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TORONTO FEBRUARY HOME STARTS - A MULTIPLE LOVE STORY

The February Seasonally Adjusted Annualized Rate (SAAR*) for housing starts in the Toronto CMA rose to 37,500 starts, up from 32,200 starts in January. The multiple family home starts segment contributed to the increase. February multiple family home starts jumped to 22,300 starts, up from 13,900 home starts in the previous month. Following some short-lived January strength, single detached starts continued their downtrend, dropping to 15,200 starts from January's 18,300 starts.

On a year-to-date basis, actual Toronto home starts are up over 19 per cent from the same period one year ago.

Rising home prices, particularly for single detached homes, are enticing prospective buyers to consider more modestly priced homes. Townhomes are a case in point. The market for resale townhomes is tight. Similarly, the high rise market has also tightened during the past year. Both home types have contributed to the recent rise in

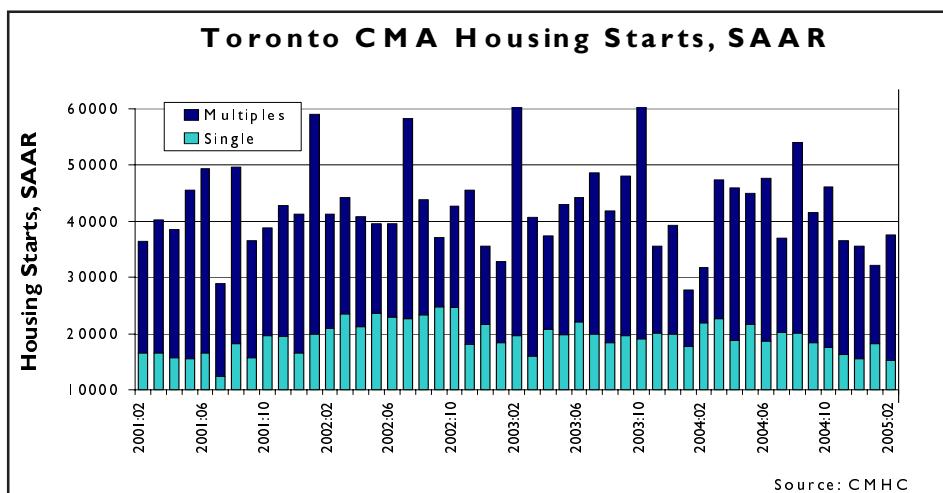
FEBRUARY 2005

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multiple starts. Multiples will lead the new construction market, particularly as detached prices continue to accelerate and low interest rates keep first time buyers active.

Nationally, housing starts rose to a seasonally adjusted annual rate (SAAR) of 214,900* units in February, up from 204,00 units in January. Urban multiples jumped by 16.2 per cent while urban singles dropped by 2.4 per cent.



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Table I: Housing Activity Summary for Toronto CMA

	OWNERSHIP					RENTAL		GRAND **TOTAL
	FREEHOLD		CONDOMINIUM			ROW	APT	
	*SINGLE	*SEMI	ROW	ROW	APT			
STARTS								
February 2005	767	242	353	211	599	40	84	2,296
February 2004	1,129	178	261	98	130	0	0	1,796
% Change	-32.1	36.0	35.2	115.3	**	NA	NA	27.8
Year-to-date 2005	1,653	454	646	253	845	40	86	3,977
Year-to-date 2004	1,953	452	495	172	258	0	2	3,332
% Change	-15.4	0.4	30.5	47.1	**	NA	**	19.4
Q4 2004	4,336	832	934	461	3,544	51	95	10,253
Q4 2003	5,229	1,180	1,283	157	3,796	96	368	12,109
% Change	-17.1	-29.5	-27.2	193.6	-6.6	-46.9	-74.2	-15.3
UNDER CONSTRUCTION								
February 2005	9,608	1,994	2,814	976	23,264	91	1,271	40,018
February 2004	9,996	2,553	2,796	548	19,257	317	1,725	37,192
COMPLETIONS								
February 2005	1,489	246	322	38	361	6	299	2,761
February 2004	1,363	308	186	177	363	0	0	2,397
% Change	9.2	-20.1	73.1	-78.5	-0.6	NA	NA	15.2
Year-to-date 2005	3,077	444	838	137	1,133	6	299	5,934
Year-to-date 2004	3,168	702	540	189	1,259	0	193	6,051
% Change	-2.9	-36.8	55.2	-27.5	-10.0	NA	54.9	-1.9
Q4 2004	5,237	1,116	1,165	431	2,911	10	9	10,879
Q4 2003	5,364	1,196	1,204	446	2,074	7	162	10,453
% Change	-2.4	-6.7	-3.2	-3.4	40.4	42.9	-94.4	4.1
COMPLETE & NOT ABSORBED								
February 2005	603	150	155	55	960	6	502	2,431
February 2004	399	138	88	37	410	0	327	1,399
ABSORPTIONS								
February 2005	1,525	219	346	43	565	11	109	2,818
February 2004	1,415	305	184	171	491	0	350	2,916
% Change	7.8	-28.2	88.0	-74.9	15.1	NA	-68.9	-3.4
Year-to-date 2005	3,071	421	867	149	988	11	118	5,625
Year-to-date 2004	3,274	727	532	184	1,359	0	647	6,723
% Change	-6.2	-42.1	63.0	-19.0	-27.3	NA	-81.8	-16.3
Q4 2004	5,058	1,176	1,084	389	2,458	19	27	10,211
Q4 2003	5,246	1,202	1,259	454	1,946	7	39	10,153
% Change	-3.6	-2.2	-13.9	-14.3	26.3	171.4	-30.8	0.6

