

FOR RELEASE
October 27, 2017

River Bend affordable housing development opens first building

The Ta'an Kwäch'än Council, Da Daghay Development Corporation, along with the Governments of Canada and Yukon, and the City of Whitehorse, are pleased to announce the opening of the River Bend development in Whistle Bend today. The first of three buildings, providing 14 housing units to Yukoners, will open on November 1.

The project shows collaboration between governments to create healthy, safe housing in Yukon communities. In each building, units will be available to Ta'an Kwäch'än citizens and Yukon Housing Corporation's social housing clients. The second building will open in December, and the third in early 2018. In total, the new housing development will provide 42 affordable housing units for Yukoners.

Quotes

"The River Bend housing development project is an example of all orders of government and local businesses coming together to improve the health and well-being of Yukoners through secure, affordable housing. Together, we are making real progress and finding tangible solutions to housing that will contribute to healthy, vibrant, and sustainable Yukon communities."

–Yukon Premier Sandy Silver

"We know that safe, adequate housing that meets the needs of families and individuals is a key component of healthy communities. This housing development is truly a collaborative partnership recognizing that together, we can address Yukoners' housing needs through every aspect of the housing continuum."

–Minister Responsible for the Yukon Housing Corporation Pauline Frost

"Our government is committed to working with all partners to develop and implement local solutions to housing. This investment is helping Yukoners access safe and affordable housing that meets their needs."

– Member for Parliament for Yukon, Larry Bagnell

"Today four Ta'an Kwäch'än Council families, and in the future eight more, will call River Bend development 'home'. As Citizens experience the benefits of affordable housing, Ta'an Kwäch'än Council is proud to be part of solving the housing crisis in a concrete way. To reach this day, we appreciate the contributions of Citizen labourers, electricians, carpenters and contractors. We are grateful for the dedication of our corporation Da Daghay, and the strong collaborations with Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation, Yukon Housing Corporation, the City of Whitehorse, and the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce that have helped put bricks and mortar in place and opened doors for future agreements."

– Ta'an Kwäch'än Council Chief Kristina Kane

"We are delighted to announce the grand opening of River Bend today and showcase what successful partnerships can bring to the Yukon. This development is 100% locally sourced, on budget and ahead of schedule. Today marks a new chapter in Yukon development, and a major step forward in addressing the affordable housing crisis."

–CEO Ben Asquith, Da Daghay Development Corporation

"The City is pleased to have supported the River Bend project through our Development Incentives Policy. This is a proud day for the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council and its development corporation, as affordable housing is much needed in our city. These new units are a wonderful addition to Whistle Bend as it grows into one of our largest neighbourhoods."

–City of Whitehorse Mayor Dan Curtis

"We are honoured to support the River Bend project, an important initiative for Ta'an Kwäch'än community. We value the Da Daghay Development Corp. as our client, and want to congratulate all of the partners who have come together to make this development possible. On behalf of CIBC, we are delighted to be part of this initiative."

–Alicia Dubois, VP for Indigenous Markets, CIBC

Quick facts

- Rent in the River Bend Development will be "rent-geared-to-income". Rent-geared-to-income" is 25% of the total gross monthly household (combined) income.
- The Yukon Housing Corporation provided \$500,000 through the Northern Housing Trust Municipal Matching Rental Construction Grant to the Da Daghay Development Corporation for the construction of the River Bend housing development.
- 30 of 42 units will be allocated to clients on the Yukon Housing Corporation's waitlist.
- The Yukon Housing Corporation through the Canada-Yukon Investment in Affordable Housing Agreement is providing rent assistance for 30 units in the River Bend housing development to improve housing affordability for vulnerable Yukoners.
- The development will consist of three low maintenance, supergreen and high efficiency principle buildings, surrounded by forest

and an abundance of green space. Each building will contain 14 units ranging from 1-3 bedrooms.

Learn more: Yukon Housing Corporation, Da Daghay Development Corporation, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, City of Whitehorse

Contact:

Sunny Patch
Cabinet Communications
867-393-7478
sunny.patch@gov.yk.ca

Sarah Murray
Communications, Yukon Housing Corporation
867-667-8041
sarah.murray@gov.yk.ca

Ben Asquith
CEO, Da Daghay Development Corporation
867-332-7898
dadaghay@northwestel.net

News Release #17-228



Stay up to date with the latest Yukon government news by subscribing to our RSS feed here:
<http://www.gov.yk.ca/news/rss.html>. Or follow us on Twitter @yukongov.