



Plainfield Community Homes

A Non-Profit, Charitable Organization

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEW HOME FOR PLAINFIELD COMMUNITY HOMES

BELLEVILLE, ON, October 21, 2003 – A Ground Breaking Ceremony was held today to officially launch construction of a new building for Plainfield Community Homes, to house its Administrative Offices and a Day Options Program. The new 7500 sq. ft. building is being constructed by Mirtren Contractors Ltd. on Millennium Parkway, a new commercial development located just north of Highway 401. Ray Zaback of Shoalts & Zaback Architects Ltd. has designed the building and it is expected that the building will be ready to move into by the end of March 2004.

Plainfield Community Homes President Martha Carr said: *“After several years of dreaming and envisioning a new building for Plainfield Community Homes, this day marks an auspicious milestone for the organization. Our new building will provide for us a permanent place in this community and, as a result, we will become a greater and more integral part of the community of Belleville.”*

Candy Davidson, Secretary/Treasurer for Plainfield Community Homes and member of the Building Committee said: *“This building will significantly reduce our overall operating expenditures and it is gratifying to know that we can use those saved dollars to build on our supports for people with disabilities.”*

Says **John Klassen, Executive Director of Plainfield Community Homes**, *“This is a very exciting time for all of us at Plainfield Community Homes. We have been planning to relocate for several years now but, up until now, we had been unable to find a suitable location. The office space that we currently occupy has become inadequate as a result of the exponential growth we have experienced over the last ten (10) years. Also of particular concern is the fact that our current office space is totally inaccessible and, given the mandate and mission of Plainfield Community Homes as a service provider for people with complex and challenging physical and developmental disabilities, this was not an ideal situation.”*

Plainfield Community Homes, located in Belleville, Ontario, has provided care and assistance to people with complex medical and developmental needs for over fifty (50) years. It is a multi-service organization that currently provides a range of supports to over 100 children and adults, many of whom have complex and challenging needs. We provide around the clock staffing support to over 80 individuals with developmental disabilities in 14 homes in the Belleville area. We also provide out-of-home respite services to 15 families and we provide supervision to a number of Family Home Providers who support individuals with a developmental disability in their own homes. We provide trained staff at two Day Options Programs, where we deliver a range of social, recreational and other meaningful community options. These activities often promote new opportunities for greater community involvement and enrich the quality of the lives of the individuals whom we support. Plainfield employs about 200 people and has an annual budget of over \$8 million, funded mainly by the Ontario Ministry of Community, Family and Children's Services.

- 30 -

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Patti Gillman, Executive Assistant

Plainfield Community Homes, Belleville, ON

Telephone: (613) 969-7407, Ext. 30