*Includes all market types

** Year-over-year change greater than 200 per cent.

Source: CMHC



Table 2A: Starts by Area and by Intended Market - Current Month

Sub Market Area	SINGLES			MULTIPLES			TOTAL		
	Feb 04	Feb 05	% change	Feb 04	Feb 05	% change	Feb 04	Feb 05	% change
Greater Toronto Area	1,249	866	-30.7	752	1,591	111.6	2,001	2,457	22.8
Toronto City	108	159	47.2	22	674	**	130	833	**
Toronto	2	8	**	0	239	NA	2	247	**
East York	1	0	-100.0	0	0	NA	1	0	-100.0
Etobicoke	5	0	-100.0	0	46	NA	5	46	**
North York	2	42	**	0	364	NA	2	406	**
Scarborough	98	108	10.2	22	25	13.6	120	133	10.8
York	0	1	NA	0	0	NA	0	1	NA
York Region	434	202	-53.5	293	217	-25.9	727	419	-42.4
Aurora	19	2	-89.5	0	0	NA	19	2	-89.5
East Gwillimbury	15	1	-93.3	0	0	NA	15	1	-93.3
Georgina Township	12	3	-75.0	0	0	NA	12	3	-75.0
King Township	1	1	0.0	0	0	NA	1	1	0.0
Markham	231	88	-61.9	187	151	-19.3	418	239	-42.8
Newmarket	10	1	-90.0	54	0	-100.0	64	1	-98.4
Richmond Hill	54	81	50.0	25	30	20.0	79	111	40.5
Vaughan	77	17	-77.9	27	36	33.3	104	53	-49.0
Whitchurch-Stouffville	15	8	-46.7	0	0	NA	15	8	-46.7
Peel Region	376	280	-25.5	314	537	71.0	690	817	18.4
Brampton	282	220	-22.0	49	68	38.8	331	288	-13.0
Caledon	11	4	-63.6	4	0	-100.0	15	4	-73.3
Mississauga	83	56	-32.5	261	469	79.7	344	525	52.6
Halton Region	162	105	-35.2	120	125	4.2	282	230	-18.4
Burlington	46	59	28.3	85	62	-27.1	131	121	-7.6
Halton Hills	80	4	-95.0	21	0	-100.0	101	4	-96.0
Milton	12	19	58.3	8	59	**	20	78	**
Oakville	24	23	-4.2	6	4	-33.3	30	27	-10.0
Durham Region	169	120	-29.0	3	38	**	172	158	-8.1
Ajax	66	36	-45.5	3	10	**	69	46	-33.3
Brock	0	0	NA	0	0	NA	0	0	NA
Clarington	48	37	-22.9	0	0	NA	48	37	-22.9
Oshawa	24	8	-66.7	0	0	NA	24	8	-66.7
Pickering	3	10	**	0	28	NA	3	38	**
Scugog	0	0	NA	0	0	NA	0	0	NA
Uxbridge	1	19	**	0	0	NA	1	19	**
Whitby	27	10	-63.0	0	0	NA	27	10	-63.0
Rest of Toronto CMA	25	15	-40.0	0	0	NA	25	15	-40.0
Bradford West Gwillimbury	2	2	0.0	0	0	NA	2	2	0.0
Town of Mono	0	2	NA	0	0	NA	0	2	NA
New Tecumseth	1	5	**	0	0	NA	1	5	**
Orangeville	22	6	-72.7	0	0	NA	22	6	-72.7

