



## PRESS RELEASE



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### **New Affordable Housing Project Opens in Port Colborne**

**PORT COLBORNE, Ontario, July 29, 2008** — The Government of Canada, the Government of Ontario, Niagara Region and the City of Port Colborne today celebrated the official opening of 15 new affordable housing apartments. The Community Living Port Colborne – Wainfleet project received over \$1 million in funding under the Canada – Ontario Affordable Housing Program.

The ceremony was attended by Dean Allison, MP for Niagara West – Glanbrook, on behalf of the Honourable Monte Solberg, Minister of Human Resources and Social Development Canada; Jim Bradley, Minister of Transportation and MPP for St. Catharines, on behalf of the Honourable Jim Watson, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; Councillor Bob Saracino, on behalf of Peter Partington, Chair of Niagara Region; and Vance Badawey, Mayor of Port Colborne.

“The Government of Canada is committed to making affordable housing available in Ontario and across Canada for those who need it most,” said MP Allison. “With the opening of this project, seniors in Port Colborne will now have access to quality, affordable rental housing and services to meet their specific needs, while remaining close to their families and friends.”

“By investing in the Community Living project, the McGuinty government is making it easier for those in Niagara with disabilities to live independently and with dignity,” said Jim Bradley, MPP for St. Catharines.

The new affordable housing project is sponsored by Community Living Port Colborne-Wainfleet and includes apartments for people with disabilities. Federal and provincial funding for the project was complemented by more than \$60,000 in municipal financial incentives.

“We’re pleased that this partnership between the federal, provincial and municipal levels of government can create further affordable housing opportunities for our residents,” said Regional Chair Peter Partington. “This is one of our priorities as a regional council, and while a small step forward, for the families who will benefit from this development, they are monumental steps.”

“I am proud of the continued efforts of the Community Living Port Colborne – Wainfleet team and pleased that their hard work is being recognized by upper levels of government,” said Mayor Badawey. “The clients that are being serviced by Community Living are fine residents of our community. I am extremely pleased that this program affords them the opportunity to enhance their quality of life.”

“Our Board of Directors is pleased that our vision for this project has become a reality. The apartment building will significantly enhance the capacity of services in Port Colborne for people with specialized needs, especially for those individuals requiring affordable housing with an enhanced model of support,” said Pat Davis, President of Community Living Port Colborne – Wainfleet.

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The 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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