



PRESS RELEASE



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\$18 Million Assisted Living Building Completes Campus of Care

ABBOTSFORD, British Columbia, June 18, 2007 — Federal, provincial and community partners gathered today to celebrate the official opening of the Tabor Home Society's new \$18 million, 104-unit assisted living development in Abbotsford.

Tabor Court completes a campus of care that will ensure a full range of housing options for seniors in Abbotsford, including independent and assisted living apartments, as well as a residential-care facility. Of the new 104 units, 82 are fully funded under the Independent Living BC, a housing-for-health program, in which the federal and provincial governments, the regional health authority and non-profit societies partner together to provide more housing and care options for seniors.

"Canada's New Government is committed to providing housing solutions for seniors, so that they can continue to live in their communities, close to family and friends, with dignity and independence," said Ed Fast, Member of Parliament for Abbotsford, on behalf of the Honourable Monte Solberg, Minister of Human Resources and Social Development. "With the opening of Tabor Court, seniors in Abbotsford now have more access to affordable and accessible housing that meet their specific needs."

"The province is fully committed to improving housing and health options for Fraser Valley seniors," said Michael de Jong, MLA for Abbotsford-Mt. Lehman. "The new assisted living units will provide more seniors with affordable housing while the campus of care offers a full spectrum of housing and care needs for seniors as they age."

Assisted living homes are self-contained apartments where residents receive hospitality and personal care services, such as meals, housekeeping and laundry services, recreational opportunities, assistance with medications, mobility and other care needs, as well as a 24-hour response system. Fraser Health will provide funding for these services.

"The completion of this campus of care will allow for a broader offering of options for seniors' housing and personal care needs," said Betty Ann Busse, Fraser Health's Executive VP of Health Promotion and Community Programs. "As seniors' health needs change, they will find the appropriate level of care needed all on the same site. This will better enable us to meet the health needs of Abbotsford and our other growing and aging communities."

The Tabor Home Society has a long-standing reputation for quality seniors' care in the Abbotsford area. Situated in central Abbotsford, the society supports an independent living seniors' complex and a residential-care facility on the same site as the new assisted living development.

"This assisted living development completes our campus of care community and fulfils a vision that the Tabor Home Society has had for some time," said Eldon DeFehr, Interim Administrator for the Tabor Home Society. "We are excited about this opportunity to expand our community here at Tabor and to offer the very best level and quality of care for our seniors."

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The 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, 8,494 new and replacement beds and units have been built, including 3,196 net-new.

The Province of British Columbia 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.

The Government of Canada, through Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, will contribute more than \$130 million by 2010 towards affordable housing in this province. The provincial government 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

Tabor Court

Development Facts

Tabor Court, at 31954 Sunrise Crescent in Abbotsford, completes a campus of care that includes independent living apartments as well as a residential-care facility. The assisted living building will provide a total of 104 units of assisted living for seniors. Of these, 82 units will be fully funded under Independent Living BC (ILBC), with an additional six units funded by the Province through rent supplements. All of the units in the four-storey wood frame building are wheelchair accessible. Tabor House opened to residents in November 2006.

Tenants of the ILBC-funded units will pay 70 per cent of their after-tax income and receive hospitality and personal care services, such as meals, housekeeping and laundry, recreational programs, assistance with medications, mobility and other care needs, and a 24-hour response system.

Partners and Funding

Capital cost of this project is approximately \$18 million with funding from:

- The federal government, through Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, with a \$2,050,000 capital grant.
- The provincial government in the form of an approximately \$10.6 million one-time grant, annual rent supplements for six units of \$34,200 and additional financing for the remainder of the units.
- Fraser Health with \$1.3 million annual funding for the personal care services to tenants.
- The Tabor Home Society, which provided land valued at \$1.26 million, \$400,000 in cash and \$200,000 in fundraising and donations.

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Tabor Home Society

The Tabor Home Society is a non-profit Christian health care organization that formed in 1959. The society also manages a 121-bed intermediate care facility and a 38-unit seniors' independent living project with supports.

Members from nine Mennonite Brethren Churches in the Abbotsford area sponsor the society.