

RELEASE

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May housing starts up in Regina, stable in Saskatoon

Regina, June 8, 2012 – Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) released preliminary results of its monthly survey of residential construction today. Housing starts in the Regina Census Metropolitan Area (CMA) increased for the sixth consecutive month, with starts rising from 115 units in May 2011 to 146 units in May 2012. Home construction in the Saskatoon CMA was stable, with 228 total starts in May 2012 compared to 226 in May 2011.

“Gains in net migration, a low unemployment rate, and job growth continue to push housing starts higher in Regina. In Saskatoon, increased selection in the competing resale market and heightened under construction levels are holding back larger increases in housing starts,” said Lai Sing Louie, CMHC’s Regional Economist for the Prairie and Territories Region.

Single-detached home builders in Regina started 117 units in May, a 30 per cent increase over the previous year. To the end of May, single-detached starts totalled 486 units. Multi-family starts, which consist of semi-detached units, rows, and apartments, also reported a gain in May, as the 29 starts were 16 per cent higher than those reported in May 2011. With May’s gain, year-to-date multi-family starts in Regina totalled 758 units.

In the Saskatoon CMA, higher multi-family starts compensated for lower single-detached production. Multi-family starts in May totalled 102 units, a 38 per cent gain over the 74 starts reported one year earlier. Year-to-date multi-family starts totalled 419 units. Saskatoon home builders started 126 single-detached units in May, down 17 per cent from the previous year. Single-detached starts to the end of May totalled 682 units.

As Canada's national housing agency, CMHC draws on more than 65 years of experience to help Canadians access a variety of high quality, environmentally sustainable and affordable housing solutions. CMHC also provides reliable, impartial and up-to-date housing market reports, analysis and knowledge to support and assist consumers and the housing industry in making informed decisions.

For more information, visit www.cmhc.ca or call 1-800-668-2642. CMHC Market Analysis standard reports are also available free for download at www.cmhc.ca/housingmarketinformation.

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**Preliminary Housing Starts in Saskatchewan
May 2012**

	Single-Detached			Multiple-Family			Total		
	2012	2011	%	2012	2011	%	2012	2011	%
Regina CMA	117	90	30.0	29	25	16.0	146	115	27.0
Regina City	93	72	29.2	29	25	16.0	122	97	25.8
Surrounding Area	24	18	33.3	0	0	--	24	18	33.3
Saskatoon CMA	126	152	-17.1	102	74	37.8	228	226	0.9
Saskatoon City	85	102	-16.7	93	74	25.7	178	176	1.1
Surrounding Area	41	50	-18.0	9	0	--	50	50	0.0
Total*	243	242	0.4	131	99	32.3	374	341	9.7

Source: Market Analysis Centre, C.M.H.C.

-- % change equals or exceeds +/- 100%

*Total consists of Regina CMA and Saskatoon CMA

January to May 2012

	Single-Detached			Multiple-Family			Total		
	2012	2011	%	2012	2011	%	2012	2011	%
Regina CMA	486	341	42.5	758	246	--	1,244	587	--
Regina City	400	280	42.9	758	246	--	1,158	526	--
Surrounding Area	86	61	41.0	0	0	--	86	61	41.0
Saskatoon CMA	682	586	16.4	419	540	-22.4	1,101	1,126	-2.2
Saskatoon City	540	444	21.6	380	530	-28.3	920	974	-5.5
Surrounding Area	142	142	0.0	39	10	--	181	152	19.1
Total*	1,168	927	26.0	1,177	786	49.7	2,345	1,713	36.9

Source: Market Analysis Centre, C.M.H.C.

-- % change equals or exceeds +/- 100%

*Total consists of Regina CMA and Saskatoon CMA

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