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HOUSE OF COMMONS  
CANADA

**Maurice Vellacott, MP**  
**Saskatoon-Wanuskewin**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Government of Canada helps those who are homeless or at risk of homelessness in Saskatoon**

**SASKATOON, SASKATCHEWAN, September 22, 2010**—Thanks to support from the Government of Canada, women and children in need will benefit from increased space at an emergency shelter in the community of Saskatoon. Mr. Maurice Vellacott, Member of Parliament for Saskatoon–Wanuskewin, made the announcement today on behalf of the Honourable Diane Finley, Minister of Human Resources and Skills Development.

“Our government is giving a hand-up to Canadians with housing needs, and is helping those seeking to break free from the cycle of homelessness and poverty,” said Mr. Vellacott. “As a result of this investment, Lighthouse Supported Living Inc. will be able to help a greater number of homeless women and women with children gain access to emergency shelter and support services to help them get back on their feet.”

Lighthouse Supported Living Inc. will receive \$500,000 through the Government of Canada’s Homelessness Partnering Strategy to renovate its emergency shelter facility. The work will include transforming unused space into 20 additional emergency shelter units for homeless women and women with children and 6 offices where support services will be offered.

“Lighthouse Supported Living Inc. is an organization that provides services to Saskatoon’s homeless population,” said Mr. Don Windels, Executive Director of Lighthouse Supported Living Inc. “Funding provided by the Government of Canada is being used to develop an emergency women’s shelter and office space for our clientele

and staff. This type of housing bridges the gap from the streets to long-term safe and affordable housing. The shelter offers a safe and comfortable space for our clients,

while the offices give the Lighthouse staff an opportunity through programming to begin the process of helping our clients off the streets and into more sustainable housing.”

The Homelessness Partnering Strategy emphasizes longer-term supportive and transitional housing by focusing on a housing-first approach to help people make the transition out of the cycle of homelessness. The Government of Canada is investing over \$1.9 billion over five years, until 2014, for housing and homelessness programs for low-income Canadians.

Canada’s Economic Action Plan has built on these investments by making an additional one-time investment of more than \$2 billion over two years in new and existing social housing, and by making available up to \$2 billion in loans to Canadian municipalities over two years for housing-related infrastructure improvements. To learn more about Canada’s Economic Action Plan, please visit [www.actionplan.gc.ca](http://www.actionplan.gc.ca).

For more information on the Homelessness Partnering Strategy, please visit [www.hrsdc.gc.ca/homelessness](http://www.hrsdc.gc.ca/homelessness).

**For further comment, call (613) 992-1966 or (613) 297-2249**