



## Media Release

### **Niagara Region invites landlords to participate in the Housing Allowance Program**

NIAGARA REGION, November 21, 2006 - Niagara Regional Housing invites landlords to participate in the Housing Allowance Program, an initiative funded under the Canada-Ontario Affordable Housing Program, to assist low and moderate-income households find affordable rental housing.

Funds totalling \$2.14 million have been allocated to Niagara Regional Housing through the program to subsidize 170 units, for a maximum of five years. Through this program, landlords offer Niagara Regional Housing vacant rental units and enter into an agreement. Niagara Regional Housing then provides landlords with a monthly allowance (a maximum of \$300 per month for families and \$250 for single adults) to cover the difference between the amount of rent the tenant can pay and the agreed to market rent for the unit. Units must be in compliance with applicable building and fire codes with rents at or below the average market rent for the area.

While all types of units are eligible, the greatest demand is for one-bedroom apartments. Eligible tenants are people who have been on the centralized waiting list since January 1, 2004. Over four hundred eligible households have been identified.

Niagara Regional Housing completed an analysis of affordable housing needs in 2004. Every year, for the next ten years, 488 new units of affordable housing are required to keep up with the demand. November 22 is National Housing Day, and Niagara Regional Housing is actively participating in the Canada-Ontario Affordable Housing Program to increase the supply of affordable housing.

Landlords that are interested in participating in this program are invited to contact Niagara Regional Housing at 905-682-9201 or visit the web site at [www.nrh.ca](http://www.nrh.ca) to review the Expression of Interest and Housing Allowance Landlord Agreement forms.

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Contact:  
Denise Papaiz, Niagara Regional Housing  
905-682-9201 ext. 3937