

RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

2009 Urban Housing Starts in Newfoundland and Labrador

ST. JOHN'S, January 11, 2010 – Urban housing starts posted consistent results during the month of December and throughout 2009, according to preliminary data¹ released today by Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC). December's housing starts totaled 201 throughout the St. John's area versus 202 starts in December of 2008. An additional 22 starts were recorded in other urban areas across the province, for a total of 223 provincial starts compared to 226 the previous December. For 2009, urban housing starts totaled 1,703 in the St. John's area and 2,022 provincially.

"The local residential construction industry remained buoyant throughout 2009 and ended the year off just nine per cent compared to 2008's record pace," said Chris Janes, senior market analyst with CMHC in Newfoundland and Labrador. "Despite weakness in the global economy in 2009, positive local economic and demographic factors continued to support stable residential construction activity within the St. John's region, as well as in other urban centres across the province," added Janes.

For Canada's urban centres, total housing starts increased 17 per cent with 12,262 recorded in December compared to 10,488 during December of 2008. Single-detached starts increased 44 per cent to 6,222, while multiple starts of 6,040 represent a two per cent decline from a year ago. Throughout Atlantic Canada, there were 672 urban housing starts posted versus 574 the previous December, an increase of 17 per cent.

As Canada's national housing agency, CMHC draws on more than 60 years of experience to help Canadians access a variety of quality, environmentally sustainable and affordable homes. CMHC also provides reliable, impartial and up-to-date housing market reports, analysis and knowledge to support and assist consumers and the housing industry in making vital decisions.

¹ Figures for the most recent month are preliminary and subject to revisions due to corrections or updates from quarterly enumeration or sampling results.

PRELIMINARY URBAN MONTHLY HOUSING STARTS NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR SUMMARY						
	2009	2008	% Change	YEAR-TO-DATE		% Change
	DEC	DEC		2009	2008	
ALL URBAN CENTRES WITH POPULATIONS > 50,000						
ST. JOHN'S CMA						
Single	128	150	-14.7%	1,385	1,485	-6.7%
Multiple	73	52	40.4%	318	378	-15.9%
TOTAL	201	202	-0.5%	1,703	1,863	-8.6%
ALL URBAN CENTRES WITH POPULATION > 10,000						
ALL CENTRES						
Single	150	174	-13.8%	1,662	1,781	-6.7%
Multiple	73	52	40.4%	360	448	-19.6%
TOTAL	223	226	-1.3%	2,022	2,229	-9.3%

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PRELIMINARY QUARTERLY HOUSING STARTS NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR SUMMARY						
	2009	2008	% Change	YEAR-TO-DATE		% Change
	Q4	Q4		2009	2008	
ALL URBAN CENTRES WITH POPULATIONS > 10,000						
ST. JOHN'S CMA						
Single	388	456	-14.9%	1,385	1,485	-6.7%
Multiple	132	119	10.9%	318	378	-15.9%
TOTAL	520	575	-9.6%	1,703	1,863	-8.6%
BAY ROBERTS CA						
Single	22	22	0.0%	78	77	1.3%
Multiple	0	0	-	2	0	-
TOTAL	22	22	0.0%	80	77	3.9%
CORNER BROOK CA						
Single	18	18	0.0%	62	69	-10.1%
Multiple	0	0	-	8	4	##
TOTAL	18	18	0.0%	70	73	-4.1%
GANDER CA						
Single	20	22	-9.1%	98	89	10.1%
Multiple	0	0	-	20	12	66.7%
TOTAL	20	22	-9.1%	118	101	16.8%
GRAND FALLS/ WINDSOR CA						
Single	10	12	-16.7%	39	61	-36.1%
Multiple	0	0	-	12	54	-77.8%
TOTAL	10	12	-16.7%	51	115	-55.7%
ALL CENTRES						
Single	432	530	-18.5%	1,662	1,781	-6.7%
Multiple	144	119	21.0%	360	448	-19.6%
TOTAL	576	649	-11.2%	2,022	2,229	-9.3%

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Indicates changes in excess of 100% which are not reported due to volatility resulting from small absolute numbers.

Information on this release:

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