



PRESS RELEASE



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Opening 18 New Affordable Housing Units in the Borough of La Haute-Saint-Charles

QUÉBEC CITY, Québec, September 28, 2005 — Low- to moderate-income families now have more affordable housing options thanks to the construction of a housing project with 18 units, on Saint-Amand Street, in the borough of La Haute-Saint-Charles, in Québec City.

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, and by Sarah Perreault, MNA for Chauveau, on behalf of Nathalie Normandeau, Minister of Municipal Affairs and the Regions. In addition to Sarah Perreault, Claude Larose, Municipal Councillor responsible for housing on the Québec City Executive Committee, monsieur Claude Boissonneault, founder of the Coopérative d'habitation Oméga, and partners from the community sector took part in this opening.

The construction of this housing project, which required investments of over \$1.9 million, was completed thanks to the participation of public, private and community partners. The financial contributions for the development of this project, totalling \$1,352,700, were made under the affordable housing agreement.

Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) provided \$676,350 for this housing project, while the Société d'habitation du Québec (SHQ) contributed an amount of \$405,810. Québec City, for its part, provided a sum of \$270,540. The other costs are being assumed by the Coopérative d'habitation Oméga, in particular through a mortgage loan secured by the SHQ.

Affordable housing is a priority for the Government of Canada, and we are pleased to work with the Government of Quebec, the municipality and community sector representatives for this purpose," said Minister Lapierre. "The new units opening today are providing a quality environment for Québec City families and promoting their integration into their community, while stimulating commercial investment in the area."

"The construction of this project demonstrates the commitment of the Government of Quebec to housing and the well-being of citizens, particularly families. Collective support for the development of community housing is a gesture of solidarity and social justice that must remain a priority," said Sarah Perreault.

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.

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 municipalities participating in the program.

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