



Canadian
Home Builders'
Association

SASKATCHEWAN

#11, 3012 Louise Street
Saskatoon, SK Canada S7J 3L8
Phone: 306.955.5188
Fax: 306.373.3735
Toll Free: 1.888.955.5188
info@chbasaskatchewan.com
www.chbasaskatchewan.com

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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

New Home Construction 30 percent Higher *....Saskatchewan on track to start 5,000 homes in 2011*

Saskatoon – Residential construction in both Saskatoon and Regina regions for November 2011 remained strong with a 40 percent increase single family starts in November 2011 over 2010. The Regina region made impressive gains in single family housing starts in November and the year-to-date totals are up 27 percent from 2010. Saskatoon's multi-unit starts continue to outperform production in 2010 and the year-to-date multi-family starts for 2011 are double those of 2010.

Saskatchewan continues to be one of the national leaders in growth in housing construction activity, employment growth and population in-migration. The recent Throne Speech delivered by Lieutenant Governor Barnhart was well received as a plan for continued growth and industry investment across the province, which will bring improved employment opportunities and new residents to keep our communities growing. The residential construction industry in collaboration with industry and government partners, continues to build more attainable and appropriate housing options for home buyers and renters in the community.

Saskatchewan is facing renewed competition from its prairie neighbours, as both Manitoba and Alberta are seeing gains in their housing starts as well. As construction and industry activity in these provinces regains lost ground, there will be increased pressure in Saskatchewan to keep our skilled tradespeople and businesses within the province. Now is the time to ensure that we

Building Homes, Building Communities, Building the Province



remain competitive by reducing regulatory and taxation burdens on businesses and on the home building industry. Rising housing costs are decisive factors for those seeking new opportunities to open businesses and start new careers. In order to remain national leaders, Saskatchewan must remain competitive, build a strong Saskatchewan Advantage and keep our businesses, our families and our children in thriving, healthy communities all over this province.

“Saskatchewan is in a strong position to compete with other provinces,” says Alan Thomarar, CEO of the Canadian Home Builders’ Association - Saskatchewan. “We do not want to risk going back to an era where children are moving away to seek opportunities in other provinces and businesses are leaving for more attractive markets.

We want to keep the momentum going, retaining and attracting professionals, skilled trades, entrepreneurs and investors as we build and sustain a stronger Saskatchewan that is a leader nationally and globally for generations to come.”

As the voice of the residential construction industry, the Canadian Home Builders’ Association – Saskatchewan is committed to a housing strategy that provides quality, affordability and choice in housing in all communities throughout Saskatchewan.

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For more information, please contact:
Alan H.J. Thomarar, Chief Executive Officer
Canadian Home Builders’ Association — Saskatchewan
Phone: (306) 955-5188
Toll Free: 1-888-955-5188

**Preliminary Housing Starts in Saskatchewan
November 2011**

	Single-Detached			Multiple-Family			Total		
	2011	2010	%	2011	2010	%	2011	2010	%
Regina CMA	97	60	61.7	19	130	-85.4	116	190	-38.9
Regina City	78	46	69.6	19	130	-85.4	97	176	-44.9
Surrounding Area	19	14	35.7	0	0	--	19	14	35.7
Saskatoon CMA	130	104	25.0	185	152	21.7	315	256	23.0
Saskatoon City	94	77	22.1	138	152	-9.2	232	229	1.3
Surrounding Area	36	27	33.3	47	0	--	83	27	--
Total*	227	164	38.4	204	282	-27.7	431	446	-3.4

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

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

*Total consists of Regina CMA and Saskatoon CMA

January to November 2011

	Single-Detached			Multiple-Family			Total		
	2011	2010	%	2011	2010	%	2011	2010	%
Regina CMA	879	650	35.2	651	556	17.1	1,530	1,206	26.9
Regina City	723	500	44.6	651	554	17.5	1,374	1,054	30.4
Surrounding Area	156	150	4.0	0	2	--	156	152	2.6
Saskatoon CMA	1,492	1,522	-2.0	1,350	660	--	2,842	2,182	30.2
Saskatoon City	1,079	1,050	2.8	1,245	622	--	2,324	1,672	39.0
Surrounding Area	413	472	-12.5	105	38	--	518	510	1.6
Total*	2,371	2,172	9.2	2,001	1,216	64.6	4,372	3,388	29.0

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

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

*Total consists of Regina CMA and Saskatoon CMA