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## FACTSHEET

October 2011

Ministry of Energy and Mines  
and Minister Responsible for Housing

### **Investments to Help End Homelessness: Vancouver Coastal**

Last year, approximately \$220 million was provided to support subsidized housing and rent supplements for more than 33,200 low-income individuals, seniors and families in the Vancouver Coastal region.

#### **Highlights**

In the last year, more than 200 affordable and/or supportive apartments for people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness were officially opened in the Vancouver Coastal region including:

- [Arrowhead Centre](#) (Sechelt) – Eight affordable apartments of Olympic Legacy Housing in Sechelt for people with mental health challenges who are at risk of homelessness.
- [Sorella](#) (Vancouver) - Providing 108 apartments of supportive housing to women, or women with children, who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.
- [Union Gospel Mission](#) (Vancouver) – New housing development with 37 studio housing apartments and 64 supported recovery apartments to men and women who are homeless or at risk of homelessness in the Downtown Eastside.

#### **Emerging Projects**

In the next few years, approximately 1,100 units are expected to be completed, including:

- Vancouver – Construction is underway at [31 West Pender St.](#), which will provide 44 supportive housing units for people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness and for Aboriginal people who travel to the city for medical treatment.
- Vancouver – Through partnership with the City of Vancouver, a housing development on West 17th Ave. is nearing completion and will provide 51 supportive housing units. A new building on West 7<sup>th</sup> Ave. will have 62 apartments for those at risk of homelessness.

#### **Emergency Shelters and Homeless Outreach**

- There are over 700 year-round emergency shelter beds in the Vancouver Coastal region receiving annual funding of nearly \$26.7 million.
- Last year, approximately 750 homeless people were provided with stable housing through the [Homeless Outreach Program](#) and [Aboriginal Homeless Outreach Program](#) that has teams in Vancouver, North Vancouver, West Vancouver, Squamish and Whistler.

#### **Rent Supplements**

- Rental assistance under the Shelter Aid for Elderly Renters (SAFER) program helps close to 3,800 seniors' households in the region through \$7 million in annual funding subsidies.
- Over 2,150 low-income working families in the region receive a total of approximately \$10 million for rental assistance in the private market through the Rental Assistance Program.