and property management requirements.

In evaluating the applications for Seed Funding, CMHC looked at the clarity of the proponent's objectives, compatibility with program criteria, ability of applicants to carry out the proposed activities, the need for Seed Funding, and evidence of community support.

"For recipients, Seed Funding is a critical investment of financial support needed to build the capacity of community groups to find local solutions to housing challenges, to help each group to make their affordable housing idea a reality,"

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added Minister Fontana.

Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) is Canada's national housing agency. For over 55 years, CMHC has been contributing to improving the living conditions and the well-being of Canadians through four areas of housing activities - housing finance, assisted housing, research and information transfer, and export promotion. CMHC is committed to helping Canadians access a wide choice of quality, affordable homes, and making vibrant and sustainable communities a reality across the country.

The list of Seed Funding recipients for Quebec is below.

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### **2005 Quebec Seed Funding Recipients**

Alma	Office municipale. d'Habitation de la Ville d'Alma
Beloeil	Habitation La Basiliade
Boucherville	Florence Junca Adenot
Donnacoona	Les Jardins Lambert
Drummondville	CÉGEP Drummondville
Gatineau	Habitation de l'Outaouais Métropolitain (rue Fortin)
Gatineau	Habitation de l'Outaouais Métropolitain (Labine)
Greenfield Park	Loge-Concept
Grenville	Village d'Or de Grenville
Joliette	Sylvie L'Espérance
Joliette	Pavillon Ernest Ph. V.
Lac Kénogami	Gérard Tremblay
Lavaltrie	Maison Coop. de Lavaltrie
Lasalle	Grenada National Ass. Of Montréal
Montréal	Bharat Bhavan Foundation
Montréal	Bharat Bhavan Foundation
Montréal	Manoir Claudette Barré

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Montréal	Service à la famille Chinoise de Montréal
Montréal	Masada Institute for Senior Citizens
Montréal	GRT Bâtir son Quartier
Montréal	Conseil des personnes âgées de la Comm. Noires de Montréal
Montréal	Comité Logement Rosemont
Montréal	Rés. Toussaint Louverture
Montréal	Le 1313 Chomedey
Montréal	Pavillon Montfort
Montréal	C.H. Vertnature
Montréal	Maxime Gagné
Montréal	The McGill Urban Community
Québec	Action Habitation
Saint-Valérien	Coop. d'Habitation pour Artistes
Shawinigan	Sec L'Arche
Sherbrooke	Coop. d'Habitation des Grandes Familles
Sherbrooke	Coop. d'Habitation des Cantons de l'Est
Sillery	Michel Desgagnés (Cohousing Québec)
Salaberry de Valleyfield	PRAQ
Salaberry de Valleyfield	C.H. Les Guérets
Salaberry de Valleyfield	Centre Charismatique Le Jourdain
Val-d'Or	Domaine des Pionniers
Vaudreuil	C.H. Les Retraités de St-Lazare
Vaudreuil	Coop. de Solidarité Seigneurie de Vaudreuil