Source: CMHC

**Change greater than 200 per cent

Table 2B: Starts by Area and by Intended Market- Year-to-Date

Sub Market Area	SINGLES			MULTIPLES			TOTAL		
	YTD 2004	YTD 2005	% change	YTD 2004	YTD 2005	% change	YTD 2004	YTD 2005	% change
Greater Toronto Area	2,139	1,808	-15.5	1,492	2,420	62.2	3,631	4,228	16.4
Toronto City	324	236	-27.2	67	821	**	391	1,057	170.3
Toronto	11	10	-9.1	14	245	**	25	255	**
East York	1	1	0.0	0	0	NA	1	1	0.0
Etobicoke	7	2	-71.4	0	48	NA	7	50	**
North York	16	59	**	10	495	**	26	554	**
Scarborough	288	163	-43.4	43	33	-23.3	331	196	-40.8
York	1	1	0.0	0	0	NA	1	1	0.0
York Region	678	573	-15.5	544	630	15.8	1,222	1,203	-1.6
Aurora	34	9	-73.5	3	0	-100.0	37	9	-75.7
East Gwillimbury	23	5	-78.3	61	27	-55.7	84	32	-61.9
Georgina Township	30	20	-33.3	0	0	NA	30	20	-33.3
King Township	12	3	-75.0	0	0	NA	12	3	-75.0
Markham	316	200	-36.7	257	216	-16.0	573	416	-27.4
Newmarket	15	5	-66.7	66	11	-83.3	81	16	-80.2
Richmond Hill	83	163	96.4	61	261	**	144	424	194.4
Vaughan	149	142	-4.7	96	115	19.8	245	257	4.9
Whitchurch-Stouffville	16	26	62.5	0	0	NA	16	26	62.5
Peel Region	645	464	-28.1	530	713	34.5	1,175	1,177	0.2
Brampton	465	340	-26.9	125	86	-31.2	590	426	-27.8
Caledon	23	22	-4.3	14	8	-42.9	37	30	-18.9
Mississauga	157	102	-35.0	391	619	58.3	548	721	31.6
Halton Region	223	265	18.8	291	165	-43.3	514	430	-16.3
Burlington	56	86	53.6	125	67	-46.4	181	153	-15.5
Halton Hills	85	54	-36.5	43	12	-72.1	128	66	-48.4
Milton	18	45	150.0	12	69	**	30	114	**
Oakville	64	80	25.0	111	17	-84.7	175	97	-44.6
Durham Region	269	270	0.4	60	91	51.7	329	361	9.7
Ajax	77	103	33.8	14	10	-28.6	91	113	24.2
Brock	0	0	NA	0	0	NA	0	0	NA
Clarington	71	45	-36.6	0	35	NA	71	80	12.7
Oshawa	52	21	-59.6	0	0	NA	52	21	-59.6
Pickering	6	34	**	46	46	0.0	52	80	53.8
Scugog	0	0	NA	0	0	NA	0	0	NA
Uxbridge	5	19	**	0	0	NA	5	19	**
Whitby	58	48	-17.2	0	0	NA	58	48	-17.2
Rest of Toronto CMA	51	45	-11.8	12	6	-50.0	63	51	-19.0
Bradford West Gwillimbury	5	21	**	12	4	-66.7	17	25	47.1
Town of Mono	0	7	NA	0	0	NA	0	7	NA
New Tecumseth	4	6	50.0	0	2	NA	4	8	100.0
Orangeville	42	11	-73.8	0	0	NA	42	11	-73.8

Source: CMHC

**Change greater than 200 per cent.

Table 3: Average Price (\$) of Completed and Absorbed Single-Detached Dwellings (\$)

