

# **Whitehorse Affordable Family Housing Project**

## **Who will this project focus on?**

In October 2007, the Government of Yukon proposed a housing initiative to meet the needs of the most vulnerable population experiencing housing insecurity in the Yukon. Following research of priority needs, trends relating to the demographics of the Yukon Housing waitlist and targeted consultations with service providers and social housing clients, it was determined that this project will focus on lone-parent families on the Yukon Housing Corporation waitlist.

## **Where will it be built?**

The housing complex is being built on a parcel of Government of Yukon land located on Nisutlin Drive and Selkirk Street in Riverdale. During the consultations, being close to schools, grocery stores and other amenities was identified as very important for this project.

## **How is the project being planned?**

Yukon Housing Corporation and the Women's Directorate are working closely in the planning of this project. An Advisory Committee has been established, and has been meeting since November 2008. The Advisory Committee is co-chaired by Yukon Housing Corporation and the Women's Directorate with member representatives from Riverdale Community Association, Yukon Status of Women Council, Victoria Faulkner Women's Centre, Grey Mountain Housing, Teen Parent Centre and tenants who are currently residing in social housing.

## **What will it look like?**

The site will include four separate residential buildings, each with eight living units. A fence will surround community green space and there will be a roadway around the perimeter of the property. The design focuses on creating a space that is family friendly and promotes a sense of community.

## **Where are we at in the process?**

The contract for the construction of the 32-unit affordable housing project has been awarded to local contractor NGC Builders Ltd. Work on underground services has begun and the building and compacting of the four building pads is nearing completion. Construction of the buildings has commenced with the layout for the first building underway.

Construction will continue through the winter, generating employment for trades. Completion is anticipated for the fall of 2010.

The two-storey wood frame construction will feature SuperGreen energy efficiency standards and Accommodating Home standards for a barrier-free living environment.