



PRESS RELEASE



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Housing Stakeholders Work in Partnership at Affordable Housing Forum in Kingston

KINGSTON, Ontario, October 6, 2005 — Housing business leaders from throughout Eastern Ontario are in Kingston today to share experiences and exchange ideas on best practices at the 2005 Affordable Housing Forum.

Working in partnership, the Government of Canada, through Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC), the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH), and the City of Kingston organized and co-hosted a one-day forum, which also included community partners and stakeholders in affordable housing.

The forum will include speakers in affordable housing development, discussions on the Canada–Ontario Affordable Housing Program, and best practices in project development from across Canada, including CMHC housing awards projects from the Greater Toronto area, Ottawa, Saint-Camille (Quebec) and Victoria (British Columbia).

"By working cooperatively with our community partners and all levels of government, we can ensure Canadians can have a safe, affordable place to call home," said the Honourable Peter Milliken, Speaker of the House of Commons and MP for Kingston and the Islands. "Today's forum is an excellent opportunity to share ideas and best practices as we look towards future development in affordable housing at a community level."

"The McGuinty government is committed to providing safe and affordable housing for the people in this province who need it and I know the City of Kingston shares that commitment," said Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing John Gerretsen. "This forum provides an opportunity to focus on partnerships and best practices to ensure that people with lower-incomes here in Kingston — and across Ontario — have access to affordable housing."

"The City's second Affordable Housing Forum provides an exciting public opportunity to report back to the community on strategies approved under the Kingston Model for Affordable Housing Development and integrated into municipal business practice," said Greg Grange, Manager of the Housing Division, City of Kingston.

Under the new Canada–Ontario Affordable Housing Agreement, signed on April 29, 2005, \$602 million — \$301 million from each the federal and provincial governments — has been committed toward the creation of affordable housing in Ontario. With this commitment, the federal, provincial, and municipal governments will have invested at least \$734 million over the life of the Canada–Ontario Affordable Housing Program, to assist some 20,000 Ontario households.

In the City of Kingston, the Government of Canada, through Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC), has allocated \$3.85 million for capital projects and \$1.2 million for housing allowances.

For more information on the Kingston Model for Affordable Housing, please visit www.cityofkingston.ca (menu: residents/housing/kingston model for affordable housing).

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