



PRESS RELEASE



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20 New Social and Community Housing Units in Saint-Cyprien

SAINT-CYPRIEN, Québec, September 25, 2005 — Slightly frail seniors now have more options thanks to the construction of the Le Castel housing project of the Centre Multi-Services de Saint-Cyprien, which is providing 20 new units at 119 Claude Street, in Saint-Cyprien.

This announcement was made today by the Honourable Jean-C. Lapierre, Minister of Transport and Minister responsible for Quebec, on behalf of the Honourable Joe Fontana, Minister of Labour and Housing, by Norbert Morin, MNA for Montmagny-L'Islet, on behalf of Nathalie Normandeau, Minister of Municipal Affairs and the Regions, and by Michel Lagacé, Mayor of the municipality of Saint-Cyprien. In addition to Norbert Morin and Michel Lagacé, Martin Mailloux, Chair of the Board of Directors of the Centre Multi-Services de Saint-Cyprien, was also present at the opening ceremony.

The construction of the Le Castel housing project, which required investments of more than \$1.7 million, was completed thanks to the participation of public, private and community partners. The financial contributions for the development of this project, totalling \$1,171,992, were made under the affordable housing agreement.

Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) provided \$585,996 for this housing project, while the Société d'habitation du Québec (SHQ) contributed an amount of \$283,394. The community, for its part, provided a sum of \$302,602, including \$255,970 from the municipality and the Caisse populaire Desjardins de Saint-Cyprien, in the form of a capitalized tax rebate and donation, respectively. The other costs are being assumed by the organization, in particular through a mortgage loan secured by the SHQ.

"Our investment in this project shows how committed the Government of Canada is to providing affordable housing to Canadians most in need," indicated Minister Lapierre. "Housing is one of the foundations upon which healthy communities and individual dignity are built. We are pleased to work with the Government of Quebec and our other partners to provide more people with better housing and thereby allow them to remain in their community."

"The development of the 20 housing units of the Le Castel project 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 a brilliant example of a successful partnership between governments, the municipality and the community sector," said MNA Morin.

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.

It should be recalled that an Affordable Housing Agreement was signed between CMHC and the SHQ 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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