

RELEASE

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Housing starts in Edmonton strengthen in January

Edmonton, February 8, 2012 – According to preliminary figures released today by Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC), housing starts in the Edmonton Census Metropolitan Area (CMA) increased in January to 578 units compared with 363 in January 2011. The increase occurred in both the single-detached and multi-family sectors.

Single-detached starts in January increased by 53 per cent year-over-year to 314 units, up from 205 in January 2011. “The gain represents a strong start to the year for Edmonton’s single-detached builders,” noted Richard Goatcher, CMHC’s Senior Market Analyst for Edmonton. “However, it should be noted that last year’s starts were hampered by heavy snow and cold temperatures which delayed production across the Capital region,” he added.

Multi-family starts, which consist of semi-detached units, rows, and apartments, increased by 67 per cent year-over-year in January to 264 units. Semi-detached starts in January, at 96 units, were double the tally a year prior. Row (townhouse) and apartment starts, meanwhile, increased from January of last year by 27 and 63 per cent, respectively. The 130 apartment units recorded in January were located in Edmonton City and were intended for the rental market.

As Canada’s national housing agency, CMHC draws on more than 65 years of experience to help Canadians access a variety of quality, environmentally sustainable and affordable housing solutions. 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 informed decisions.

For more information, visit www.cmhc.ca or call 1-800-668-2642. CMHC Market Analysis standard reports are also available free for download at www.cmhc.ca/housingmarketinformation.

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(Ce document existe également en français)

**Preliminary Housing Starts in Alberta
January 2012**

	Single-Detached			Multiple-Family			Total		
	2012	2011	%	2012	2011	%	2012	2011	%
Calgary CMA	336	293	14.7	450	225	--	786	518	51.7
Calgary City	271	199	36.2	426	223	91.0	697	422	65.2
Edmonton CMA	314	205	53.2	264	158	67.1	578	363	59.2
Edmonton City	227	118	92.4	239	66	--	466	184	--
Wood Buffalo CA	32	42	-23.8	6	2	--	38	44	-13.6
Grande Prairie CA*	14	16	**	2	4	**	16	20	**
Grande Prairie City	14	5	--	2	0	--	16	5	--
Lethbridge CA	25	55	-54.5	2	41	-95.1	27	96	-71.9
Medicine Hat CA	6	4	50.0	0	0	--	6	4	50.0
Red Deer CA	10	27	-63.0	2	2	0.0	12	29	-58.6
Total	727	615	**	724	430	**	1,451	1,045	**

Source: Market Analysis Centre, C.M.H.C.

-- % change equals or exceeds +/- 100%

* In 2012, Statistics Canada redefined the geographic boundaries for the Grande Prairie Census Agglomeration (CA). Effective January 2012, the following communities are no longer included in the Grande Prairie CA: Beaverlodge, Grande Prairie County, Hythe, Sexsmith, and Wembley.

** Year-over-year comparisons are not applicable due to geographic changes in the Grande Prairie CA effective January 2012.


