



## **Senator the Hon Santo Santoro Minister for Ageing**

### **MEDIA RELEASE**

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#### **Seminars to bring better buildings for older Australians**

Australian builders and planners will be encouraged to create buildings better adapted to the changing needs of older Australians, in a national series of seminars and workshops beginning next month.

The Minister for Ageing, Senator Santo Santoro, said the seminar series would further clarify the responsibilities of builders in relation to aged care accommodation.

“These seminars reflect the importance of ensuring that residential aged care buildings are appropriately designed and built to meet the needs of elderly Australians,” Senator Santoro said.

“This is an area of high priority for the Howard Government as we plan to meet the needs of Australia’s ageing population.

“I am greatly encouraged by the level of support which professional bodies are providing for the seminars. It shows clearly that the construction sector appreciates the importance of taking a fresh approach to building for our changing population.”

The seminars and workshops are aimed at those involved in designing, building or approving residential aged-care buildings, including architects, building surveyors, services engineers, aged-care service providers and allied professionals.

The seminars will be conducted by the Department of Health and Ageing, in conjunction with the Australian Building Codes Board, and are designed to further clarify the Building Code of Australia (BCA) provisions for Class 9c Buildings and their relationship to the Aged Care Certification Assessment Instrument.

Class 9c was introduced by the Australian Building Codes Board in July 2002 to meet the Government’s policy of providing ageing in place.

The seminars are also supported by the Australian Institute of Building Surveyors, the Royal Australian Institute of Architects and the Building Designers Association of Australia.

The seminars are set down for:

<b>Canberra</b>	12 September 2006	Rydges Lakeside
<b>Melbourne</b>	14 September 2006	Rydges Carlton
<b>Brisbane</b>	21 September 2006	Rydges Southbank

<b>Sydney</b>	26 September 2006	SMC Conference & Function Centre
<b>Hobart</b>	28 September 2006	Hobart Function & Conference Centre
<b>Adelaide</b>	3 October 2006	Mercure Grosvenor Hotel
<b>Perth</b>	5 October 2006	Pacific International Suites

Further information and registration for the seminars is available at: [www.chgroup.com.au](http://www.chgroup.com.au) .

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