



Shepherd's Care Foundation



## **SHEPHERD'S CARE AND VANGUARD COLLEGE MAKE CONNECTIONS FOR THE FUTURE OF SENIORS CARE**

December 9, 2009

*Edmonton...* A construction launch ceremony today will officially start the next phase of an innovative seniors living project in Edmonton. The Shepherd's Care Vanguard project will contain 141 multilevel care units in the new facility that will be constructed next to Vanguard College. This project is being built adjacent to the existing Vanguard College grounds at 12140 – 103 Street, in Edmonton. The project is expected to be completed in 2011 and features a number of innovations in seniors care.

"The faith-based Shepherd's Care Foundation has been a leader in providing affordable age-in-place care for seniors for almost 40 years", said John Pray, President and CEO of Shepherd's Care Foundation. "As we begin our 5<sup>th</sup> decade of service, we are very proud of the new community-of-care we are developing right next door to our friends at Vanguard College. We are very appreciative of the support of our partners: the Pentecostal Assemblies of Alberta and Vanguard College, Alberta Seniors and Community Supports, Alberta Health Services, the City of Edmonton, Servus Credit Union, Stuart Olson Construction and PGA Architects.

"Vanguard College is excited to be part of this innovative new partnership and is looking forward to the synergy generated between the two institutions", said Stephen Hertzog, President of Vanguard College. "Shepherd's Care residents and Vanguard students will both benefit greatly from the educational, service, and employment opportunities that will be a direct result of working together."

As part of the launch, the Honourable Mary Anne Jablonski, Minister of Seniors and Community Supports, MLA Doug Elniski, Calder, Councilor Ron Hayter from the City of Edmonton along with representatives from Alberta Health Services, the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada, the Shepherd's Foundation, Vanguard College and special guests, Rev Gus Wentland a past graduate of Vanguard College (1946) and former Chaplain at Shepherd's Care and Vanguard Student Council President Jonathan Greig, will enjoy a special visit and dialogue with a futuristic resident from 2021.

"This innovative joint project between Shepherd's Care Foundation and Vanguard College is an excellent example of the quality, sustainable and affordable supportive living projects that has been made possible because of funding that was received under the Affordable Supportive Living Initiative," said Mary Anne Jablonski, Minister of Seniors and Community



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Supports. "Our government is committed to working with our partners to address community needs and to increase the number of affordable supportive living spaces in Edmonton and throughout the province."

The building has been designed with features that allow individuals to maintain their independence as long as possible. The facility will provide residents access to enhanced services and opportunities that would not be available in other standalone housing projects. It includes designated assisted living care services (one floor serving those with some form of dementia) and independent living apartments with services such as meals, housekeeping and home care available. Having multiple levels of care in one building enables residents to age in place and spouses to remain together.

Innovative features of this residence include leading edge technology such as wireless electronic sensors as assistive devices within the units. The use of unobtrusive technology such as this to help seniors maintain independence and safety within their homes is a joint project in partnership with The University of Alberta Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine and Department of Computing Science.

This residence will be a teaching-learning-living site where student practicums from the University of Alberta, Vanguard College and other educational institutions are part of the day to day life of the building. Research on the use of the technology, Master's student projects in Occupational Therapy, and field education assignments with Vanguard College students will enrich the lives of the seniors living in this building. They will also be able to take advantage of opportunities to use the college facilities next door such as the library, gymnasium and taking classes should they so choose.

The Shepherd's Care (SC) Foundation will celebrate 40 years of affordable accommodation and services to seniors within Christian-focused, age-in-place communities in 2010. The Foundation consists of 50 members elected from the three founding churches of Millwoods Pentecostal Assembly and Southside Pentecostal Assembly (Edmonton) and Bethel Pentecostal Assembly (Barrhead). SC holds the distinction of being the first organization in Canada to be accredited for its aging services network by CARF International. Shepherd's Care currently owns and operates nine facilities housing over 1300 seniors at SC Kensington Village, SC Millwoods, SC Greenfield, SC Southside Manor and SC Barrhead, and employs over 600 dedicated and faithful staff. SC also has management contracts to operate two not-for-profit seniors care communities in Edmonton serving an additional 300 seniors. SC provides condominium, apartment, lodge, designated assisted living, home care, and long term care services at the two major campuses in Millwoods and Kensington.

Vanguard College was founded in 1946 to train Christian leaders for service in society. Today over 3000 alumni serve in churches, schools, hospitals, humanitarian organizations, businesses, and volunteer agencies across Canada and around the world. Over 200 students from several denominations enroll annually on campus and online in one year certificates and



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four year Bachelor of Arts in Theology degrees. Most of the BA students are in training for vocational ministry; certificate students receive formation allowing them to successfully pursue further university or other post-secondary education.

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## **BACKGROUND**

### **Construction Launch Ceremony:**

**Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2009**

**Time: 9 a.m.**

**Location: Vanguard College Chapel  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, 12140-103 street, Edmonton**

**Participants: Mary Anne Jablonski, Minister of Seniors and  
Community Supports**

**John Pray, President and CEO, Shepherd's Care Foundation**

**Stephen Hertzog, President, Vanguard College**

**Ron Hayter, Councilor, City of Edmonton**

**Dr. Lili Liu, Chair, Department of Occupational Therapy, University of  
Alberta**

**Rev. David Hazzard, Assistant Superintendent of Fellowship  
Services, Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada**

**Kurt Feigel, Board Chair, Shepherd's Care Foundation**

**Pam Whitnack, Executive Vice President, Rural, Public & Community  
Health, Alberta Health Services**

**Rev. Gus Wentland, Shepherd's Care Foundation resident**

**Jonathan Greig, President, Vanguard Student Council**

**Rev. Gary Taitinger, Shepherd's Care Foundation Board**



**Media photo opportunities include:**

- “Connections” – plug in coming together of Shepherd’s Care Foundation resident Rev. Gus Wentland and Jonathan Greig, President, Vanguard Student Council with Minister Jablonski
- Avatar of futuristic resident of Shepherd’s Care Vanguard building in the year 2021 (on screen)
- End of program - construction launch photo with all program participant dignitaries

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