



PRESS RELEASE



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Cochrane Affordable Housing Project Opens

COCHRANE, Alberta, June 28, 2006 — The Cochrane Society for Housing Options held an official ribbon cutting event today to celebrate the official opening of the new HomeStead Affordable Housing Project. The 21 unit project, located at 209-2nd Avenue West, is designed for low-income families, seniors, individuals with special needs and older working adults.

The project received over \$1 million in funding from the federal and provincial governments under the Canada – Alberta Affordable Housing Program. The Cochrane Society for Housing Options, the Town of Cochrane, United Way of Calgary, and local community groups and citizens also provided support for the project.

"Quality, affordable housing is a vision that Canada's new Government shares with our partners for the residents of Cochrane," said Myron Thompson, Member of Parliament for Wild Rose on behalf of the Honourable Diane Finley, Minister of Human Resources and Social Development. "The HomeStead demonstrates how all levels of government and community groups can work together to help our friends and neighbours meet their housing needs."

"The HomeStead project is an excellent example of how the Canada – Alberta Affordable Housing Program is providing quality, sustainable and affordable accommodations for Albertans who need it most," said Yvonne Fritz, Minister of Seniors and Community Supports. "Through projects such as this, we are helping to build strong communities that will benefit Albertans now and in the future."

"This project is the first of its kind in Cochrane and will help meet the affordable housing needs in the community," said Joann Churchill, Chairperson, Cochrane Society for Housing Options. "The Society would like to thank all those who have worked so hard to make this project a reality."

The HomeStead project will include three bachelor units, nine one-bedroom units, three two-bedroom units and six three-bedroom units. Two of the suites are wheelchair accessible and are designed to specifically meet the needs of local residents with disabilities. The main floor will be for commercial uses.

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