



## PRESS RELEASE



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### **Tom Taylor Place Affordable Housing Project Breaks Ground**

**NEWMARKET, Ontario, November 16, 2006** — The Government of Canada, the Government of Ontario, the Regional Municipality of York, and the Town of Newmarket held a groundbreaking ceremony today to mark the start of construction of Tom Taylor Place, a 50-unit affordable rental housing development in the Town of Newmarket being built under the Canada – Ontario Affordable Housing Program.

Peter Van Loan, Member of Parliament for York Simcoe, on behalf of the Honourable Diane Finley, Minister of Human Resources and Social Development; York West MPP Mario Sergio, on behalf of the Honourable John Gerretsen, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; York Regional Chair and CEO Bill Fisch; Town of Newmarket Mayor Tom Taylor, and representatives from the Canadian Hearing Society — York Region Branch attended the ceremony.

"Canada's new Government is proud to be a partner in this important project," said MP Van Loan. "It will provide safe, affordable and accessible housing for those people of York Region who need it most, and recognize that those with special needs require special support."

"Tom Taylor Place is a splendid tribute to an outstanding public servant," said MPP Sergio. "It is also a significant step forward in helping to ensure that the most vulnerable members of our community can live with the dignity and respect they deserve."

The project is sponsored by Housing York Inc., York Region's housing company, and is located at 615 Fernbank Road in Newmarket. Housing York Inc. named the building "Tom Taylor Place" as a tribute to Town of Newmarket Mayor Tom Taylor, Chair of Housing York Inc. and long-time champion of social housing in York Region.

The \$10 million project, including \$3.5 million from the Canada – Ontario Affordable Housing Program, will provide 50 rental units to seniors, families and single persons. Three of the units have been designed to meet the needs of people with physical disabilities. Additional modifications will be made to the building systems so that seven households, who are clients of the Canadian Hearing Society, can be accommodated.

"York Region is committed to providing a wide range of housing options to our residents," commented York Regional Chair and CEO Bill Fisch. "This facility is an outstanding example of creating affordable housing in partnership with other levels of government and with our community."

"Thanks to valuable input from the Canadian Hearing Society, this specially-designed building will offer tenants a unique opportunity to live independently in the community," added Town of Newmarket Mayor Tom Taylor. "I am deeply honoured that my name has been aligned with this important addition to our Region."

In addition to the federal and provincial allocation for Tom Taylor Place, the Regional Municipality of York and the Town of Newmarket will provide more than \$4.6 million in municipal financial incentives.

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The new Canada – Ontario Affordable Housing Program comprises a commitment of \$301 million from each of the two senior levels of government. In total, the federal, provincial and municipal governments will invest at least \$734 million in the program, which will provide affordable housing for 20,000 households in Ontario.

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