



NEWS RELEASE

MANITOBA LOTTERIES GEARS UP TO BUILD HABITAT FOR HUMANITY WINNIPEG'S FIRST FULLY ACCESSIBLE HOME

May 9, 2008, Winnipeg, Manitoba – Armed with tool belts, hard hats and safety footwear, hundreds of Manitoba Lotteries Corporation (MLC) employees are gearing up to help build Habitat For Humanity Winnipeg's (HFHW) first fully accessible home for a low-income working family with a disabled child.

For the second year in a row, Manitoba Lotteries will contribute \$125,000 to help offset the cost associated with the build. The cheque for the amount will be presented on May 12, 2008 at 10:30 a.m. at the build site, 393 Adsum Drive. The future homeowners will also be in attendance.

“We are extremely pleased to have Manitoba Lotteries on board again this year,” said Sandy Hopkins, HFHW CEO. “Our sponsors make it happen. Without Manitoba Lotteries generosity and commitment to Winnipeg as a community, we wouldn't be able to build this home. Their generous support and efforts will go a long way toward making a tangible difference in the lives of Phil, Eilyn and Matthew.”

The future homeowners have been facing significant challenges with respect to finding an affordable home that could accommodate their son's physical needs. Five year old Matthew has severe cerebral palsy and requires special equipment, space and care. The Public Housing waiting list for wheelchair accessible units is extremely long and affordable apartments with appropriate hallway and bathroom space are limited.

Habitat for Humanity Winnipeg's first fully accessible home will be fully wheelchair accessible and be equipped with a ceiling track. The bathroom will also be fitted with special fixtures to accommodate Matthew's needs.

“We are very excited to be a partner with Habitat for Humanity Winnipeg and the unique way in which we can make an impact in our local communities,” said Winston Hodgins, MLC President and CEO. “Our employees' passion of giving back to the communities we serve is exemplary, and I am proud of the key role they play in building a new beginning for a very special family.”

The Winnipeg Chamber of Commerce and the Winnipeg Sun will also support HFHW and the Adsum Drive house build in a variety of ways, such as by providing additional volunteers to assist with the build.

Habitat for Humanity Winnipeg is the local affiliate of an international non-profit organization dedicated to eliminating poverty housing and to making decent housing a matter of conscience. Since 1987, Habitat for Humanity has partnered with local businesses, faith groups, and thousands of dedicated volunteers to build homes for over 150 families.

Manitoba Lotteries is responsible for the management and operation of Club Regent and McPhillips Street Station Casinos, the Video Lottery Terminal (VLT) network, sales and distribution of Lottery products, Bingo paper and Breakopen tickets. Revenue generated from gaming have a direct and positive impact on Manitobans with net revenue allocated towards priority government programs in health care, education, social and community services.

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