

## ECHO 3 - Portage la Prairie, MB

**Housing Partner:** Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA) Central Region  
**Building Type:** Integrated housing  
**Investment Priority:** The homeless and those needing intense services

### Description:

- ◆ **Location:** 160 1<sup>st</sup> Street North West, Portage la Prairie, MB
- ◆ **Number of Households:** 23 households
- ◆ **Total Estimated Cost:** \$2,451,763
- ◆ **Federal / Provincial Contribution Toward Cost:**
  - ◆ HOMEWorks! capital funding of \$760,000 through the Affordable Housing Initiative Extension (Federal Component) directed to the 20 affordable housing accommodations
  - ◆ Housing Partnering Strategy through HRSDC- Service Canada, \$826,600.

### Additional Information:

The Portage la Prairie “Emergency Community Housing Opportunity” ECHO 3 initiative consists of three emergency shelter spaces, eleven transitional housing and nine affordable long-term housing accommodations.

The building consists of seven studio apartments, twelve one-bedroom apartments and one two-bedroom apartment. Its design adheres to Manitoba Housing’s Visitable Design Standards, providing a basic level of accessibility for everyone. Three units are fully accessible, providing barrier-free accessibility for persons with disabilities.

ECHO 3 is modelled after the ECHO 1 and 2 initiatives located in Dauphin and Swan River, Manitoba. CMHA Portage will advocate for tenants and assist them in finding permanent housing. The transitional housing will allow those who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless to stabilize their living conditions and will provide them with skills to move into the rental market.

The transitional housing and long term housing are being rented on the basis of a tenancy relationship, providing a much needed affordable housing option in the community.

Rents are consistent with Median market rent levels. Manitoba Housing is providing continuing financial support through HOMEWorks! Rent Supplement for twenty of the suites, available to qualifying tenants at rents geared-to-income.

**Status:** Full occupancy was reached in June, 2012.