



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Transcona Prepares for Habitat For Humanity Winnipeg's Latest Blitz Build**

#### **Over 900 Winnipeg Volunteers Gather to Blitz Build Six New Homes for Deserving Low-Income Local Families**

Winnipeg, Manitoba, July 11, 2006 – Habitat For Humanity Winnipeg (HFHW) and its 2006 House Sponsors are gearing up to make a huge difference in the lives of six deserving Winnipeg families. This year's huge Blitz Build will run from July 8th, to July 15th, and see over 900 enthusiastic local volunteers create six new homes on the south end of Redonda Street in Transcona. Each of the new homes will be the realization of HFHW's mission of providing safe, decent, and affordable housing for low-income working Winnipeg families.

Many of the 900 volunteers who will participate in the Redonda Street Blitz are employees of the 2006 HFHW House Sponsors. Ken Bishop, CEO of Winnipeg's Habitat Affiliate says, "Our House Sponsors make it happen. Without their generosity and commitment to Winnipeg as a community, we wouldn't be able to build these homes." HFHW's House Sponsors for 2006 are Aikins, MacAulay & Thorvaldson LLP; the Canadian Institute of Plumbing and Heating; 2006 Cycle of Hope; Freightliner Manitoba Ltd.; The Home Depot; the Kinsmen & Kinetite Clubs of Winnipeg; and the National Youth Project of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada.

With the cost of a Winnipeg home continuing to climb, many families are finding that the dream of owning their own home is sadly – unattainable. Through an application process, HFHW chooses hard-working low-income families who are in need of affordable housing and have the ability to repay an interest free mortgage. Once chosen, Habitat Homeowners must complete 500 hours of sweat equity before taking possession of their new home.

Habitat for Humanity Winnipeg is the local affiliate of an international non-profit Christian organization dedicated to eliminating poverty housing and to making decent housing a matter of conscience. Since 1987, Habitat for Humanity Winnipeg has partnered with local businesses, faith groups, and thousands of dedicated volunteers to build homes for over 140 deserving Manitoba families.