



PRESS RELEASE



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Inauguration of Résidence Laurier in Saint-Lin-Laurentides

SAINT-LIN-LAURENTIDES, Québec, June 27, 2005 — Seniors now have more affordable housing options thanks to the construction of 22 new housing units on 14th Avenue, in Saint-Lin-Laurentides. Résidence Laurier required investments of over \$2.1 million thanks to participation of public, private, and community partners.

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 Vincent Auclair, MNA for Vimont and Parliamentary Assistant to Nathalie Normandeau, Minister of Municipal Affairs and the Regions, on her behalf. In addition to Mr. Auclair, André Auger, Mayor of Saint-Lin-Laurentides, Henri-Paul Venne, Chair of the Board of Directors of Résidence Laurier, and partners from the community were present at the inauguration ceremony.

Financial contributions for the development of this project, totalling \$1,645,827, are being made under the affordable housing agreement, in a proportion of 50 per cent by Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) and 50 per cent by the Société d'habitation du Québec and the community. The community is contributing \$469,800, including \$200,000 from the municipality of Saint-Lin-Laurentides. The other costs are being assumed by the organization, in particular through a mortgage loan secured by the Société d'habitation du Québec.

"The new housing units inaugurated today will provide seniors with a quality environment that will allow them to stay their community, and near their families and friends," said Ms. Frulla. "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 provide more people with better housing in their community."

"The development of the 22 housing units of Résidence Laurier is a concrete gesture made by the community in its will to enable seniors to benefit from adequate housing while remaining in their community. As well, this residence is an excellent example of a successful partnership between governments, the municipality and the community sector," said Mr. Auclair.

Among the residents, 11 households can benefit from the Rent Supplement program, which provides financial assistance to low-income individuals who would otherwise have to spend more than 25 per cent of their income on housing.

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-to moderate-income households. This initiative is notably supported by federal funds made available under affordable housing agreements.

An affordable housing agreement was signed between CMHC and the Société d'habitation du Québec in 2001. It provides for a total contribution of \$323.3 million to increase the supply of affordable housing in Quebec, with \$161.65 million from the federal government, \$104 million from the Quebec government and \$57 million from the

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municipalities participating in the program.

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