

April 14, 2010

Seniors benefit from more than 1,000 continuing care spaces

\$105-million investment from Capital Bonds and ASLI to address priority needs

Edmonton... More than 1,000 new and upgraded spaces are being added to Alberta's continuing care system to address the needs of an aging population. New construction or renovations involving 13 facilities in 11 Alberta communities will be completed or well underway within the next two years.

"Providing seniors with accommodations that best suit their health and personal care needs is a priority," said Premier Ed Stelmach. "Everyone who purchased Alberta Capital Bonds is making an investment in the continuing care system that will benefit seniors for years to come. Together, we are helping Alberta seniors remain in their communities and age in the right place, close to family and friends."

These new and updated continuing care spaces will also create additional capacity in Alberta's hospitals and emergency departments by transitioning seniors currently occupying acute care hospital beds into more appropriate settings that will better meet their needs.

\$55 million from Albertans' investment in Capital Bonds is being used to supplement the \$50-million Affordable Supportive Living Initiative (ASLI), leveraging an even greater community investment to enhance seniors' continuing care accommodations. Remaining funds from the sale of Capital Bonds will be used for future investment in seniors' accommodations.

The 13 projects support government's Continuing Care Strategy: *Aging in the Right Place* and span the spectrum of continuing care facilities that include supportive living, designated assisted living and long-term care spaces.

The projects were identified through a consideration of demographics and community needs. Existing ASLI proposals were then reviewed to see which best addressed those of highest priority. With provincial funding through ASLI, community and private sector proponents build affordable accommodations for seniors. Specific details about the 13 projects will be released in the near future.

The Alberta government has a clear plan for a strong economic recovery. An important part of *The Way Forward* is maintaining support for programs and services Albertans need most, such as health care, education and safe and vibrant communities. For more information on the plan visit Alberta.ca.

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Backgrounder: Continuing care project list

Media inquiries may be directed to:

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To call toll free within Alberta dial 310-0000.

Backgrounder

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Continuing care project list

Location	Project proponent	New and/or upgraded spaces
Calgary	Covenant Health	100
	Father Lacombe	150
	Schizophrenia (Group Home)	24
Didsbury	Continuing Care Partnership	100
Edmonton	Lifestyle Options Limited	58
Fort McMurray	Continuing Care Partnership	100
Grande Cache	Grande Cache Continuing Care	6
High River	ElderCare Communities Ltd.	72
Lacombe	Christenson Communities	88
Red Deer	Covenant Health	100
Spruce Grove	Copper Sky	70
Stettler	Continuing Care Partnership	88
Westlock	Westlock Foundation	61

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