



MOHAWKS OF THE BAY OF QUINTE

KENHTÈKE KANYEN'KEHÁ:KA

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Partnership for Urban-Indigenous Rental Housing in Belleville

January 11, 2023 – The Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte, in partnership with [Ketegaunseebee Garden River First Nation](#) and [Missanabie Cree First Nation](#), two Indigenous communities near Sault Ste. Marie, and [Summers & Co. Developments Inc.](#) are undertaking a new housing venture. All four organizations have partnered to form a new Limited Partnership called Belleville Affordable Housing L.P. with a similarly named General Partnership Corporation, and each partner holds a 25 per cent stake.

A ribbon cutting was held yesterday morning (Jan. 10) at 1 North Front Street, now known as Sagonaska Place, named after the Sagonaska River (better known as the Moira River) which runs through Belleville, Ontario and is part of the traditional territory of the Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte.

This ribbon cutting marked the official launch of a unique housing project centred on re-imagining urban living and repurposing a dormant building in downtown Belleville. The high-impact investment project will convert and adapt 1 North Front Street into much needed residential apartments for urban renters.

The former Government of Canada building will be revitalized to accommodate 38 luxury rental units, commercial space on the main floor which will be leased out and will reutilize the large underground parking lot. The project includes over 50 per cent of development as affordable rental units for Indigenous and local Belleville residents with 25 per cent expected to be eligible for additional rent supplements. 20 per cent of the units will be considered accessible and are being built using a barrier-free design.

The Belleville Affordable Housing L.P. has successfully closed the purchase of Sagonaska Place through a substantial forgivable loan arrangement. The partnership is also in the final stages of securing the renovation financing through a combination forgivable and non-forgivable loans, and each partner's current anticipated financial commitment is expected to be \$250,000, with the project team working to achieve zero financial contribution through additional funding opportunities.

Sagonaska Place will follow a design-bid-build schedule for renovation of the building and all activities will occur in the 2023 calendar year:

- Design (January 2023)
- Interior Demolition (February 2023)
- Servicing & Interior Renovation (March – October 2023)
- Solar Power Installation (November)
- Ribbon Cutting Ceremony (December 2023)

This is an exciting partnership for the Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte, Garden River First Nation and Missanabie Cree First Nation, and we will do our best to keep our community informed as work on this project unfolds.



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