

ReStore Evolution

Did you know that in 1991 HFHW opened the ReStore, the first of its kind in the world? The idea has proven so sound that there are now 60 ReStores in Canada and several hundred in the USA.



*The very first Habitat for Humanity ReStore building at Palliser Furniture.*

Initially, through the generosity of Palliser Furniture, the ReStore was located in a building on their premises. In the early years, the store mostly sold used lumber but over time, the concept of the ReStore as it now operates has evolved. In 1993 the store moved to a larger facility at 75 Archibald, also providing a location for Habitat’s first official offices. The larger premises attracted other product donations and there were thousands of items. The store was cluttered, disorganized, and dimly lit but people loved digging through the boxes and barrels to find the treasures they were seeking. Everything was extremely inexpensive and bargaining was welcomed.



*ReStore at 75 Archibald St.*



*Yard of ReStore at 75 Archibald St.*

In the spring of 2004 the ReStore and offices moved across the street to a newly built facility at 60 Archibald. The new location boasts 20,000 square feet of retail space which is bright, organized, and clean.

With the larger space, new partnerships were established with manufacturers such as Palliser Furniture, Buhler Furniture, Accurate Dorwin, and All Weather Windows; retailers such as The Home Depot, Robinson Lighting, McDiarmid Lumber (Unicity), and Dufresne Furniture and Appliance; construction companies such as Bockstael Construction; and wholesalers such as Fabris Milano Tile, in order to provide a constant supply of new and used product into the store. Home décor items are regularly stocked in addition to home and cottage improvement items – all at significant savings. We also still depend on the generosity of individuals who, when they are spring cleaning, fall cleaning, downsizing, or renovating, donate their goods.

With the City of Winnipeg's new "giveaway weekend" that is scheduled for the last weekend in September, I'm sure everyone will be starting their fall cleaning shortly. Please consider donating to Habitat instead of your curb – we will give tax receipts for donations that we can sell for \$10 in the ReStore. We'd love any garden or yard items such as old patio sets, used patio bricks or paving stones. For a list of other items Habitat accepts, [please click here](#).

The ReStore is constantly trying to improve, and we are launching a new customer survey in the coming months to find out how we can make your shopping experience better, while at the same time fulfilling our value to Habitat for Humanity Winnipeg.

Factoid: The diverts approximately 1,500,000 pounds, annually, from the land fill site.

Factoid: The Restore's profits cover 100% of Habitat's administrative overhead.

**Recycle, Reuse and Restore hope with us by donating to and shopping at the ReStore.**