

RELEASE

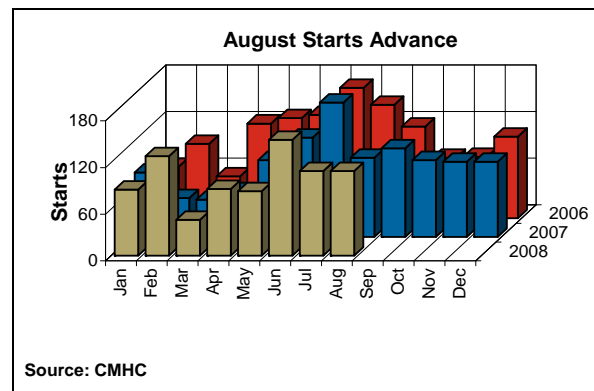
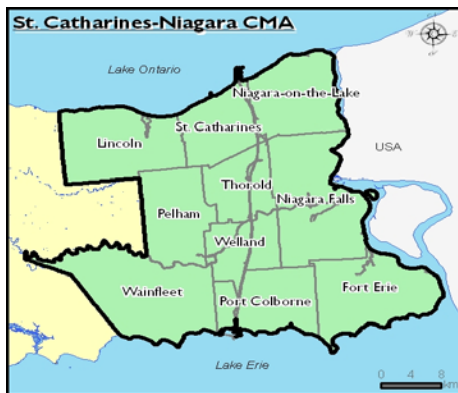
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AUGUST STARTS UP IN THE ST. CATHARINES-NIAGARA CMA¹

TORONTO, SEPTEMBER 9, 2008 – Preliminary housing starts data for August 2008 released today by Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) for the St. Catharines-Niagara Census Metropolitan Area (CMA) showed an advance of seven per cent from the same month last year to 109 units.

Total starts in the St. Catharines-Niagara CMA for January-August 2008 were also up seven per cent over the same period a year ago. Starts of single-detached homes in the year to date were down 13 per cent to 443 homes, with strength in this period due to a jump in starts of row houses, by 51 per cent, and apartments, by 87 per cent.

“New home construction continues to be driven by the starts of less expensive homes,” said Ashot Karapetyan, Market Analyst with CMHC. “Employment in the region has continued to grow and this supports the local housing construction market.”



¹ 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 or call 1 800 668-2642.

TABLE 1: MONTH OF AUGUST

| Municipality | Single-Detached | | | Semi-Detached | | | Row | | | Apartment | | | Total | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------|-----------|-------------|---------------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------------|-----------|----------|----------|------------|------------|-----------|
| | 2007 | 2008 | % | 2007 | 2008 | % | 2007 | 2008 | % | 2007 | 2008 | % | 2007 | 2008 | % |
| Fort Erie T | 10 | 6 | -40% | 0 | 0 | * | 0 | 0 | * | 0 | 0 | * | 10 | 6 | -40% |
| Lincoln T | 10 | 11 | 10% | 0 | 0 | * | 0 | 0 | * | 0 | 0 | * | 10 | 11 | 10% |
| Niagara Falls CY | 21 | 13 | -38% | 0 | 0 | * | 7 | 15 | 114% | 0 | 0 | * | 28 | 28 | 0% |
| Niagara-on-the-Lake T | 9 | 5 | -44% | 0 | 0 | * | 0 | 0 | * | 0 | 0 | * | 9 | 5 | -44% |
| Pelham T | 9 | 9 | 0% | 2 | 0 | * | 0 | 3 | * | 0 | 0 | * | 11 | 12 | 9% |
| Port Colborne CY | 0 | 0 | * | 0 | 0 | * | 0 | 0 | * | 0 | 0 | * | 0 | 0 | * |
| St.Catharines CY | 8 | 7 | -13% | 0 | 2 | * | 3 | 26 | 767% | 0 | 0 | * | 11 | 35 | 218% |
| Thorold CY | 6 | 2 | -67% | 0 | 0 | * | 0 | 0 | * | 4 | 0 | * | 10 | 2 | -80% |
| Wainfleet TP | 4 | 2 | -50% | 0 | 0 | * | 0 | 0 | * | 0 | 0 | * | 4 | 2 | -50% |
| Welland CY | 9 | 8 | -11% | 0 | 0 | * | 0 | 0 | * | 0 | 0 | * | 9 | 8 | -11% |
| St.Catharines-Niagara | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| CMA | 86 | 63 | -27% | 2 | 2 | 0% | 10 | 44 | 340% | 4 | 0 | * | 102 | 109 | 7% |

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

| Municipality | Single-Detached | | | Semi-Detached | | | Row | | | Apartment | | | Total | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------|------------|-------------|---------------|-----------|-------------|------------|------------|------------|-----------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-----------|
| | 2007 | 2008 | % | 2007 | 2008 | % | 2007 | 2008 | % | 2007 | 2008 | % | 2007 | 2008 | % |
| Fort Erie T | 78 | 75 | -4% | 4 | 8 | 100% | 8 | 15 | 88% | 0 | 0 | * | 90 | 98 | 9% |
| Lincoln T | 56 | 46 | -18% | 10 | 0 | * | 11 | 4 | -64% | 0 | 0 | * | 77 | 50 | -35% |
| Niagara Falls CY | 119 | 102 | -14% | 6 | 6 | 0% | 17 | 51 | 200% | 57 | 39 | -32% | 199 | 198 | -1% |
| Niagara-on-the-Lake T | 61 | 44 | -28% | 0 | 0 | * | 21 | 0 | * | 0 | 0 | * | 82 | 44 | -46% |
| Pelham T | 48 | 42 | -13% | 2 | 0 | * | 22 | 21 | -5% | 0 | 0 | * | 72 | 63 | -13% |
| Port Colborne CY | 9 | 7 | -22% | 0 | 0 | * | 0 | 8 | * | 0 | 0 | * | 9 | 15 | 67% |
| St.Catharines CY | 56 | 53 | -5% | 6 | 14 | 133% | 48 | 104 | 117% | 0 | 0 | * | 110 | 171 | 55% |
| Thorold CY | 24 | 16 | -33% | 0 | 0 | * | 0 | 0 | * | 4 | 3 | -25% | 28 | 19 | -32% |
| Wainfleet TP | 13 | 6 | -54% | 0 | 0 | * | 0 | 0 | * | 0 | 0 | * | 13 | 6 | -54% |
| Welland CY | 45 | 52 | 16% | 6 | 2 | -67% | 11 | 5 | -55% | 0 | 72 | * | 62 | 131 | 111% |
| St.Catharines-Niagara | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| CMA | 509 | 443 | -13% | 34 | 30 | -12% | 138 | 208 | 51% | 61 | 114 | 87% | 742 | 795 | 7% |

Source: CMHC

*Not Applicable

**Year-over-Year change greater than 1000 per cent

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

Local: Ashot Karapetyan, (416) 250-3234 or AKarapet@cmhc.ca

En français: David Lan, (519) 873-2426 ou DLan@cmhc.ca

Ontario: Ted Tsiakopoulos, (416) 218-3407 or TTsiakop@cmhc.ca

Canada: Bob Dugan, (613) 748-4009 or BDugan@cmhc-schl.gc.ca