

## RELEASE

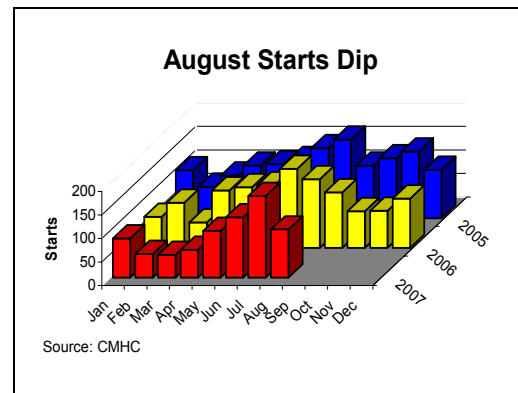
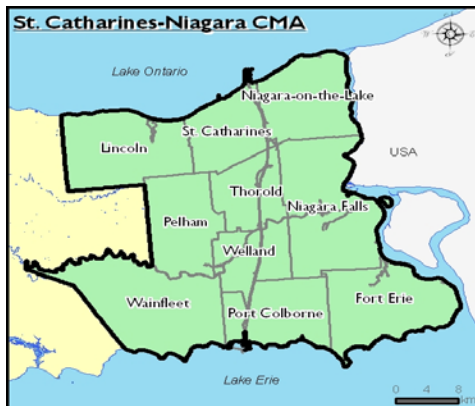
## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HOME STARTS DOWN IN THE ST. CATHARINES-NIAGARA CMA<sup>1</sup>

**TORONTO, SEPTEMBER 11, 2007** – Preliminary figures released today by Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) show that a total of 102 homes got underway in August in the St. Catharines-Niagara Census Metropolitan Area (CMA), down 30 per cent from August 2006. While single-detached starts moved up for the first time in 2007, multiple-family home starts, led by a drop in semi-detached home and condominium starts, plunged by almost 80 per cent. The sharp decline in multiple-family home starts contributed to the overall decline in home starts. Construction was down in most municipalities. The exceptions were Niagara Falls and Wainfleet, where construction increased.

Housing starts for the past eight months slipped by 19 per cent compared to the same period in 2006. On a submarket basis, year-to-date starts were down in most of the municipalities, but continued to grow in Fort Erie, Niagara Falls and Pelham.

“Homebuyers have shifted their attention from the new to the resale market, where there are plenty of homes for sale with more affordable prices” commented David Lan, CMHC Housing Market Analyst. “Although year-to-date multiple-family home starts were down, we are expecting some turnaround in townhome and condo starts by the end of this year”, added Lan.



<sup>1</sup> Statistics Canada defines a census metropolitan area (CMA) as one or more adjacent municipalities integrated with an urban core. A CMA must have a total population of at least 100,000 of which 50,000 or more must live in the urban core.

Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) has been Canada's national housing agency for over 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](http://www.cmhc.ca) or call 1 800 668-2642.

**TABLE 1: MONTH OF AUGUST**

Municipality	Single-Detached			Multiple			Total		
	2006	2007	%	2006	2007	%	2006	2007	%
Fort Erie Town	15	10	-33%	0	0	*	15	10	-33%
Lincoln Town	8	10	25%	8	0	*	14	10	-29%
Niagara Falls	20	21	5%	9	7	-22%	22	28	27%
Niagara-on-the-Lake	6	9	50%	0	0	*	28	9	-68%
Pelham Town	6	9	50%	0	2	*	9	11	22%
Port Colborne City	0	0	*	0	0	*	0	0	*
St.Catharines City	6	8	33%	7	3	-57%	17	11	-35%
Thorold City	0	6	*	0	4	*	0	10	*
Wainfleet Twp	2	4	100%	0	0	*	2	4	100%
Welland City	7	9	29%	39	0	-100%	39	9	-77%
<b>St. Cath.-Nia. CMA</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>23%</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>-79%</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>-30%</b>

**TABLE 2: YEAR-TO-DATE (JANUARY-AUGUST)**

Municipality	Single-Detached			Multiple			Total		
	2006	2007	%	2006	2007	%	2006	2007	%
Fort Erie Town	72	78	8%	13	12	-8%	85	90	6%
Lincoln Town	72	56	-22%	22	21	-5%	94	77	-18%
Niagara Falls	141	119	-16%	42	80	90%	183	199	9%
Niagara-on-the-Lake	64	61	-5%	35	21	-40%	99	82	-17%
Pelham Town	38	48	26%	12	24	100%	50	72	44%
Port Colborne City	21	9	-57%	0	0	*	21	9	-57%
St.Catharines City	80	56	-30%	106	54	-49%	186	110	-41%
Thorold City	26	24	-8%	11	4	-64%	37	28	-24%
Wainfleet Twp	14	13	-7%	0	0	*	14	13	-7%
Welland City	72	45	-38%	73	17	-77%	145	62	-57%
<b>St. Cath.-Nia. CMA</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>509</b>	<b>-15%</b>	<b>314</b>	<b>233</b>	<b>-26%</b>	<b>914</b>	<b>742</b>	<b>-19%</b>

Source: CMHC

\*Not Applicable

\*\*Year-over-Year change greater than 200 per cent

Aussi disponible en français

**For additional information please contact / Pour obtenir de plus amples renseignements, veuillez communiquer avec:**

Local: David Lan, (416) 218-3424 or [dlan@cmhc.ca](mailto:dlan@cmhc.ca)

En français: David Lan, (416) 218-3424 ou [dlan@cmhc.ca](mailto:dlan@cmhc.ca)

Ontario: Ted Tsiakopoulos, (416) 218-3407 or [ttsiakop@cmhc.ca](mailto:ttsiakop@cmhc.ca)

Canada: Bob Dugan, (613) 748-4009 or [bdugan@cmhc-schl.gc.ca](mailto:bdugan@cmhc-schl.gc.ca)