



## Welcoming New Residents to Benny Farm

**Montréal, September 30, 2004** – Canada Lands Company today held a ceremony to welcome new residents who will be moving to the Benny Farm site in the Notre-Dame-de-Grâce region of Montréal later this fall. This next generation of Benny Farm residents will bring new life to a community that was created in the late 1940s when the site was occupied by veterans and their families, many of whom still make their home there.

“This project is an outstanding example of how federal, provincial and municipal authorities have worked together with the local community to provide affordable housing in this area,” said Member of Parliament for Notre-Dame-de-Grâce-Lachine, Marlene Jennings. “This revitalization is key to a flourishing sustainable community in Montréal and this is a priority for the Government of Canada.”

In this phase of the redevelopment, three groups will provide cooperative and non-profit housing with the renovation or construction of approximately 110 units. The three first groups are Résidence Projet Chance II, providing housing for single mothers returning to school, Coopérative d’habitation zone d’opportunité, providing housing for young families, and Coopérative d’habitation Benny Farm, providing cooperative housing with mixed clientele. Once completed, the Benny Farm redevelopment will include approximately 550 affordable housing units for both rental and homeownership, including housing for seniors and young mothers. The redevelopment also includes two community service buildings for health, community and recreational services.

“Canada Lands’ consultative approach at Benny Farm has demonstrated how community input can be a valuable resource in improving the quality of a redevelopment rather than an obstacle,” said Kathy Milsom, President and CEO, Canada Lands. “The work performed by the members of the Benny Farm Task Force has set a very high standard for community input into how communities across Canada could be built.”

Canada Lands is a federal Crown corporation reactivated in 1995 to optimize the financial and community value obtained from surplus properties no longer required by the Government of Canada. The company is self-financing, pays taxes at all levels of government, and implements innovative property solutions to enhance the quality of life in communities where it operates. Since its inception, the company has distributed hundreds of millions of dollars to the Government of Canada as dividends, cash acquisitions and payment for properties.

-30-

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