



## PRESS RELEASE



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### **Inauguration of 30 New Social Housing Units in Terrebonne**

**TERREBONNE, Québec, May 13, 2005** — Lower-income families and individuals in Terrebonne will soon have more affordable housing options thanks to the construction of Habitations Marguerite-Lachapelle, a residence with 30 housing units located on Chartrand Street.

This announcement was made today by the Honourable Liza Frulla, Minister of Canadian Heritage and Minister responsible for Status of Women, on behalf of the Honourable Joe Fontana, Minister of Labour and Housing, and by Nathalie Normandeau, Minister of Municipal Affairs and the Regions. Nathalie Normandeau, Jean-Marc Robitaille, Mayor of Terrebonne, and Micheline Mathieu, Chair of the Municipal Housing Bureau and Municipal Councillor of Terrebonne, were present at the inauguration ceremony.

The construction of Habitations Marguerite-Lachapelle, which required investments of \$3.3 million, was completed thanks to the participation of public and private partners. The financial contributions for the development of this project, totalling \$2,231,040, were provided under the affordable housing agreement signed between Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) and the Société d'habitation du Québec (SHQ).

CMHC provided \$855,232 in financial assistance for this housing project, while the SHQ contributed a sum of \$825,808. Habitations Marguerite-Lachapelle is also benefiting from a contribution from the municipality of Terrebonne in the amount of \$550,000. The other costs are being assumed by the organization through a mortgage loan secured by the SHQ.

"Habitations Marguerite-Lachapelle will allow 30 households in Terrebonne to live in a quality environment at an affordable cost and start a new page in their lives," said Minister Frulla. "Affordable housing is a priority for the Government of Canada, and we are pleased to work in cooperation with the Government of Quebec, the municipality and community sector representatives to enable more people to find housing and thereby contribute to the development of their region."

"The Government of Quebec is delighted with the development of the 30 new dwellings that will allow families and individuals to benefit from housing that meets their needs. What is more, this construction is an excellent example of a successful partnership between governments, the municipality and the community sector," said Minister Normandeau.

"It is our responsibility, as a municipality, to make sure that our fellow citizens can benefit from the best possible living environment," said Mayor Robitaille. "The municipality of Terrebonne, through its many social development actions, ensures the well-being of the community."

The development of this project is part of the Government of Quebec's initiative to produce 18,600 social, community and private housing units for low- and moderate-income households. This initiative is notably supported by federal funds made available under affordable housing agreements.

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The Governments of Canada and Quebec signed Phase II of the Affordable Housing Agreement, in August 2004. Quebec became the first province to sign such the agreement. This makes for a total contribution of \$150 million to increase the availability of affordable housing in Quebec. The federal contribution is \$75 million, with an equivalent amount being provided by the Government of Quebec and the municipalities participating in the program.

### **Sources:**

Hélène Bégin  
Communications Advisor  
Société d'habitation du Québec  
(418) 644-5762

Paul Sauvé  
Communications and Marketing  
Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation  
(514) 283-5110

### **Information:**

Jonathan Trudeau  
Press Assistant to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and the Regions  
(418) 691-2050  
(514) 873-2622

Hugo Tremblay  
Public Relations Officer  
City of Terrebonne  
(450) 961-2001