

INVESTMENTS IN AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR CANADIANS MANITOBA

The Government of Canada's commitment to affordable housing is significant.

Overall, Canada's Economic Action Plan provides a total of \$7.8 billion to build quality housing, stimulate construction, create jobs, encourage home ownership and enhance the energy efficiency of Canadian homes. In the process, it will provide new and renovated housing for more than 200,000 Canadian households.

Of the \$7.8 billion, more than \$2 billion is provided through CMHC to build new and renovate existing social housing. This will include:

- \$1 billion for social housing renovation;
- \$600 million for new housing and repairs to existing social housing on-reserve and in the North broken down as follows:
 - \$400 million for on-reserve communities
 - \$200 million for the North
- \$400 million for housing for low-income seniors; and
- \$75 million for housing for people with disabilities.

Most of this funding, \$1.525 billion of the more than \$2 billion, is being delivered by provinces and territories through amendments to existing agreements. Provinces and territories will design and deliver these initiatives, as well as cost-match the federal investment.

The federal government will directly deliver the remaining \$550 million of this \$2 billion funding: \$150 million for the renovation and retrofit of social housing projects administered by Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC), and \$400 million in new construction and repair for housing on-reserve through CMHC and Indian and Northern Affairs Canada.

In September 2008, the Government of Canada also announced \$1.9 billion over five years for housing and homelessness programs for low-income Canadians. As part of this investment, the Affordable Housing Initiative and the federal renovation programs for low-income households were extended for two years. Today's announcement also includes a federal investment of \$21 million and provincial investment of \$13 million for these two-year extensions.

Overall, the federal contribution is almost \$100 million, while the province is contributing a further \$92 million for the combined investment of \$192 million.

As well, up to \$2 billion in low-cost repayable loans for housing-related infrastructure projects will be made available to towns and cities across the country.

The Government of Canada, through CMHC, spends approximately \$1.7 billion annually to support almost 625,000 low- and moderate-income households in existing social housing across Canada. In Manitoba, the federal government provides more than \$118 million annually primarily to support some 41,950 households.