Sub Market Area	Feb 04	Feb 05	% change	YTD 2004	YTD 2005	% change
Toronto CMA	361,862	402,608	11.3	356,123	398,674	11.9
Ajax, Pickering, Uxbridge	312,996	336,476	7.5	306,639	338,420	10.4
Brampton, Caledon	311,935	365,101	17.0	309,255	366,278	18.4
Toronto	570,819	521,441	-8.7	535,828	489,863	-8.6
Mississauga	367,588	469,333	27.7	371,190	459,436	23.8
Oakville, Milton, Halton Hills	332,984	350,641	5.3	345,113	362,327	5.0
Richmond Hill	388,033	407,068	4.9	388,049	405,986	4.6
Vaughan	385,103	481,871	25.1	387,164	476,981	23.2
Markham	333,279	385,876	15.8	341,780	368,649	7.9

** Year-over-year change greater than 200 per cent.

Note: NA may appear where CMHC data suppression rules apply

Source: CMHC

Table 4: Completed and Absorbed Single-Detached Units by Price Range

AREA	PRICE RANGES										TOTAL
	<\$249,999		\$250-\$299,999		\$300-\$399,999		\$400-\$499,999		\$500,000 +		
	Units	Share (%)	Units	Share (%)	Units	Share (%)	Units	Share (%)	Units	Share (%)	
Toronto CMA											
February 2005	38	2.5	212	13.9	704	46.2	407	26.7	164	10.8	1,525
February 2004	138	9.8	402	28.4	617	43.6	143	10.1	115	8.1	1,415
YTD 2005	88	2.9	406	13.2	1,483	48.3	741	24.1	353	11.5	3,071
YTD 2004	328	10.0	857	26.2	1,476	45.1	369	11.3	244	7.5	3,274
Ajax, Pickering, Uxbridge											
February 2005	13	13.0	16	16.0	52	52.0	19	19.0	0	0.0	100
February 2004	11	25.6	10	23.3	19	44.2	3	7.0	0	0.0	43
YTD 2005	28	17.8	24	15.3	71	45.2	31	19.7	3	1.9	157
YTD 2004	41	27.5	34	22.8	57	38.3	16	10.7	1	0.7	149
Brampton, Caledon											
February 2005	9	2.4	58	15.5	209	56.0	74	19.8	23	6.2	373
February 2004	18	5.2	148	42.7	157	45.2	18	5.2	6	1.7	347
YTD 2005	9	1.2	123	15.7	459	58.7	136	17.4	55	7.0	782
YTD 2004	33	4.1	340	42.6	386	48.4	30	3.8	9	1.1	798
Toronto											
February 2005	3	1.6	33	18.1	69	37.9	25	13.7	52	28.6	182
February 2004	26	16.8	42	27.1	22	14.2	8	5.2	57	36.8	155
YTD 2005	3	0.8	61	16.6	146	39.8	77	21.0	80	21.8	367
YTD 2004	36	11.9	85	28.1	60	19.9	14	4.6	107	35.4	302
Mississauga											
February 2005	0	0.0	1	0.9	41	36.6	49	43.8	21	18.8	112
February 2004	2	2.6	17	21.8	41	52.6	11	14.1	7	9.0	78
YTD 2005	0	0.0	1	0.5	70	31.5	110	49.5	41	18.5	222
YTD 2004	3	1.5	51	25.1	104	51.2	20	9.9	25	12.3	203
Oakville, Milton, Halton Hills											
February 2005	6	3.2	55	29.1	81	42.9	44	3	3	1.6	189
February 2004	26	14.4	59	32.6	57	31.5	23	12.7	16	8.8	181
YTD 2005	20	5.5	86	23.7	143	39.4	91	25.1	23	6.3	363
YTD 2004	76	16.0	128	26.9	165	34.7	62	13.1	44	9.3	475
Richmond Hill											
February 2005	0	0.0	3	1.4	119	56.4	72	34.1	17	8.1	211
February 2004	0	0.0	4	3.6	75	67.0	26	23.2	7	6.3	112
YTD 2005	0	0.0	3	0.9	215	62.1	91	26.3	37	10.7	346
YTD 2004	0	0.0	7	3.2	139	64.1	58	26.7	13	6.0	217
Vaughan											
February 2005	0	0.0	0	0.0	8	9.4	51	60.0	26	30.6	85
February 2004	0	0.0	15	17.0	38	43.2	28	31.8	7	8.0	88
YTD 2005	0	0.0	0	0.0	40	18.4	111	51.2	66	30.4	217
YTD 2004	1	0.3	40	12.9	144	46.5	104	33.5	21	6.8	310
Markham											
February 2005	0	0.0	10	6.8	74	50.3	59	40.1	4	2.7	147
February 2004	10	3.9	66	25.6	158	61.2	24	9.3	0	0.0	258
YTD 2005	2	0.6	26	7.6	242	70.6	68	19.8	5	1.5	343
YTD 2004	12	2.6	84	18.1	327	70.3	42	9.0	0	0.0	465

