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# Building permits showed gains last month after fall in January

By: **The Canadian Press**

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OTTAWA - Statistics Canada says the value of building permits issued rose 7.5 per cent to \$6.5 billion in February, following an 11.4 per cent decline in January.

The agency says the February rise was the result of an increase in the non-residential sector, which offset a decrease in the residential sector.

The value of non-residential permits increased 36.2 per cent to \$2.5 billion, after falling 20.6 per cent in January.

The increase resulted from higher non-residential construction intentions in seven provinces, with most gains coming in British Columbia, Quebec and Alberta.

The value of residential permits declined to \$3.9 billion, down 5.3 per cent from than in January, mainly due to lower construction intentions for single-family and multi-family dwellings in Ontario.

There were declines in five other provinces, with gains in Alberta, Quebec and British Columbia.

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