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AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR SENIORS BEING BUILT IN ST. JAMES

WINNIPEG, MANITOBA Low to moderate income seniors will have access to more affordable housing with the development of 24 apartments in a new, four storey building that is part of the St. James Kiwanis Manor redevelopment project underway in the Silver Heights area at 135 Sinawik Bay. Funding of \$960,000 is being provided by the Government of Canada, the Province of Manitoba and the City of Winnipeg through the Winnipeg Housing and Homelessness Initiative (WHHI).

The funding to the St. James Kiwanis Courts & Lodge for the project is from the Canada-Manitoba Affordable Housing Initiative (AHI). Total project costs are estimated at \$5.5 million.

Today's funding announcement was made by the Honourable Reg Alcock, President of the Treasury Board and Minister responsible for the Canadian Wheat Board, on behalf of the Honourable Joe Fontana, Minister of Labour and Housing; the Honourable Christine Melnick, Manitoba Minister of Family Services and Housing; and Councillor Jae Eadie, St. James - Brooklands Ward, on behalf of Winnipeg Mayor Sam Katz.

"St. James Kiwanis Manor will enable 24 seniors to remain in the neighbourhood and continue to enjoy the lifestyle they have grown accustomed to," said the Honourable Reg Alcock, MP Winnipeg South, on behalf of the Honourable Joseph Fontana, Minister of Labour and Housing. "The Government of Canada, through Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, is working closely with the Manitoba government to ensure seniors on limited incomes are provided with safe, affordable housing."

"This is an important step to make more adequate and affordable housing available to seniors with low- to moderate-incomes," said Minister Melnick. "This not only supports a locally-planned housing initiative and contributes to the revitalization of the neighbourhood, but is also a demonstration of successful partnerships between governments, the community and the non-profit sector."

“This development will provide much-needed affordable housing options for low-income seniors in St. James, and is a very positive initiative for area residents,” said Councillor Eadie. “Through the Winnipeg Housing and Homelessness Initiative, government and community partners are taking great strides to address homelessness and housing needs in our city.”

The project is the first of a multi-phase redevelopment initiative at St. James Kiwanis Manor and consists of 51 units located at 135 Sinawik Bay. The building will replace 22 cottage-style units from the 1950s that were recently demolished. Of the 51 units, 24 one-bedroom units will be leased to low-income seniors. All units will be wheelchair accessible, including the kitchen, bathroom and patio areas. Residents are expected to move in next March.

The funding of \$960,000 is from the Canada–Manitoba Affordable Housing Initiative's Rental Supply Program. St. James Kiwanis Courts & Lodge is contributing the remainder of the costs of the project. The group, with over 45 years experience in non-profit management, will manage the new building.

“The assistance provided through the Canada-Manitoba Affordable Housing Initiative has allowed us to meet one of our original objectives of creating new rental units for low-to-moderate income seniors,” said Tom Lambert, Chair for the St. James Kiwanis Courts & Lodge.

The Canada-Manitoba Affordable Housing Initiative (AHI) was signed in September 2002 and provides \$50.8 million over five years to help increase the supply of affordable rental units and new housing in the province. The AHI is cost-shared equally by Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) and the Province of Manitoba. In addition, the City of Winnipeg has allocated \$17.5 million over five years under its Housing Policy to fund housing initiatives in targeted inner-city neighbourhoods. It is anticipated the AHI will create up to 2,500 units in Manitoba for low-to-moderate-income households.

The funding is [coordinated](#) through the WHHI, a partnership established by the Government of Canada, the Province of Manitoba and the City of Winnipeg to address homelessness, declining housing stock and the revitalization of Winnipeg's older neighbourhoods. Located at 361 Hargrave Street, the WHHI serves as a single-window office for community organizations to access information on government-funded housing and homelessness programs. Community groups wanting more information on programs can call the WHHI at (204) 940-3070.

For more information:

Brian Williamson
Winnipeg Housing and
Homelessness Initiative (WHHI)
(204) 984-0592
cell: 771-6438