

# Province seeks developers for new apartments

Ontario's housing ministry is seeking builders to construct 100 rental apartments for low and moderate income families in York Region.

The proposal, which calls for 340 new units in five municipalities, is part of the Renterprise program of the ministry's Assured Housing for Ontario strategy.

"Renterprise has already helped to spur the construction of almost 4,700 rental apartments in 38 municipalities across Ontario," housing minister Alvin Curling said in a news release. "This additional allocation will help more families in areas such as York Region with low rental vacancy rates."

Fifteen-year, interest-free loans will be offered to builders, with amounts depending on project costs and first-mortgage financing at market interest rates.

These loans will help bridge the gap between economic and mar-

ket rents, according to the minister.

Mr. Curling claimed up to 40 per cent of the proposed apartments will be allocated to needy families, which will pay rents based on their incomes rather than on the size of the accommodation.

Renterprise is an example of the public and private sectors working together to stimulate rental construction in areas with low vacancy rates and a need for rent-geared-to-income housing, he added.

"Part of our Assured Housing for Ontario strategy is to make basic, affordable housing available to all in Ontario," Mr. Curling said. "Renterprise is an important element of this strategy."

Builders requiring further information on the Renterprise program can contact the Toronto regional office of Ontario Housing Corporation at (416) 224-7641 or the Ministry of Housing in Toronto at 585-6363.

# Seniors plan fall outings

Claremont's senior citizens' club met Sept. 4 to plan a busy fall agenda that includes outings to Peterborough and Haliburton.

President Doris Wilson welcomed 18 members during the session held at the group's clubhouse.

On Thursday, Sept. 18, club members will entertain Goodwood seniors for a potluck luncheon beginning at noon.

A V.O.N. representative will speak in Claremont Sept. 18, Oct. 16 and Nov. 20 on the topics of foot care, nutrition, managing your medication, mouth and dental care, safety and accident prevention. The 11:15 a.m. information sessions are free to all seniors.

The north Pickering seniors have planned a trip to Peterborough and Haliburton on Monday, Sept. 22. For more information contact Violet Boniface at 649-2175.

Regular club meetings are held the first (1:30 p.m.) and third (noon for potluck lunch) Thursday of each month.

# Counselling for infertile couples

A Markham woman and a counsellor from the Markham Family Life Centre are back by popular demand to give help to parents who can't have children.

Nancy Sues and Joan Shaw will lead another 16 parents in their infertility counselling and support group this fall.

The group was initiated last spring and both women were surprised by the way participants opened up to each other so quickly.

"The very first night, we could hardly get them out the door. They were so glad to have found each other," Mrs. Shaw said.

Infertility is an especially delicate problem, she and her partner explained, because bearing children is the expected outcome of marriage. Most people don't understand that some couples are not childless by choice, but by circumstances beyond their control.

## A chance to share feelings

The group allows them to talk to others facing the same or similar circumstances.

A Markham woman who participated in the last session appreciated this: "It was the first time I've been able to walk into a room and say this is how I feel, and have others say, 'I know what you mean.'"

She said people who can have children don't understand the anguish infertility causes.

"They say silly things like, 'you can have my kids for the weekend' and they don't realize how much it cuts us."

The woman, who asked to remain anonymous, added that while circumstances may differ, the group members share the same feelings.

The course is not designed to teach couples how to have children, although updated medical information is discussed and guest speakers can be scheduled at the parents' request.

Last spring's group still meets on a social basis once a month.

Mrs. Sues is a teacher at Reesor Park Public School who faced infertility problems several years ago. Mrs. Shaw is a primary therapist with experience in family, marital and individual counselling.

The group begins meeting Wednesday, Oct. 1 at 7:30 p.m. and will get together every Wednesday until December 3 at the Milliken branch of Markham Family Life Centre, 1151 Denison St. near Warden and Steeles Aves.

## Enrollment kept low

Enrollment is restricted to about 16 people, so call early to register. Singles are welcome, but Mrs. Sues and Mrs. Shaw encourage couples to attend together. Registration costs \$70 for singles and \$90 for couples, but subsidies are available for those who can't meet the fee. Call Joan Shaw at 294-2371 or 475-0433 to register.

The pair has also been asked to speak at a meeting titled, Infertility: Facts and Feelings for a province-wide infertility association.

They will discuss the many ways of coping with infertility and hope to lead the audience in a group discussion. This meeting takes place Wednesday, Sept. 24 at 7:30 p.m. at Bathurst Heights Library in Toronto.

# National Trust Grand Opening at Markville Sept. 17 at Noon!

## A Personal Invitation

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