



PRESS RELEASE



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St. Thomas Opens Doors on Affordable Housing

ST. THOMAS, Ontario, August 18, 2008 — The Government of Canada, the Government of Ontario, and the City of St. Thomas today celebrated the opening of 23 new affordable rental units. This project is supported by over \$1.5 million in funding through the Canada – Ontario Affordable Housing Program.

Joe Preston, Member of Parliament for Elgin – Middlesex – London, on behalf of the Honourable Monte Solberg, Minister of Human Resources and Social Development; Steve Peters, Member of Provincial Parliament for Elgin – Middlesex – London, on behalf of the Honourable Jim Watson, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; Mayor Cliff Barwick; and affordable housing sponsor Nick Ostojic of Novi Construction Limited attended the ceremony.

“Prime Minister Stephen Harper and our Government are committed to making affordable housing available in Ontario and across Canada for those who need it most,” said MP Preston. “The Scott Street project here in St. Thomas, will help low-income families and individuals with special needs access safe, affordable and quality housing, helping them to build a stronger future.”

“Our government recognizes that one of our fundamental responsibilities is to support the most vulnerable people in our communities,” said MPP Peters. “For individuals on limited or fixed incomes, this is an opportunity to live in a safe, affordable home.”

Today’s announcement recognized the official opening of the Scott Street Apartments. The \$2 million project, sponsored by Novi Construction Limited, received over \$1.5 million under the Canada – Ontario Affordable Housing Program. The 23 units will be occupied by seniors, families and individuals with special needs.

The federal and provincial allocations to the project were complemented by almost \$500,000 in municipal financial incentives.

“Affordable housing is in great demand. With the co-operation of the Federal and Provincial governments we can see these needs being met,” said Mayor Barwick. “This building is a splendid asset for our community, particularly in the core area.”

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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