



## PRESS RELEASE



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### **Affordable Housing Project Begins Construction [Brantford, Ontario]**

**BRANTFORD, Ontario, November 9, 2005** — The Government of Canada, the Government of Ontario, and the City of Brantford held a plaque dedication ceremony today to mark the start of construction on a project that will create 27 units of affordable housing in the City of Brantford under the Canada–Ontario Affordable Housing Program.

Lloyd St. Amand, MP for Brant, on behalf of the Honourable Joe Fontana, Minister of Labour and Housing; Dave Levac, MPP for Brant, on behalf of Ontario Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; the Honourable John Gerretsen; and Brantford Mayor Mike Hancock attended the ceremony.

"Quality, affordable housing is a vision the Government of Canada shares with our provincial and not-for-profit partners for the people of Ontario," said Lloyd St. Amand, MP for Brant, on behalf of the Honourable Joe Fontana, Minister of Labour and Housing. "Projects such as this being celebrated today in the City of Brantford will help ensure those with lower incomes can access affordable housing in their own community."

"One of the McGuinty government's top priorities is to invest in affordable housing for Ontarians who need it," said MPP Levac. "Housing is essential to building stronger communities. This project ensures that communities like Brantford can achieve their full potential and offer their residents a higher quality of life."

The \$7.5 million project, including \$830,979 from the Canada–Ontario Affordable Housing Program, will provide 27 apartments at 40 Queen Street in the City of Brantford. The project is sponsored by the Brantford YM-YWCA Non-Profit Homes Association, and the units will be occupied by single persons with lower-incomes.

"The redevelopment of the former YMCA is a critical component of Brantford's downtown renewal," said Mayor Hancock. "This project, a partnership between all three levels of government and Y Homes, is quite special because we are providing much needed affordable housing and student residences, and we are able to preserve a historic building."

The federal and provincial allocation under the Canada–Ontario Affordable Housing Program will be complemented by \$396,387 from the City of Brantford, plus other municipal financial incentives for this project.

In the City of Brantford, the Government of Canada, through Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC), has contributed \$2.5 million under the Canada–Ontario Affordable Housing Program Agreement.

The new federal-provincial agreement, signed April 29, 2005, comprises a commitment of \$301 million from each of the two levels of government. With this commitment, the federal, provincial and municipal governments will have invested more than \$734 million over the life of the Canada–

Affordable Housing Program. In total, the program will assist some 20,000 Ontario households.

**For more information, please contact:**

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