

RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October Housing Starts for the St. John's Area

ST. JOHN'S, November 8, 2010 – Housing starts in the St. John's region were higher during the month of October, according to preliminary data¹ released today by Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC). October's housing starts totaled 161 throughout the St. John's area versus 143 starts in October of 2009. There were 23 additional starts recorded outside the St. John's area, for a total of 184 provincial urban housing starts compared to 167 last October. Year-to-date, starts remain above 2009 levels, with 1,489 recorded in the St. John's region versus 1,326 last year.

"October's increase in total starts was due to a higher level of multiple construction activity, which offset the decrease recorded in single-detached housing starts," said Chris Janes, senior market analyst with CMHC in Newfoundland and Labrador. "Single-detached home construction has been slowing in recent months and will continue to slow throughout the remainder of 2010," added Janes.

In urban centres across Canada, total housing starts recorded in October were down 11 per cent to 12,981 units compared to last year's total of 14,604. Single-detached starts declined 23 per cent to 5,380 units, while multiple starts declined one per cent to 7,601 units this year. In the Atlantic region, 883 new units were started in October 2010 compared to 862 units during the same period in 2009.

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.

For more information, visit www.cmhc.ca or call 1-800-668-2642.

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PRELIMINARY URBAN MONTHLY HOUSING STARTS NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR SUMMARY						
	2010	2009	% Change	YEAR-TO-DATE		% Change
	OCT	OCT		2010	2009	
ALL URBAN CENTRES WITH POPULATIONS > 50,000						
ST. JOHN'S CMA						
Single	128	132	-3.0%	1,241	1,129	9.9%
Multiple	33	11	##	248	197	25.9%
TOTAL	161	143	12.6%	1,489	1,326	12.3%
ALL URBAN CENTRES WITH POPULATION > 10,000						
ALL CENTRES*						
Single	140	156	-10.3%	1,472	1,360	8.2%
Multiple	44	11	##	329	239	37.7%
TOTAL	184	167	10.2%	1,801	1,599	12.6%
Figures for the most recent month are preliminary and subject to revisions due to corrections or updates from quarterly enumeration or sampling results.						
* Includes all centres with a total population of more than 10,000 (St. John's CMA, Corner Brook CA, Gander MD, Grand Falls/Windsor CA, and Bay Roberts CA)						
## Indicates changes in excess of 100% which are not reported due to volatility resulting from small absolute numbers.						