

Easy Living Moves South

The town of Morden is well known as a small community with a lot to offer, from championship golf to shopping and entertainment options to health care. Now the centre's considerable portfolio of services is about to get a significant upgrade with the development of a new assisted living community – Homestead South.

Shovels are expected to turn soil this April when plans for the 83-unit seniors' facility get underway. "We are looking at spring of 2012 for an opening," says Cheryl Digby, Community Development Officer with the town of Morden, a growing community that has experienced 17 percent population gains in the last five years.

What she describes is a development that caters to the needs of the 55+ seniors' market with a lifestyle option that includes meals as well as housekeeping in a tastefully designed complex that also offers an exercise room, entertainment centre and common areas. Apartments range in size from 700 square feet to nearly 1000 square feet in a two-bedroom unit.

As well, the assisted living centre will be sited alongside a supportive care home in a move designed to ease transitions for elderly residents. "Homestead South will offer independent living for seniors who seek a little extra help for those day-to-day chores like cooking and cleaning. Once the independent living becomes more difficult, residents can just move over to the adjacent centre where 24 hour nursing care is available."

According to Digby, the new centre is part of a concerted development plan that includes a new shopping mall at La Verendrye and Loren Drive. "With all our recent growth, we have found ourselves 'under-retailed' and are in the process of creating a new shopping centre and have hopes Homestead South will act as a catalyst to spur building in the area," she says, noting that they are actively seeking new grocery and auto dealerships to anchor the site.



Digby remarks that all the activity is creating considerable excitement in Morden. She sees the new Homestead South facility as a continuation of the remarkable growth the town has experienced over the past decade.

"We already have a life lease facility for seniors, but Homestead South represents a move that offers greater flexibility for residents," she says, adding that with 83 units to fill, the new project will certainly help continue the drive to Morden's positive growth.

"There is certainly nothing like it in the community now, and when it's complete, it will be yet another good reason to consider a move to the slower pace of southern Manitoba."

Embrace the Future



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