



## PRESS RELEASE



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### **Construction to Begin on Affordable Housing Projects in Kawartha Lakes**

**KAWARTHA LAKES, Ontario, July 03, 2009** — The Government of Canada, the Province of Ontario and the City of Kawartha Lakes today announced more than \$8.2 million to fund two construction-ready projects in Kawartha Lakes.

The funding was made available as a result of a \$1.2-billion joint investment under the amended Canada-Ontario Affordable Housing Program Agreement, which includes funding through Canada's Economic Action Plan and by the Government of Ontario. The federal and provincial governments are contributing equally to this overall investment.

Today's announcement recognized the successful applications by the Kawartha Lakes Haliburton Mental Health Services and the Community Care City of Kawartha Lakes to build 69 units of affordable housing for low-income seniors and persons with disabilities.

Barry Devolin, Member of Parliament for Haliburton – Kawartha Lakes – Brock, on behalf of the Honourable Diane Finley, Minister of Human Resources and Skills Development Canada and Minister Responsible for Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC); and Rick Johnson, Member of Provincial Parliament for Haliburton – Kawartha Lakes – Brock, on behalf of the Honourable Jim Watson, Ontario Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; along with Ric McGee, Mayor of the City of Kawartha Lakes made the announcement today.

"This Government is working hard to support Canadians during these challenging economic times and we are moving aggressively to ensure Canada's Economic Action Plan is implemented rapidly," said MP Devolin. "With these investments in Kawartha Lakes, we are making an important difference in the lives of some of our community's most vulnerable citizens. Low-income seniors and persons with disabilities will have access to quality, affordable rental housing and services to meet their specific needs, while remaining close to their families and friends."

"New housing initiatives add significant support to the McGuinty government's Poverty Reduction Strategy," said MPP Johnson. "This first wave of funding will lead to construction by September and we will continue to work with our municipal partners to ensure more units are built during the life of this program."

"Today's announcement has been many years in the making and will establish our commitment to enhance and improve affordable housing in the City of Kawartha Lakes," said Mayor McGee. "Along with the dedicated organizations in our community, we celebrate this announcement and look forward to new affordable housing opportunities to better serve the people of Kawartha Lakes."

Ontario is moving quickly to implement this new funding with 23 quick start-projects totalling more than \$52.2 million — all of which will improve access to affordable housing for low-income families, seniors and persons with disabilities. It will also create jobs and strengthen local economies. To find more about affordable housing in Ontario, visit [www.mah.gov.on.ca](http://www.mah.gov.on.ca).

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Last fall, the Government of Canada committed more than \$1.9 billion over the next five years to improve and build new affordable housing and to help the homeless. Canada's Economic Action Plan builds on this with an additional one-time investment of more than \$2 billion over two years in new and existing social housing and lending of up to another \$2 billion to municipalities for housing-related infrastructure.

To find out more about how the Government of Canada and CMHC are working to build stronger homes and communities for all Canadians, call CMHC at 1-800-668-2642 or visit [www.cmhc.ca/housingactionplan](http://www.cmhc.ca/housingactionplan). For more information on Canada's Economic Action Plan, call 1-800-O Canada or visit [www.actionplan.gc.ca](http://www.actionplan.gc.ca).

### **Media Inquiries:**

Michelle Bakos  
Office of Minister Finley  
819-994-2482

Adam Grachnik  
Office of Minister Watson  
416-585-6492

Nicole Burgers  
Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation  
416-250-2760

For more information visit: [www.ontario.ca/housing](http://www.ontario.ca/housing)