



## Office of the Chief Executive

### MEDIA RELEASE – For Immediate Release

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#### **10,000 BLOCKS AND COUNTING...**

The Village Building Co. (VBC) has announced its 10,000th housing block sale in the ACT, following 20 years of affordable housing trade.

Canberra residents, Scott Leighton and Jessica Aspinall recently purchased a three bedroom, single garage home on a villa block at 'Brindabella at Macgregor' for \$299,900 which to the couple's surprise was VBC's 10,000<sup>th</sup> block sale. Their new house will be home to their recently arrived twin girls, Maddy and Charlie, and is a dream finally come true for the young family.

To celebrate the milestone of the 10,000<sup>th</sup> block for both for VBC and the purchasing family, VBC donated \$10,000 towards the purchase of the couples' first home. Scott and Jessica were among many first home buyers who had the opportunity to purchase affordable housing at 'Brindabella at Macgregor'.

Mr. Leighton, delighted, said that this would be "A big help for us to start our new family's life in our new home. We love the house at 'Brindabella at Macgregor' and we love the area. It's going to be a great place for Maddy and Charlie to grow up".

Mr Winnel said, "For 20 years we have specialised in providing lower cost housing for people who find it difficult to enter the housing market, as well as older people wanting to downsize from empty larger family homes into something that better suits their lifestyle needs".

Mr Winnel said "VBC like many other Canberra companies is competitive and innovative. With the dramatic escalation in house prices over recent years we have been working with the Chief Minister's Department and other agencies such as ACTPLA and TAMS to refocus on affordability which has deteriorated significantly, particularly since 2000".

"As a company of highly skilled managers, each of whom has decades of experience in the building industry, we are proud of our achievements in bringing home ownership within the reach of more people. Having achieved 10,000 block sales shows how the work of VBC is welcomed in the marketplace" said Mr Winnel.

Mr Winnel said, "Other recent buyers of 'Brindabella at Macgregor' had indicated that without these houses they could not afford a new home for their families with some saying they were considering relocating from Canberra".

The final release of the affordable housing estate 'Brindabella at Macgregor' is on Sunday 20 April. There are 104 houses available, with prices starting at \$279,500 to \$291,500 for two bedroom townhouses. Three bedroom townhouses range from \$294,500 to \$309,500 and three bedroom villa and courtyard homes are priced at \$319,500 to \$359,500. Priority will be given to households with a combined income of less than \$100,000.

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