Source: CMHC

Table 5A: Resale Housing Activity for Toronto Real Estate Board

	Number of Sales	Yr/Yr %	Sales SAAR	Number of New Listings	New Listings SAAR	Sales-to-New Listings SA	Average Price (\$)	Yr/Yr %	Average Price (\$) SA	
2004	January	4,256	-3.3	78,300	10,020	136,200	57.5	295,989	5.2	305,494
	February	6,060	1.6	77,500	11,117	133,200	58.2	310,190	7.0	311,182
	March	9,076	29.9	92,500	14,641	138,300	66.9	307,155	5.8	302,154
	April	9,168	25.5	90,100	14,658	141,000	63.9	321,131	9.7	303,728
	May	9,193	14.6	87,000	15,120	150,500	57.8	325,501	9.1	335,983
	June	9,267	15.4	91,900	14,719	152,100	60.4	316,495	7.3	300,946
	July	7,314	-9.5	86,500	12,017	149,400	57.9	312,560	7.8	303,656
	August	6,743	3.0	85,200	11,764	156,200	54.6	304,159	6.6	329,631
	September	6,588	-2.3	82,400	14,107	151,800	54.3	320,926	8.0	319,441
	October	6,656	-7.9	79,200	12,392	153,100	51.7	324,278	6.4	329,433
	November	6,301	7.8	85,200	9,565	146,500	58.1	318,837	5.7	323,148
	December	4,232	0.9	82,500	4,903	132,000	62.5	315,761	10.8	321,193
2005	January	4,154	-2.4	79,800	10,856	153,000	52.2	323,220	9.2	347,941
	February	6,172	1.8	81,500	11,679	145,400	56.0	334,254	7.8	334,421
	March									
	April									
	May									
	June									
	July									
	August									
	September									
	October									
	November									
	December									
Q4 2003	17,268	10.8	81,044	25,114	135,280	59.9	298,919	6.5	300,417	
Q4 2004	17,189	-0.5	82,296	26,860	143,884	57.2	320,187	7.1	324,511	
YTD 2004	10,316	-0.5		21,137			304,331	6.3		
YTD 2005	10,326	0.1		22,535			329,815	8.4		

	Annual Sales	Yr/Yr %		Annual New Listings	Yr/Yr %		Annual Average Price (\$)	Yr/Yr %	
1995	48,280	-10.3		99,054	-0.5		195,311	-2.1	
1996	58,283	20.7		94,157	-4.9		196,476	0.6	
1997	58,841	1.0		88,894	-5.6		210,453	7.1	
1998	55,360	-5.9		85,709	-3.6		216,795	3.0	
1999	58,957	6.5		84,285	-1.7		228,372	5.3	
2000	58,349	-1.0		89,463	6.1		243,249	6.5	
2001	67,612	15.9		101,800	13.8		251,508	3.4	
2002	74,759	10.6		109,819	7.9		275,887	9.7	
2003	79,366	6.2		132,819	20.9		293,308	6.3	
2004	84,854	6.9		145,023	9.2		315,266	7.5	

Source: Canadian Real Estate Association

Table 5B: Average Price (\$) of Resale Single-Detached Dwellings

Area	Feb 04	Feb 05	% Change	YTD 2004	YTD 2005	% Change
Toronto CMA	412,801	431,721	4.6	402,965	432,137	7.2
Ajax, Pickering, Uxbridge	303,255	330,088	8.8	297,684	322,171	8.2
Brampton, Caledon	305,842	323,463	5.8	301,894	324,005	7.3
Toronto	497,263	502,253	1.0	471,215	497,434	5.6
Mississauga	402,252	431,438	7.3	391,118	446,565	14.2
Oakville, Milton, Halton Hills	401,882	461,296	14.8	396,751	447,235	12.7
Richmond Hill	439,731	483,216	9.9	441,902	480,333	8.7
Vaughan	410,880	450,395	9.6	412,164	460,284	11.7
Markham	436,534	442,109	1.3	429,795	435,844	1.4

