



## PRESS RELEASE



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### **New Affordable Housing Project Celebrates Construction in the County of Simcoe**

**LAFONTAINE, Ontario, September 05, 2008** — The Government of Canada, the Government of Ontario, and the County of Simcoe today announced the start of construction of a new affordable housing project, which will create 24 affordable housing units under the Canada – Ontario Affordable Housing Program.

Bruce Stanton, Member of Parliament for Simcoe North, on behalf of the Honourable Monte Solberg, Minister of Human Resources and Social Development; the Honourable Jim Watson, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; and County of Simcoe Warden Tony Guergis, made today's announcement.

"The Government of Canada is committed to making affordable housing available in Ontario and across Canada for those who need it most," said MP Stanton. "Seniors in Lafontaine will now have access to quality, affordable housing and the services that meet their specific needs, while remaining close to their families and friends in the community."

"Our government knows we can better serve Ontario's most vulnerable by combining our resources and experience," said Minister Watson. "We are pleased to work with our federal and municipal partners on projects like today's to provide seniors and individuals with special needs in the County of Simcoe access to safe, affordable and quality housing."

The project received \$696,000 from the Canada – Ontario Affordable Housing Program to create 24 units for seniors at 333 Lafontaine Street West in Lafontaine.

"The County of Simcoe recognizes that affordable housing is fundamental to the economic, social and physical well being of our residents," stated County of Simcoe Warden Tony Guergis. "As Service Manager we are responsible for overseeing the development of 269 affordable rental housing units across the region under the Canada – Ontario Affordable Housing Program. Our newest housing units in Lafontaine will assist a number of people needing affordable housing options, and is an excellent example of what we can achieve working together."

The federal and provincial allocation was complemented by more than \$85,000 in municipal financial incentives.

"This is an exciting project that will enable seniors to remain in our community where they have established a network of friends and support over the years," said Tiny Township Mayor Peggy Breckenridge. "These are vital members of our community and we are proud to give them an opportunity to continue living in Tiny Township."

"The members of the Board of Le Villageois are very happy to have received the affordable housing funds, to help us realize a dream of ten years. Our project will provide much needed housing for the people of our community," stated Rosita M. Des Roches, president of the board of Le Villageois de Lafontaine.

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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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