



## PRESS RELEASE



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### **New Group Home for Persons with Disabilities Opens in Rocky Mountain House**

**ROCKY MOUNTAIN HOUSE, British Columbia, September 15, 2006** — A new eight-unit affordable housing project for local residents with disabilities officially opened today in Rocky Mountain House.

Rocky III Group home was built to be entirely accessible and able to support individuals with higher medical and/or behavioural needs. Located at 5003-48 Street, the project includes a group home which would accommodate four to five persons requiring 24 hour support together with three one-bedroom independent living suites.

COPE Rocky Mountain House Society for Persons with Disabilities received over \$230,000 in funding for the project from the federal and provincial governments under the Canada – Alberta Affordable Housing Program. The COPE project also received support from a number of groups and organizations such as the Red Deer and District Community Foundation, PDD Clearwater District Council, the Alberta Lottery Board and Husky Oil.

“Canada’s new Government is proud to work with our partners in all levels of government and in the not-for-profit sector to make innovative projects like the Rocky III Group Home a reality,” said Blaine Calkins, Member of Parliament for Wetaskiwin, on behalf of the Honourable Diane Finley, Minister of Human Resources and Social Development. “This fully accessible group home will make a real difference in the lives of its present and future residents.”

“The Rocky III Group Home project is an excellent example of how the Canada – Alberta Affordable Housing Program is helping to build stronger communities,” said Yvonne Fritz, Minister of Seniors and Community Supports. “This project will provide quality, sustainable and affordable accommodations for Albertans who need it most.”

“COPE Rocky Mountain House Society for Persons with Disabilities has been providing supports to persons in need in the community of Rocky Mountain House for almost 30 years. This project would not have been attainable if not for the unsurpassed support and generosity of our community members; individual and group. Most importantly, a special thank you needs to be said to our volunteer Board of Directors. They contributed countless hours of work in order for this project to become a reality,” said Laurel Ponich, Executive Director of COPE.

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