
News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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GOVERNMENTS OF CANADA AND YUKON CELEBRATE NEW AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN TESLIN AND FARO

Whitehorse, Yukon – The Honourable Diane Finley, Minister of Human Resources and Skills Development Canada and Minister Responsible for Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC), along with Jim Kenyon, Minister Responsible for the Yukon Housing Corporation, today launched the construction phase of two new housing projects for seniors in Faro and Teslin.

The \$4.7 million federal contribution to these projects comes through Canada's Economic Action Plan, the government's plan to stimulate the economy and create jobs during the global recession. Recognizing the distinctive needs of the North, Canada's Economic Action Plan provides \$200 million, over two years, including \$50 million for Yukon, to support the renovation and the construction of new social housing units. Overall, the Economic Action Plan includes \$2 billion for new and existing social housing, plus up to \$2 billion in loans to municipalities for housing-related infrastructure.

"The Government of Canada is committed to providing Canadians a hand up to those who need it the most," said Minister Finley. "Through this investment we are helping make an important difference in the lives of individuals and families in Faro and Teslin who are trying to build a better future for themselves."

"With funding from Canada, Yukon government is launching several important housing projects in the territory," said Minister Kenyon. "Access to affordable and accommodating housing gives seniors the option of staying in their community as they grow older. Faro and Teslin will benefit from retaining this important generation within their population."

Canada's Economic Action Plan (CEAP) will provide \$2 million to construct a seniors' residence in Faro, which has one of the highest ratio of seniors and near-seniors among Yukon's municipalities. The residence will contain six 1-bedroom suites.

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CEAP funding of \$2.7 million was approved for seniors' residence in Teslin. The residence will contain seven 1-bedroom suites and one 2-bedroom suite. Two of the seven units are for seniors with a disability.

Construction in both communities is underway and will continue throughout the winter, generating employment for trades. Completion is anticipated for the fall of 2010.

Both buildings are wood frame construction and feature SuperGreen energy efficiency standards and Accommodating Home standards for a barrier-free living environment.

Canada's Economic Action Plan builds on the Government of Canada's commitment in 2008 of more than \$1.9 billion, over the next five years, to improve and build new affordable housing and help the homeless.

More information on this and other measures in *Canada's Economic Action Plan*, the federal government's plan to stimulate the economy and protect those hit hardest by the global recession, can be found at: www.actionplan.gc.ca.

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.

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