

## ***Federal Government June 2008***

### ***Aboriginal Issues***

Federal government issues apology to former students of Indian Residential Schools on June 11 in House of Commons. Apology is in addition to the Settlement Agreement and creation of the Indian Residential Schools Truth and Reconciliation Commission. New legislation takes effect to extend human rights protections to First Nations communities on and off reserve.

### ***Elder Abuse***

Launch of national awareness campaign on elder abuse, which includes advertising and information tools.

### ***Employment***

Funding to 13 sector councils to provide post-secondary graduates with the opportunity to secure quality jobs and gain work experience in key sectors of the economy.

### ***Homelessness***

The following investments were made under the *Homelessness Partnering Strategy* ([hyperlink](#)):

- \$150,000 for the Iris Kirby House for purchase and renovation of an eight-room house for transitional housing in Conception Harbour, Newfoundland.
- \$2 million for Toronto Community Housing to provide transitional housing for 27 pregnant women and mothers under 25. City of Toronto contributed \$660,000 in land and waived development charges for the \$5.2-million development.
- \$230,000 for the Central Urban Métis Federation Inc. in Saskatoon for purchase of land and office building to centralize services.

### ***Persons with Disabilities***

\$79,338 for the Opportunities Fund/Worklinks Employment Services project for the Breaking Down Barriers Independent Living Centre in Collingwood. Financial support provided through the *Opportunities Fund* ([hyperlink](#)).

### ***Refugee Settlement***

Projects supported under the *Resettlement Assistance Program* through Citizenship and Immigration Canada ([hyperlink](#)).

- \$790,000 to Catholic Social Services in Edmonton to assist up to 378 refugees in Alberta
- \$260,000 to Saskatoon Open Door Society and \$65,000 to Global Gathering Place to help up to 200 refugees
- \$1 million to the Catholic Immigration Centre to assist up to 380 refugees in Ottawa

- \$1.5 million to the COSTI Immigrant Services to assist up to 750 refugees in Toronto
- \$650,000 to Multicultural Council of Windsor and Essex to assist up to 300 refugees
- \$590,000 to the London Cross Cultural Learner Centre to assist up to 280 refugees
- \$900,000 to the YWCA Toronto to deliver English-language training to newcomers at its new language training facility
- \$3.8 million to the WoodGreen Community Services in Toronto to help up to 8,300 immigrants, including specialized language training and programs for youth
- \$11 million to help four organizations in Hamilton deliver settlement services, including language training, referrals to community resources and job assistance, to an estimated 5,000 newcomers.

### ***Seniors***

Under *New Horizons for Seniors*, \$25,000 for the *Parrainage Civique de Vaudreuil-Soulanges* to replace roof, windows and electrical system. Project funded under Capital Assistance, a new component of the federal program ([hyperlink](#)).

### ***Skilled Trades***

\$1.37 million to the Canadian Apprenticeship Forum to increase awareness of apprenticeship among employers, and provide tools to attract and retain apprentices. Additional \$262,607 to examine barriers to apprenticeship and effective responses.

### ***Workplace Violence***

New regulations to prevent violence in federally regulated workplaces. Employers must develop policy to prevent workplace violence and provide training. They must assess policy effectiveness at least every three years and update as required.

### ***Reports***

*National Child Benefit Progress Report: 2006* shows that the NCB is improving the economic well-being of families with children living in low income.

[http://www.nationalchildbenefit.ca/ncb/Progress\\_Reports/2006/eng/index.shtml](http://www.nationalchildbenefit.ca/ncb/Progress_Reports/2006/eng/index.shtml)