



PRESS RELEASE



Canadian Mortgage News - National Archive 2005

Site Visit — 92 New Housing Units in Berthierville

BERTHIERVILLE, Québec, September 26, 2005 — Moderate-income seniors in Berthierville will soon have more affordable housing options thanks to the construction of the Pavillon Berthier, which will comprise 92 housing units, on Sainte-Foy Street. Out of these units, 40 will be subsidized under the private component of the Affordable Housing Québec program.

This announcement was made today by the Honourable Lucienne Robillard, President of the Queen's Privy Council for Canada and Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, on behalf of the Honourable Joe Fontana, Minister of Labour and Housing, and by Thomas J. Mulcair, Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment and Parks and Minister responsible for the Lanaudière region, on behalf of Nathalie Normandeau, Minister of Municipal Affairs and the Regions. In addition to Minister Mulcair, Yvon Poirier, Mayor of the municipality of Berthierville, and René Sylvestre, developer of the project, were present at the opening ceremony.

The construction of the project, which is requiring investments of \$6,400,000, is being completed thanks to the participation of public and private partners. The government financial contributions for the development of 40 housing units, totalling \$361,500, are being made under the Affordable Housing Agreement signed between Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) and the Société d'habitation du Québec (SHQ).

CMHC is providing \$180,750 in financial assistance for this housing project, while the SHQ is contributing a sum of \$126,525. The municipality of Berthierville, for its part, is providing an amount of \$54,225.

"The new units opening today will provide seniors with a quality environment that will enable them to remain in their community, near their families and friends," said Minister Robillard. "Housing is a priority for the Government of Canada, and we are pleased to work in cooperation with the Government of Quebec and the municipality to provide more people with better housing in their community."

"The financial support provided by the Government of Quebec for the Pavillon Berthier confirms our will to develop sustainable resources to meet the needs of moderate-income individuals. Such a commitment on the part of governments and private developers is an example of a successful partnership," said Minister Mulcair.

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 Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation 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 municipalities participating in the program.

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