

New complex offers affordable apartments

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Brantford's first completed affordable housing complex was officially opened Friday with trays of samosas and curried hors d'oeuvres, mixed with words of praise for one of the city's rising developers.

"It has been a pleasure to work with Dalip Multani to see this magnificent building come to fruition," Mayor Mike Hancock said.

"The last time I was here, this was a pile of earth with a dream," Hancock recounted. "And what a dream that's been realized."

City hall was among three levels of government which worked with the developer to build City Centre Apartments, a 51-unit affordable housing complex on Harris Avenue.

The \$4.3-million project was built by Multani Custom Homes Ltd. with the help of \$1.48 million from the Canada-Ontario Affordable Housing Program and \$900,000

from the city. The remainder is Multani's stake.

The units will be occupied by seniors, families and single people with lower incomes.

Coun. Dan McCreary, chairman of the city's social services committee, said City Centre Apartments provides an

for other projects to follow.

Brant MPP Deve Levac paid tribute to the performance of Multani and his company in showing how the private sector can help in the affordable housing program.

Lovac also praised how the builder managed to work the apartment building into the area's green space, with a woodlot surrounding it on three sides.

Multani said everyone involved in the project went



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DALIP MULTANI

excellent first example in Brantford's affordable housing program. "We can be very proud that we are one of the most progressive municipalities in building affordable housing in Ontario," he said. "You can see that Mr. Multani takes a lot of pride in his work and people love it."

Dan Temple, city's general manager of social services, said City View "sets the bar"

through a learning curve that gave them a better understanding of how to carry off affordable housing projects.

"Brantford is a growing city that needs housing for all of its residents," he said.

"And I am pleased that this new residential community is meeting the affordable housing needs for both working people and those receiving pensions."