

Tracking the housing promises: Status report shows federal government slow in allocating housing funding promised in 2008 and 2009

May 29, 2009

The federal government promised \$1.9 billion over five years on September 4, 2009, for three federal programs that were due to expire at the end of March 2009. Nine months on (and a month after funding for the federal homelessness initiative, the housing renovation plan and the affordable housing initiative expired), *the federal government has allocated \$81.7 million - about 4% of the total amount promised* in September of 2008.

Canada's federal budget of January 29, 2009 promised \$2.075 billion over two years. Most of the 2009 federal dollars require matching funding from the provinces, and some of the 2008 dollars require matching funding. Virtually all of the 2009 dollars are tightly tied to specific federal priorities and cannot be used for housing needs identified by local communities. Four months on, *the federal government has allocated \$884.3 million – about 43% of the total amount promised* in January of 2009. Funding agreements have not yet been signed with half the Canadian provinces, including the biggest by population (Ontario, Quebec, British Columbia, Alberta and Manitoba).

Date and province	Amounts ¹
May 29, 2009² Federal/New Brunswick \$99 million	(2009) Federal - \$37.3m // NB - \$37.3m (2008) Federal - \$15.7m // NB - \$8.7m
May 24, 2009³ Unilateral federal \$150 million	Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation to deliver \$150m of \$1b social housing repair fund directly to federally administered projects

¹ Calculations by Wellesley Institute based on information from Government of Canada media releases.

² <http://www.cmhc-schl.gc.ca/en/corp/nero/nere/2009/2009-05-29-0800.cfm>

³ <http://www.cmhc-schl.gc.ca/en/corp/nero/nere/2009/2009-05-24-1330.cfm>

May 22, 2009⁴ Federal/Yukon/Nunavut/NWT \$294 million	(2009) Federal - \$212m // Territories - \$65m (2008) Federal - \$10m // Territories - \$7m
May 22, 2009⁵ Federal/Newfoundland Labrador \$93 million	(2009) Federal - \$29m // NL - \$29m (2008) Federal - \$14m // NL - \$21m
May 22, 2009⁶ Federal/Prince Edward Island \$13 million	(2009) Federal - \$4m // PEI - \$4m (2008) Federal - \$3m // PEI - \$2m
May 19, 2009⁷ Federal / Saskatchewan \$161 million	(2009) Federal - \$66m // SK- \$66m (2008) Federal - \$18m // SK - \$11m
April 29, 2009⁸ Federal/Nova Scotia \$128 million	(2009) Federal - \$48m // NS - \$48m (2008) Federal - \$21m // NS - \$11m
April 27, 2009⁹ Federal/On-reserve Aboriginal \$400 million	(2009) CMHC - \$125m new supply (2009) CMHC - \$125m repair and rehab (2009) INAC - \$150m

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⁴ <http://www.cmhc-schl.gc.ca/en/corp/nero/nere/2009/2009-05-22-1500c.cfm>

⁵ <http://www.cmhc-schl.gc.ca/en/corp/nero/nere/2009/2009-05-22-1230.cfm>

⁶ <http://www.cmhc-schl.gc.ca/en/corp/nero/nere/2009/2009-05-22-1200.cfm>

⁷ <http://www.cmhc-schl.gc.ca/en/corp/nero/nere/2009/2009-05-19-1300.cfm>

⁸ <http://www.cmhc-schl.gc.ca/en/corp/nero/nere/2009/2009-04-29-0845.cfm>

⁹ <http://www.cmhc-schl.gc.ca/en/corp/nero/nere/2009/2009-04-27-1100.cfm>