

Ontario Beats Provincial Budget Forecast by 10,000 Units

January 10, 2013 - Toronto, ON – Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) reported 74,418 housing starts in Ontario, an increase of 14 per cent year-over-year, surpassing the 64,000 forecasted in the 2012 Provincial Budget. The strong finish to the year can be attributed, in part, to the continued strength of multi-unit housing with Ontarians. Multi-unit starts grew by 26 per cent in 2012 compared to the previous year as this housing option continues to outpace single-detached housing starts in communities throughout the province. This year's multi-unit starts reflect sales made in 2009, 2010 and 2011.

"CMHC's housing starts exceeded the Provincial Budget's 2012 forecast by 10,000 units. With 74,418 housing starts and continued strength in the renovation sector, the residential construction industry contributed over \$40 billion to Ontario's economy creating over 365,000 jobs," said Joe Vaccaro, COO of Ontario Home Builders' Association. "These numbers reinforce our industry's resilience and role as a job creator. As the Provincial Government begins consultations for the 2013 budget, we will be stressing the need for infrastructure investments, reducing red tape and economic barriers in the approvals process, and reforming the apprenticeship system all with a focus to support housing affordability and choice."

Ontario Preliminary Housing Start Data in Centres 10,000 Population and Over						
	Single-Detached	Multiple	Total			
Jan – Dec 2009	20,397	27,542	47,939			
Jan – Dec 2010	25,551	31,553	57,104			
Jan – Dec 2011	24,912	40,328	65,240			
Jan – Dec 2012	23,580	50,838	74,418			
Source: Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation						

Preliminary Housing Start Data in Centres 10,000 Population and Over								
	Single-Detached		Multiple		Total			
	2011	2012	2011	2012	2011	2012		
December	2,244	1,990	3,517	4,321	5,761	6,311		
Source: Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation								

The Ontario Home Builders' Association is the voice of the residential construction industry in Ontario representing 4,000 member companies organized into 30 local associations across the province. The industry contributes over \$42 billion dollars to Ontario's economy, employing more than 325,000 people across the province.

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To arrange an interview with OHBA COO Joe Vaccaro, please contact Kathryn Segal at OHBA, (416) 443-1545 ext. 223