

NEWS RELEASE

Airdrie Housing Receives Provincial Grant

Housing and Urban Affairs supports purchase of 32 unit apartment building.

Airdrie, March 23, 2009: Airdrie Housing Limited, a non-profit organization dedicated to facilitating and managing affordable housing in Airdrie is pleased to be the recipient of a grant from the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs for the purchase of Mountain View Apartments in Airdrie. At a presentation in City Hall on Monday, March 23rd, Airdrie Housing Limited Board Chair Jim Hassett accepted a cheque in the amount of \$3,290,760 from Airdrie-Chestermere MLA Rob Anderson on behalf of the Province.

“This is a testament to the ongoing commitment by the Alberta government to contribute to the inclusion, well being, and independence of lower-income Albertans through safe, affordable housing,” commented Hassett. “It will immediately impact those in need of affordable housing units in Airdrie and fulfills the mission of Airdrie Housing Limited to facilitate and manage affordable housing to meet the diverse needs of our community”.

Funding for the purchase was obtained through an RFP grant process as defined by the Affordable Housing Program through the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs as well as a \$50,000 donation from WestMark Holdings, developer of Cooper’s Crossing.

“Addressing the issue of affordable housing in Airdrie has been a long process with the involvement of many dedicated individuals and organizations along the way”, remarked Shelley Sweet, Managing Director of Airdrie Housing. “With the purchase of Mountain View Apartments along with Airdrie Housing’s RentPlus Supplement Program, we are well on our way to providing the kind of housing support needed to assist individuals and families for whom the cost of keeping a roof over their heads is a constant struggle”.

The purchase allows Airdrie Housing Limited to immediately make available affordable rental units as soon as they become vacant. The need to provide these units is undeniable given the current economic climate, Airdrie’s recent excessive growth, and a below-average rental pool. Mountain View Apartments is comprised of 32 units close to schools, recreation, employment, shopping and public transit. The units will be low-end market rentals with rents set at 10% below market or lower and priority will be given to households whose income falls within the provincial Core Needs Income Threshold for Airdrie. Applicants will be given priority based on need, as determined by income, assets, and current housing condition.

To apply to Airdrie Housing or for a complete housing assessment, stop by Airdrie Housing Limited located in the Community Links office at 112 1st Ave. N.W. or contact Karen at 403-945-3900 or email KarenL@nrvc.ab.ca