



Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus

Briefing/Speaking Note

Affordable Housing

ROMA/OGRA 2009

Issue:

The need for additional affordable housing units across Eastern Ontario continues to grow.

In a review just completed by the EOWC we determined that there are **8,208** people on our collective waiting lists. When the City of Ottawa is included the total rises to **17,969**.

People on these lists can wait more than 5 or more years before a unit becomes available for them. Clearly, this is unacceptable.

Action Requested:

We of course wish to acknowledge your Government's previous expenditure of \$100 million that has helped us to make repairs and upgrades to our existing housing stock. These funds allowed municipalities to replace older energy inefficient appliances and windows, and will generate energy savings for many years to come. We believe a second round of this capital repair fund would assist in job creation and lead to further energy conservation.

The EOWC also urges the Province of Ontario to join with the Federal Government in making significant additional investments in creating new housing units and that Eastern Ontario's needs be carefully considered when allocations are being made.

The EOWC believes that investing now has the twin benefits of creating construction and related jobs immediately as well as serving a vulnerable part of our society.

We also understand that the Ministry is undertaking a complete review of its housing strategy and would look forward to receiving a brief update on how that review is unfolding.

WAIT LIST BY COUNTY

■ Hastings County –	1,235
■ L&A + PEC -	342
■ Kawartha Lakes + Haliburton	509
■ Peterborough –	1,488
■ Northumberland –	226
■ Frontenac –	1,090
■ Leeds & Grenville –	724
■ Lanark -	564
■ SD&G –	792
■ Prescott Russell –	681
■ Renfrew –	<u>557</u>
■ Total =	8,208 + Ottawa =17,969