



## NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### CELEBRATE STANFORD PLACE: PARKSVILLE'S NEW CAMPUS OF CARE

Parksville – Parksville's new \$40-million campus of care is now fully operational, with an official ceremony held today to dedicate the beautiful new residence to the well being of area seniors.

"Many seniors in the Parksville area who require long-term care now call this lovely new facility home," said Ron Cantelon, MLA for Nanaimo-Parksville. "These additional beds are part of our government's commitment to create 5,000 net-new beds and units, providing the best possible health-care options for seniors."

The residential care component of the new site offers private and semi private rooms and provides 24/7 health care services for individuals with complex care needs. The assisted living units are self-contained apartments where residents may receive meals, housekeeping and laundry services, a 24-hour response system, and assistance with care needs.

Vancouver Island Health Authority (VIHA) publicly funds 140 residential care beds at \$7.5 million annually and 30 assisted living units at \$400,000 annually at Stanford Place.

"Enhancing access to seniors care is a top priority for the Vancouver Island Health Authority, particularly in Central Island where we have a large seniors population," said Jac Kreut, VIHA board chair. "By working in partnership with the community, local government and the Province, we are significantly increasing our community care capacity, which will help reduce pressure on our hospitals, and the emergency departments."

The contract to build and operate Stanford Place was awarded to the Ahmon Group and Lark Group in July 2006. Ahmon has owned and operated long-term care facilities in the Lower Mainland for over 30 years. As a service provider, Ahmon is committed to providing quality individualized care and support for adults with complex health needs within a residential setting.

Find out more at: [www.viha.ca/news](http://www.viha.ca/news)

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“Stanford Place provides high quality long-term care to seniors and ensures the comforts of home in this bright and spacious new facility,” said Michael Ahmon, CEO of the Ahmon Group. “Our residents receive full meal services, health care, exercise and social activities, and they are able to access other amenities located nearby.”

The Province has exceeded its commitment to provide 5,000 net-new residential care beds, assisted living and supportive housing units by December 2008. Across the province, more than 11,750 new beds and units have been built – with a large portion replacing beds that were old and unsuitable for complex care. This includes more than 5,424 net-new beds and units.

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**Contact:**

Anya Nimmon  
VIHA Communications  
250-740-6980