



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA RELEASE

Aurora on the Park, permanent supportive housing for 25 formerly homeless and vulnerable Calgarians, is now ready to open its doors

Calgary's largest yarn-bombed house was demolished to make room for a fully accessible 25-unit apartment building, thanks to the Government of Alberta, StreetSide Development: A Qualico Company and other generous donors

Calgary, Alberta (November 24, 2016) – The RESOLVE Campaign, home builder StreetSide Developments: A Qualico Company and two RESOLVE Partners, the Calgary Homeless Foundation (CHF) and Calgary Alpha House Society, are celebrating the opening of Aurora on the Park (832 10 Street NW), the third new construction project to be completed through the RESOLVE Campaign.

The issue of homelessness in Calgary is intensified by a critical shortage of affordable and supported housing. Aurora on the Park will provide barrier-free, permanent supportive rental housing for 25 vulnerable and homeless Calgarians. The project was funded by provincial government grants and built by StreetSide Developments: A Qualico Company as part of a "Visionary" gift to the RESOLVE Campaign. In addition to the contributions made by the Government of Alberta and StreetSide Developments: A Qualico Company, Aurora on the Park was made possible by additional generous donors, including: the Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation; David and Leslie Bissett; Ryan and Joella Shoemaker; James Hardie Building Products; and True Exteriors Ltd.

"There is an urgent need in our city for affordable housing with support services. Aurora on the Park is a direct solution for 25 homeless and vulnerable Calgarians who will no longer have to worry about where they will sleep at night," said Deputy Chief Trevor Daroux of the Calgary Police Service, who is also a member of RESOLVE's Calgarians Committed to Change Cabinet as well as Vice-Chair of the Calgary Homeless Foundation. "Aurora on the Park will provide the tenants with safe, stable, affordable and barrier-free housing with the support they need to work towards rebuilding their lives."

The building is located in Hillhurst-SunnySide where there are many convenient amenities like public transportation and other services. The community has been very welcoming since the beginning of the project.

"This partnership of all levels of government, Calgary Home Builders and the RESOLVE Campaign continues to make ending homelessness possible in Calgary. Aurora on the Park represents more than just an accessible home for 25 individuals experiencing homelessness. It represents hope and a better future for them and for all Calgarians," said Diana Krecsy, President and CEO, Calgary Homeless Foundation.

Aurora on the Park is the third building to be completed in a series of purpose-built apartments that will be constructed by Calgary home builders for CHF through the RESOLVE Campaign. Calgary Alpha House Society will provide 24-hour on-site tenant support services under contract to CHF.

"People who are dealing with complex social issues who do not have housing can deteriorate quickly" says Kathy Christiansen, Executive Director of Calgary Alpha House Society. "We are so grateful at Calgary Alpha House Society to provide the support that Aurora on the Park tenants need to be able to heal and reclaim their potential."

Aurora on the Park is ready for the building's future tenants to move in as early as Nov. 25. The supports provided by Calgary Alpha House Society will include: 24-hour double-staffing, controlled entry, recreation therapy and other supports the tenants may need.

"Today we celebrate community and the opening of Aurora on the Park, a new affordable, fully accessible and supported home for 25 Calgarians who were formerly without a home. Every Calgarian deserves a place to call home and we are thrilled to have had the opportunity to be involved in this important initiative," says Glynn Hendry, Regional Vice President, Qualico Developments.

Constructing purpose-built housing for the homeless sector is complex because each individual has a different history and different needs. Aurora on the Park has been designed to promote community building with common rooms, shared dining rooms and meeting rooms.

The 25 tenants at Aurora on the Park will be provided with stability and security as they move from experiencing homelessness to having a place to call home.

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About Calgary Alpha House Society

Calgary Alpha House Society seeks to create safe and caring environments for men and women with alcohol and other drug dependencies. Alpha House provides a continuum of care to its clients through its programs; shelter, detox, housing and outreach. It provides harm reduction best practices based on a stage of change model to Calgarians made vulnerable and homeless due to the impact of addiction and related mental health issues. Alpha House is committed to providing clients with safe, supportive and sustainable housing.

About CHF

The Calgary Homeless Foundation is a catalyst and enabler for Systems and Service Agencies to optimize client success. As the System Planner for Calgary's Homeless-Serving System of Care, CHF focuses on research and development, mobilization of knowledge and best practices to support and expand community responses to ending homelessness, funding (outcomes and impact) and increasing public and political awareness and will to take collective action on ending homelessness. CHF is committed to moving forward in partnership with the many homeless-serving agencies, the private sector, government partners, the faith community, other foundations and all Calgarians to end homelessness in Calgary. For more information, visit calgaryhomeless.com

The RESOLVE Campaign

RESOLVE is a unique collaboration of nine Partner agencies raising \$120 million to create affordable and supported rental housing for 3,000 vulnerable and homeless Calgarians. The nine respected and established agencies have partnered with government, business and community leaders, all resolving to make Calgary a better home – for everyone. The RESOLVE Partners include: Accessible Housing; Bishop O'Byrne Housing Association; Calgary Alpha House Society; Calgary Homeless Foundation; Calgary John Howard Society; Horizon Housing Society; Silvera for Seniors; The Mustard Seed; and Trinity Place Foundation of Alberta. For more information, visit resolvecampaign.com

About StreetSide Developments: A Qualico Company

StreetSide Developments, an award winning division of Qualico, brings over 60 years of experience to the multi-family homebuilding industry. Our business is to develop and build comprehensive multi-family condominium communities in Calgary and surrounding areas. With a focus on quality, value and service, we are passionate about building lasting relationships with our customers.