



*****MEDIA RELEASE*****

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July 18, 2007

MOSS, LOWE, HAWN, & FRITZ TO OPEN *JOEY'S HOME*
Winnifred Stewart Association Celebrates Completion of One-of-a-Kind
Living for People with Developmental Disabilities

Edmonton, AB – On Wednesday, July 18, the Winnifred Stewart Association (WSA) will hold a grand opening ceremony for *Joey's Home*, a unique new facility featuring a combination of assisted and independent living for individuals with developmental disabilities. Among the speakers at the event will be Laurie Hawn, MP Edmonton-Centre, Yvonne Fritz, Associate Minister of Affordable Housing and Urban Development, Martin Garber-Conrad, Chair of the Edmonton Housing Trust Fund, and Kevin Lowe, General Manager of the Edmonton Oilers.

After several years of planning and a full year of construction, the opening of *Joey's Home* is a major accomplishment for all partners involved, a significant addition to the city of Edmonton and a life-changing experience for the soon-to-be residents of the facility. The celebration of this milestone will take place from 11:00 am–12:30 pm in front of *Joey's Home* (11117–132 Street) and will conclude with tours of the facility.

Both Larry Smook, WSA's CEO, and Ralph Hutchinson, President of Daytona Homes (a major partner in the *Joey's Home* project) will be in attendance. "We've been developing *Joey's Home* for years," says Smook. "Naming the home in honour of Joe Moss was the perfect final touch on what we all felt was a phenomenal project. Basically, we wanted a name that would best reflect our association's dedication to providing clients with resources for life, as well as our long-standing relationship with the Edmonton Oilers Hockey Club."

Joey's Home was made possible by the support of over 200 associations, companies and individuals, including Daytona Homes, Edmonton Housing Trust Fund, the Government of Canada, trade suppliers, business associates, grants (e.g., Allard Foundation, Kristie Charitable Foundation, Melton Foundation) and the *Joey's Home* Trust, established by Wayne Gretzky in 1988.

"The Government of Canada, in partnership with the Edmonton Housing Trust Fund, is proud to support community efforts to help persons with developmental disabilities live as independently as possible", said Laurie Hawn, Member of Parliament for Edmonton Centre. "It's amazing the results achieved when the private sector, community organizations and governments work together to build great places such as *Joey's Home*."

"The Trust Fund is proud to be a part of this special project that will greatly benefit persons with developmental disabilities and ensure they receive the quality of life they so richly deserve, in a safe, supportive and affordable environment," said Edmonton Housing and Trust Fund Chair Martin Garber-Conrad.

The 8,000 square-foot facility will also be open for public viewing on Friday, July 20 and Saturday, July 21 from 1 to 5 pm. WSA expects to have residents moving in August 2007.

WINNIFRED STEWART ASSOCIATION BACKGROUND:

The Winnifred Stewart Association (WSA) has been enhancing the quality of lives for people with developmental disabilities since 1953. Today, the WSA is an innovator in working with aging adults with developmental disabilities. Over the course of their adult life, clients and their families benefit from WSA's customized programs designed to meet the diverse and changing needs of people with developmental disabilities.

The Winnifred Stewart Association's core programs include the following:

- Residential services
- Recreation and leisure programs
- Employment training

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