



Canadian Mental
Health Association
Prince Edward Island

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 6, 2023

CMHA PEI holds grand opening of its second affordable housing project

Alberton, Prince Edward Island – The Canadian Mental Health Association - PEI (CMHA PEI) in partnership with the Government of Prince Edward Island is excited to announce the grand opening of its commercial modular housing project in the rural community of Alberton.

The project has received a forgivable loan of \$2 million and \$1.4 million in annual operating loan grants over the next 10 years from the PEI Housing Corporation enabling CMHA PEI to expand housing supports in Alberton.

CMHA PEI worked in partnership from start to finish with 720 Modular Solutions, a company consisting of general contractors who specialize in rapid modular project management including design, offsite construction, transportation, and site installation. Other partners included the Leading Edge Group, Nine Yards and Kent Homes, which built the modular units.

This is CMHA PEI's second commercial modular housing project. The first project at 203 Fitzroy Street in Charlottetown, was completed in November 2022. The Alberton project is a two-storey building which took just 11 months from design to end of completion, which is about 30% faster than a typical build. The development consists of six studio units and four one bedrooms, two of which will be accessible. The new housing will be for individuals receiving assistance through CMHA's mental health programming within the community. With the addition of these 10 new affordable housing units and the build in Charlottetown, it will bring a total of 38 new affordable housing units to PEI.

CMHA PEI's Executive Director, Shelley Muzika says, "We are so pleased to see our second modular housing project completed and to provide Islanders who struggle with mental health and addictions issues more safe and affordable housing. Thank you to the PEI Government for being our primary funder and to the rest of our partners who worked tirelessly to increase the number of affordable housing units in this community in such a short period of time. Muzika adds, "We have definitely seen the benefits from the speed and quality associated with commercial modular construction."

"Mental health and addictions are complex issues that require organizations, communities and governments coming together to help make a meaningful difference in people's lives," says Ernie Hudson, Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure and MLA for District 26, Alberton-Bloomfield. "This affordable housing project means so much to people in my community so their family and loved ones can access help closer to home."

For more information on CMHA PEI and the Alberton Housing Project please call: 902-566-3034 or visit: www.pei.cmha.ca

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BACKGROUND

- One in five Canadians will experience a mental health problem in any given year
- Mental health problems affect people of all ages, educational background and income levels

The **Canadian Mental Health Association – PEI** is one of ten provincial divisions of Canada's first and only truly national mental health organization. Specialized services and supports are delivered in, and tailored to, the community and its mental health needs. CMHA-PEI exists to promote the mental health of all persons on the Island by working with individuals, groups and communities to increase control over, and enhance, their mental health. All funds donated to CMHA-PEI stay in the province in support of programs and services for Islanders. More information on the programs and services provided by CMHA-PEI can be found at: <https://pei.cmha.ca/>

720 Solutions is a modular general contractor providing rapid, turnkey commercial modular design-build-install of new and repurposed modular buildings. Their core focus is modular affordable multi-residential housing, transitional housing, shelters, support facilities and staff accommodation. For more information visit: www.720modular.ca