



For Immediate Release

April 18, 2007

Ground Breaking Ceremony Held for New York Region Children's Aid Society Building

NEWMARKET – On April 18, 2007, a groundbreaking ceremony was held to celebrate the start of construction for the new York Region Children's Aid Society building in Newmarket, Ontario. Martin McNamara, executive director of York CAS, announced plans to open the new office building in the fall of 2007.

The new 17,000 square foot, three-story building is located on the east side of Leslie Street, between Mulock and Gorham. It will serve as home office to 150 of York CAS's 260 staff. Board president, Barkat Kara, will lead the Society in its efforts in York Region, assisted by an experienced staff.

"By divesting of two current leased properties, one in Newmarket and one in Keswick, we were able to purchase, without incurring additional costs, a property that will be the permanent home of York Region Children's Aid Society," said Mr. McNamara. "By constructing a new home, the first in our history, York CAS and the Ministry of Children and Youth Services are reaffirming our commitment to the people of York Region to deliver our very best service to children and families."

Mr. McNamara added, "As fiscally sound a decision as this new building is, service to the community was and continues to be uppermost in our minds. We will continue, as always, to strive to deliver our very best, most responsive service to all corners of our diverse region."

York CAS will maintain its Eagle Street property in which the Society has a 20-year lease with the Town of Newmarket, as well as a leased property in Richmond Hill.

York Region Children's Aid Society is a non-profit organization whose mission is to work in partnership with our increasingly diverse community to protect children from abuse and neglect and provide a safe, secure and caring environment. Ontario Children's Aid Societies are mandated by the Child and Family Services Act to investigate allegations or evidence that children under the age of 16 may be in need of protection and to protect children where necessary.

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