Pleasantvale Groundbreaking Monday, Dec. 15, 2014 CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

ACKNOWLEDGE: MP Ron Cannan Mayor Colin Basran (TBC)

For 60 years now, the Rotary Club of Kelowna has been providing a safe, welcoming place for seniors to call home here at Pleasantvale.

But as boomers age...demand will continue to grow.

The Pleasantvale Home Society knew they needed to expand – and that they could use some help.

So, in 2011, the property was transferred to BC Housing.

We partnered with the City of Kelowna, which provided more land.

It's about providing affordable housing for seniors, and families that could use a hand up.

That's why I'm proud to be here today to help break ground on this project.

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The expanded Pleasantvale development will see the existing 50 units of seniors' housing replaced with modern, comfortable living space...

With 20 new, affordable rental townhomes for families with low-to-moderate incomes.

I want to thank the Pleasantvale Homes Society, the Society of Hope, the City of Kelowna and the Government of Canada for partnering with us to make this redevelopment a reality.

Last year alone, our government invested over \$10.6 million in subsidized housing and rent supplements for around 3,000 households in Kelowna.

That's in addition to more than \$5 million we invested in Kelowna last year...to support more than 560 housing units for people who were homeless or at risk of homelessness.

A growing economy means fewer people in need... but it also means we can better afford to help those who still face challenges. It means we can invest in safe housing for seniors to live independently as long as possible...

And provide a stable, secure, and affordable home for families in need.

When government, local partners, and the community work together, we can make a real change... For the people who need it most.

Because a roof over their head is the first step to a brighter, healthier future.

Thank you.

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