



PRESS RELEASE



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\$10.8 Million Supportive Housing Opens in Campbell River

CAMPBELL RIVER, British Columbia, April 02, 2007 — Federal, provincial and community funding partners gathered today to celebrate the completion of Ironwood Place, a new \$10.8 million assisted living development that will provide 54 new units for seniors and adults with disabilities.

“I am proud to be here today to participate in the official opening of Ironwood Place, which will provide safe and supportive housing for seniors in Campbell River,” said Dick Harris, Member of Parliament for Cariboo – Prince George, on behalf of the Honourable Monte Solberg, Minister of Human Resources and Social Development. “By investing in this housing project with B.C., Canada's New Government is doing its part to provide housing solutions for seniors and adults with disabilities so that they can continue to live in their communities, close to their family and friends.”

The assisted living units are self-contained apartments with a 24-hour response system. Residents receive personal care services such as recreational opportunities and assistance with medications, housekeeping, meals, and laundry services. Ironwood Place also has space for an adult day program and other services, such as meal programs, intended to support elderly people living in the neighbourhood.

“The opening of Ironwood Place ensures that seniors can receive quality support services while enjoying their independence in Campbell River,” said Nanaimo – Parksville MLA Ron Cantelon. “These assisted living units provide seniors, and adults with disabilities, with the housing and help they need in the community that they helped to build.”

Vancouver Island Health Authority will provide ongoing funding for personal care services and a portion of the hospitality services to ensure tenants have access to the healthcare support they need to remain independent.

“The Vancouver Island Health Authority is committed to enhancing access to services for seniors, and the opening of Ironwood Place will help Campbell River seniors remain as independent as possible while still having their care needs met,” said Jac Kreut, VIHA Board Chair. “VIHA is delighted to work with the community, local government and the Province to enhance our community care capacity.”

“Ironwood Place will enrich the lives of seniors in our community,” said District of Campbell River Mayor Roger McDonnell. “It is important to ensure our seniors have the choice to live in the same community they have called home when they need access to assisted living.”

“We believe that helping others help themselves builds a strong community,” said Greg Hill, Executive Director, Campbell River and District Association for Community Living. “The opening of Ironwood Place is a community success; to assist our seniors and adults with disabilities maintain their independence and quality of life for as long as possible.”

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These new units are part of the British Columbia Government's commitment to provide 5,000 net-new residential care beds, assisted living units, and supportive housing with home support units by the end of 2008. To date, 8,102 new and replacement beds and units have been built, including 2,984 net-new.

The Province of British Columbia, through ILBC, is committed to providing more than 4,000 affordable assisted living apartments for B.C. seniors and persons with disabilities. To date, more than 3,900 have been allocated in communities across the province. The Province's budget for shelters and affordable housing is \$328 million — nearly triple what it was in 2001.

Canada's New Government, through Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, will contribute more than \$130 million by 2010 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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[See Related Speech](#)

Backgrounder

Ironwood Place

Ironwood Place, 1351 Ironwood Street in Campbell River, provides 54 assisted living units for seniors and adults with disabilities. The development opened to residents in February 2007.

All of the units are funded through the Independent Living BC (ILBC) program. The building, a four-storey wood-framed structure, has 52 one-bedroom and two two-bedroom assisted living units. Residents pay 70 per cent of their after-tax income for their units and services, which include meals, weekly housekeeping and linen services, 24-hour response, personal care services, and social and recreational opportunities.

Partners and Funding:

The capital cost of this project is \$10.8 million.

- The federal government, through Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, is providing a \$1.35 million capital grant.
- The Province provided a one-time grant of \$1.35 million and will provide housing subsidies of approximately \$6.4 million over 35 years.
- Vancouver Island Health Authority will provide \$400,000 in annual funding for hospitality services including two meals daily, weekly housekeeping, 24/7 emergency monitoring and response, daily recreation activities and weekly linen service; VIHA is also leasing the land, valued at \$384,000, to the Campbell River and District

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Association for Community Living.

- The Campbell River & District Association for Community Living provided \$60,000.

Campbell River and District Association for Community Living

The Campbell River and District Association for Community Living, advocates for people with special needs, and their families, living in the Campbell River area. It provides a centre where people with special needs can enjoy each other's company in an atmosphere of respect and understanding. It also offers services and opportunities for regular respite for families and caregivers of the association's clients.