

RELEASE

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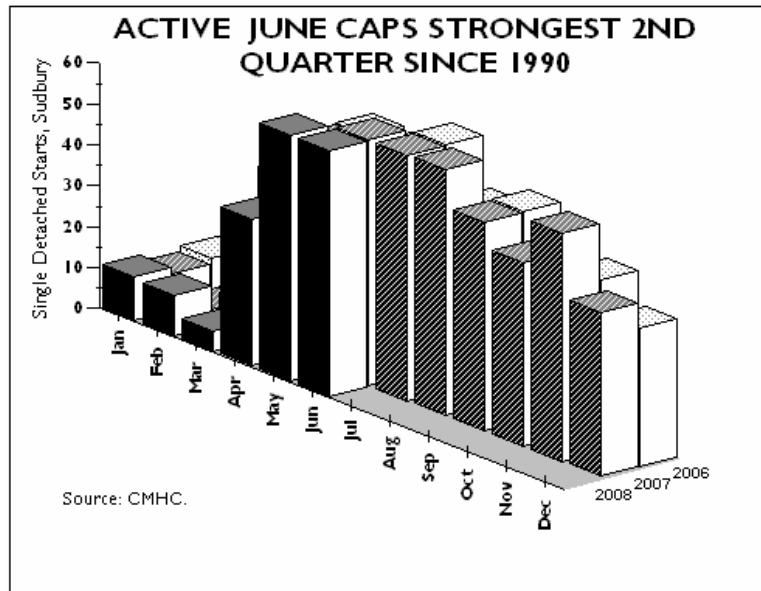
SECOND QUARTER HOUSING STARTS CONTINUE AT A TORRID PACE

GREATER SUDBURY, July 9, 2008 -- Greater Sudbury residential construction are not letting up according to preliminary figures released today by Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC). Second quarter numbers are tallied and the 173 single-detached starts recorded is the highest level of activity since 1990. Elsewhere in the three other major cities in Northeastern Ontario, forty-two starts were recorded, down from 64 units in 2007.

"While Sudbury finished the quarter up, Sault Ste. Marie, Timmins and North Bay completed the quarter behind 2007 levels," stated Warren Philp, Northern Ontario Market Analyst. "

Sudbury finished the quarter with 199 single-detached starts combined with 16 semi-detached units for a total of 215 units up from 190 and 14 respectively, last year in the half of the year.

Strong mining activity continues to form the backbone of Sudbury's economy with this sector providing opportunities in both the mining and mining supply and service sector.



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URBAN HOUSING STARTS									
JUNE									
	Single Family			Semis and Rows			Total		
	2007	2008	% chg	2007	2008	% chg	2007	2008	% chg
Sudbury	70	65	-7.1	2	2	--	72	67	-6.9
Sault Ste. Marie	11	10	-9.1	0	0	--	11	10	-9.1
North Bay	30	12	-60.0	0	0	--	30	12	-60.0
Timmins	23	20	-13.0	0	0	--	23	20	-13.0
Total	134	107	-20.1	2	2	--	136	109	-19.9
YEAR-TO-DATE: JANUARY TO JUNE									
	Single Family			Semis and Rows			Total		
	2007	2008	% chg	2007	2008	% chg	2007	2008	% chg
Sudbury	190	199	4.7	14	16	14.3	204	215	5.4
Sault Ste. Marie	36	30	-16.7	0	0	--	36	30	-16.7
North Bay	37	23	-37.8	0	0	--	37	23	-37.8
Timmins	28	20	-28.6	0	0	--	28	20	-28.6
Total	291	272	-6.5	14	16	14.3	305	288	-5.6

Source: CMHC

Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) has been Canada's national housing agency for more than 60 years. CMHC is committed to helping Canadians access a wide choice of quality, affordable homes, while making vibrant, healthy communities and cities a reality across the country. For more information, visit www.cmhc.ca or call 1 800 668-2642.

Aussi disponible en français

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Our next Housing Starts press release will be July 2008, coming on 11 August, 2008. CMHC's national web-site is located at www.cmhc.ca