



Friday, January 16, 2009

## Historic donation enables Toronto housing project to go forward

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>> An affordable housing project that was first approved two years ago is getting a record-setting financial boost from a philanthropic family.

The identity of the generous donors and details of the project will be announced next Wednesday morning.

The financial contribution is thought to be the largest single donation to a social service organization in Canadian history.



The \$80 million YWCA Elm Centre, which will be built at 110 Edward Street in downtown Toronto, will provide 300 homes for single women and single mothers. One-third of the units will accommodate women with mental health and substance abuse issues and 50 units will be reserved for Aboriginal women. Each apartment will have up to three bedrooms.

The YWCA is partnering with Native housing provider Wigwamen Incorporated and the Jean Tweed Centre – which assists women with substance abuse or gambling problems – on the project. Originally budgeted at \$61 million, the YWCA Elm Centre was approved by Toronto's affordable housing committee in 2006 and was scheduled for completion this month.

The building, designed by Toronto's Hilditch Architect in partnership with regionalArchitects, will be built using environmentally sustainable construction and will feature radiant heating and cooling and an energy recovery ventilation system.

Posted by PopGoesTheNews.com at [11:04 PM](#)