



**PRESS RELEASE**



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## **New Assisted Living Units for Richmond Seniors**

**RICHMOND, British Columbia, April 20, 2006** — Federal, provincial and community funding partners, including the S.U.C.C.E.S.S. Multi-Level Care Society, celebrated the start of construction today of a new \$15.5 million facility with 50 assisted living units.

The new Austin Harris Assisted Living Residence will provide affordable housing and care for seniors who wish to maintain their independence, but require some support services. The units are funded under Independent Living BC (ILBC), a partnership between the federal and provincial governments, local health authorities, non-profit groups and the private sector.

"The Government of Canada is committed to working with our partners to ensure that seniors have access to affordable housing that meets their support needs and allows them to live independently in their own communities," said John Cummins, Member of Parliament for Delta-Richmond East, on behalf of the Honourable Diane Finley, Minister of Human Resources and Social Development.

"We want to help seniors live well and that means providing affordable housing and assisted living that allows seniors to live independently, with dignity and easy access to the care they need," said John Yap, MLA for Richmond-Steveston.

Residents will receive personal care and hospitality services, including assistance with medications, meals, housekeeping, laundry service and recreational opportunities. The residence will be managed by the S.U.C.C.E.S.S. Multi-Level Care Society, with Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH) providing funding for support services.

"As the bridge between home care and residential care, assisted living allows us to tailor programs to each client, addressing their individual housing, social and personal care needs," said Carole Gillam, Director, Richmond Community Care Network, Vancouver Coastal Health.

"Our mission is to provide quality care that respects the unique traditional and cultural values of our residents and to create a comfortable home," said the Society's Chairman, Kenneth Kwan.

The Government of Canada, through Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, will contribute \$130 million by 2008 towards affordable housing in this province. The provincial government, through BC Housing, will provide a minimum of \$34 million annually to subsidize the cost of units built under the Canada — BC Affordable Housing Agreement, as part of a larger strategy to provide a range of housing options for British Columbians in greatest need.

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### **Backgrounder**

The Austin Harris Assisted Living Residence will provide 50 one-bedroom assisted living units for seniors, under the Independent Living BC (ILBC) program. The new \$15.5 million two-story facility is located at 5411 Moncton Street in Richmond.

Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) is contributing a one-time grant in totalling \$1.25 million. The provincial government is providing funding through an annual subsidy of up to \$9.8 million over 35 years. Other funding partners include:

- BC Housing through Provincial Rental Housing Corporation (PRHC) will lease the land to S.U.C.C.E.S.S., valued at \$3.48 million, for a nominal amount.
- Vancouver Coastal Health will subsidize the cost of the support and personal care services under the ILBC program for \$1,002,650 per year.
- \$1 million towards capital costs will be contributed by S.U.C.C.E.S.S. Multi-Level Care Society.

The S.U.C.C.E.S.S. Multi-Level Care Society was founded by S.U.C.C.E.S.S. in 1995 as a sister organization to provide health services. It currently manages a seniors' care home, an adult day centre, and an assisted living residence in Vancouver. S.U.C.C.E.S.S., which is a non-profit charitable organization founded in 1973, is one of the largest immigrant and social service agencies in British Columbia. Its mandate is to promote the well being of Canadians and immigrants, and to encourage their involvement in the community through the provision of social, educational and health services, business and community development, and advocacy.