

Constructors join forces for homeless housing

DCN News Services December 12, 2017

TORONTO — Toronto's St. Clare's Multifaith Housing Society has announced the launch of construction on the city's first purpose-built homes for homeless people in more than 10 years.

Twenty-two new apartments are being built to house street people on an infill site thanks in part to donations from over a dozen construction firms, associations and trade unions, noted a Dec. 6 media statement.

An excavator broke ground the week of Dec. 4 in preparation for spring construction on a small strip of land beside St. Clare's existing building on Leonard Avenue, east of Bathurst Street. The three-storey project was also supported by government funding.

Corporate donors participating in a \$1-million fundraising effort are Aspen Ridge; Brown Group; Great Gulf Homes; Greenpark Homes; the Heavy Construction Association of Toronto; Laurier Homes; Liberty Development; Lindvest; LIUNA Local 183; LIUNA Ontario Provincial District Council; Mattamy Homes; Menkes; the Ontario Formwork Association; Silvercore; Tridel; and Yorkwood.

The City of Toronto is assisting the project with a \$500,000 capital grant through its Open Door Program and waiving municipal fees and development charges. The statement also cited the support of the **Residential Construction Council of Ontario (RESCON)**.

Phil Rubinoff, RESCON chairman emeritus, said in the statement, "We chose to support this project because we believe the construction industry should give back. St. Clare's is a caring and effective organization that we respect, and we know that they have the right leadership to steer this project to success."