** Year-over-year change greater than 200 per cent.

Source: CMHC

Table 6: Economic Indicators

	Interest and Exchange Rates				Inflation Rate (%)	NHIPI*** % chg	Toronto CMA Labour Market		
	P & I* Per \$100,000	Mortgage Rate (%)		Exch Rate (\$US/\$Cdn)	Ontario 1996=100	Toronto CMA 1997=100	Employment SA** (,000)	Employment SA m/m (%)	Unemployment Rate (%) SA
		1 Yr. Term	5 Yr. Term						
2004									
January	642.78	4.3	6.1	0.755	1.7	5.4	2657.8	0.2	7.4
February	627.97	4.3	5.8	0.749	1.2	5.4	2676.1	0.7	7.3
March	622.08	4.3	5.7	0.763	1.2	5.5	2679.1	0.1	7.5
April	648.75	4.5	6.2	0.729	1.8	6.2	2693.8	0.5	7.5
May	669.82	4.6	6.5	0.733	2.8	6.3	2705.1	0.4	7.7
June	681.99	4.7	6.7	0.750	2.3	7.0	2719.4	0.5	7.5
July	672.86	4.6	6.6	0.752	2.0	6.6	2724.2	0.2	7.6
August	657.75	4.4	6.3	0.762	1.3	6.4	2726.0	0.1	7.5
September	657.75	4.8	6.3	0.793	1.4	6.1	2713.5	-0.5	7.5
October	663.77	4.9	6.4	0.821	1.6	5.9	2707.7	-0.2	7.5
November	657.75	5.0	6.3	0.843	1.5	5.1	2703.6	-0.2	7.4
December	642.78	4.8	6.1	0.832	1.1	5.3	2704.2	0.0	7.6
2005									
January	642.78	4.8	6.1	0.806	0.0	5.2	2701.2	-0.1	7.5
February	642.78	4.8	6.1	0.811			2690.8	-0.4	7.6
March									
April									
May									
June									
July									
August									
September									
October									
November									
December									

* Principal and Interest Payment assumes a five year mortgage rate and 25 year amortization period

** Seasonally Adjusted

*** New Housing Price Index

Source: CMHC, Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey

Definitions

- 1. Starts:** refers to units where construction has advanced to a stage where full (100%) footings are in place. For multiple dwellings (semi-detached, row housing and apartments) the definition of a start applies to the structure or block of row units rather than to the project as a whole.
- 2. Under Construction:** those units which have been started but which are not complete.
- 3. Completions - Single-detached/semi-detached units:** this generally is the stage at which all proposed construction work is complete. A unit may be completed at the 90% stage where the remaining work is largely cosmetic. **Row housing/ Apartment:** completions means that 90% or more of the dwelling units within a block of row units or an apartment structure are completed and ready for occupancy
- 4. Completed and Not Absorbed:** all completed units of new construction (excluding model homes not available for sale) which have never been sold or leased.
- 5. Absorptions:** the number of completed units (excluding model homes) that have been sold or leased.
- 6. Seasonally Adjusted (SA):** Actual monthly (or quarterly) figures adjusted to remove normal seasonal variation.
- 7. Seasonally Adjust Annual Rates (SAAR):** Seasonally adjusted monthly figures multiplied by 12 (or quarterly figures multiplied by 4) to reflect annualized levels of activity..
- 8. Definitions for CMA, NHPI, CPI, and Inflation Rate** can be found in the Statistics Canada website - <http://www.statcan.ca>

Your Guide to Renting a Home – CMHC's new, online guide for tenants, landlords, and property managers

CMHC is breaking new ground with the introduction of “Your Guide to Renting a Home”. A comprehensive rental guide, developed by the Research and Information Transfer team, this free, online tool launched this spring. It will help the estimated four million Canadian households in rental accommodation, as well as landlords and property managers, to find plain language information on tenant and landlord rights and rental practices across the country.

“Your Guide to Renting a Home” is located on the CMHC Web site at www.cmhc.ca. From the left-hand menu, you can select “Buying or Renting a Home” and click on “Renting a Home”.

Ontario's 2004 Retirement Homes Report

Do you want to learn more about the dynamic private retirement home market in Ontario? The 2004 Retirement Homes Report has detailed Ontario-wide survey findings by market area covering vacancy rates and per diems by bed type, capture rates, new supply and vacancy rates by rent range for private beds as well as rent distributions. Order your copy today by calling **1-800-493-0059**.

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