



## PRESS RELEASE



*Canadian Mortgage News - National Archive 2007*

### **Canada's New Government and the Province of Manitoba Announce Over \$900,000 in Homelessness Funding to Help Brandon Area Youth**

**BRANDON , Manitoba, June 15, 2007** — Merv Tweed, Member of Parliament for Brandon – Souris, on behalf of the Honourable Monte Solberg, Minister of Human Resources and Social Development, and Drew Caldwell, MLA for Brandon East, on behalf of the Honourable Gord Mackintosh, Minister of Family Services and Housing for Manitoba, today announced over \$900,000 in homelessness funding for Uturn 3, a Brandon Area Youth for Christ project that will provide transitional housing and skills development to youth in need.

“Canada’s New Government is delivering on its commitment to help homeless Canadians and those at risk of becoming homeless,” said MP Tweed. “We are proud to support Brandon Area Youth for Christ to help youth achieve independence and make a contribution to their community.”

“By providing safe housing and support for our young people, we can help them make a better future for themselves,” said MLA Caldwell. “This not only helps each individual person, it helps the entire community by building a safer, more secure environment for everyone.”

The funding will help create a new skills development centre and an adjoining 15-unit housing complex. It will also offer a range of services including safe accommodations, social and employment skills development, and guidance and mentoring orientation.

The total cost of this project is estimated at more than \$1.3 million. The project received \$483,282 in federal homelessness funding and \$479,000 through the Canada – Manitoba Affordable Housing Program Agreement.

“This funding contribution will help our organization expand its services to help our youth in need,” said Dwayne Dyck, Executive Director, Brandon Area Youth for Christ. “We believe that youth have the right to be responsible. Uturn 3 helps youth exercise this right through the development of independent living skills while providing them with a safe place to live.”

The City of Brandon provided \$84,000 in kind. “The City of Brandon is pleased to support Uturn 3,” said His Worship Dave Burgess, Mayor of the City of Brandon. “We're committed to eliminating homelessness in the City of Brandon, and this project is an excellent example of how we can accomplish that goal as a community.”

Rent Supplement is being provided for up to eight units within the project to ensure rents are affordable to low-income individuals.

Under the Affordable Housing Initiative, the federal government is investing \$1 billion, which is expected to create some 44,000 affordable housing units across the country. Of the \$1 billion, \$36.93 million has been allocated to Manitoba.

Canadian Mortgage News - Canada's New Government and the Province of Manitoba Announce Over ...

The new Homelessness Partnering Strategy is providing \$269.6 million over two years to help communities across Canada combat homelessness more effectively. The Strategy puts in place structures and supports that help people who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless achieve self-sufficiency and full participation in society.

For more information on the federal government's Homelessness Partnering Strategy, visit [www.homelessness.gc.ca](http://www.homelessness.gc.ca).

**For more information:**

Pema Lhalungpa  
Press Secretary  
Office of Minister Solberg  
819-994-2482

L. Nadine Delisle  
Communications Services Manitoba  
Public Affairs  
204-945-3810

Media Relations Office  
Human Resources and Social  
Development Canada  
819-994-5559

Kimberly Jones  
Senior Communications Consultant  
Prairie & Territories – Communications  
& Marketing  
403-515-3048