

Raising the Roof



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Creating Awareness

Our Speakers Bureau is up and running and someone can come to your company, church, business group, or classroom to explain more about Habitat for Humanity Winnipeg and the work Habitat does with families. Call Paula Havixbeck, Marketing and Communications Manager at 233-5599 ext. 208 to arrange a speaker to come to your organization.

Habitat for Humanity Winnipeg

Celebrating 100 homes—Ten built this summer!

Reflections of summer 2003: two builds, ten great sponsors and nearly 450 volunteers making it happen alongside ten families whose lives have changed forever because their dreams became reality. This means Habitat Winnipeg has helped 100 families become homeowners.

Volunteers described the experience as “exhilarating”, “building friendships”, “this helped my faith in humankind grow”. The build was held July 12-19 and August 9-16. Volunteers worked a day, a few days or one or both weeks of this year’s build.



Dean Thomas, Habitat homeowner of the Eastview house, working on trusses in July.



Registration on Day 1 of July build—Heather and Bonnie



Volunteers working on the Cycle of Hope house in July.



David Hughes, CEO Habitat Canada chats with Hal Anderson of POWER 97.



Nancy, volunteer from the Rotary West Club and Tammy, future Habitat homeowner of the Rotary house.



Linda Balance and Scott Spence working on the Board of Directors house in August.

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Message of thanks from the CEO and Chair of the Board of Directors

To the many volunteers who gave their time and effort, who sweated it out in over 30 degree temperatures, and who cared enough about people and the community, we say thank you.

There are hundreds of other places you could have been, many other things you could have been doing. We are grateful for your dedication—coming back each morning, in the evenings, and during the pre- and post- builds. You have helped 10 families have new opportunities in life that they otherwise wouldn’t have had.

There are many new people who volunteered this summer. We hope you will go back to your fami-

lies, friends, and workmates and tell them what a positive experience you had. Tell them about Habitat International and the work we do in hundreds of countries around the world. Since the inception of Habitat Winnipeg in 1987, you’ve now helped 100 families have safe, decent, affordable housing. We thank you for your hard work and we hope you will come back and encourage others to come with you in the future.

Yours truly,

John Loewen, Chair, Board of Directors

Ken Bishop, CEO

It was a Big Fat Habitat Wedding!



Matt and Melissa tied the knot at their house dedication on August 21 at their Habitat wedding.

What an exciting day it is when a couple decides to that in addition to holding their house dedication, they also celebrate getting married and share that day with their closest friends and family. Congratulations to Matt and Melissa, Habitat homeowners of the Concord house that was built during July. Matt and Melissa tied the knot after their house dedication ceremony on August 21. The wedding ceremony was a surprise to their families.

"We've been engaged for about two years," says Melissa, "and we just couldn't figure out how to plan a wedding with the house being built and having to move." The couple decided to hold the ceremony right after their house dedication because they figured that most of their family and friends were going to be there.

Bruce Dawson, a friend of Habitat and marriage commissioner, performed the wedding ceremony. After the couple said their 'I do's', Melissa became a little tongue tied and said she'd take Matt to be her 'awful husband'!

Staff and the Board of Directors of Habitat for Humanity Winnipeg wish Matt and Melissa and their children a lifetime of happiness as a family and it is our wish that this be the first of many happy moments in their Habitat home.

Throughout August, five house dedications were held and during September, the homeowners of the houses built during July moved in. The All **Weather Windows** house is owned by the Ratel family, the **Cycle of Hope** house is owned by Bill and Heather, the **Playhouses for Hope** house is owned by Yvonne and her family, the Eastview **Community Church** house is owned by the Thomas family and the **Concord** house by Matt and Melissa.

August build sponsors include **POWER97**, **Rotary Club of Winnipeg West**, Habitat's **Board of Directors**, and **VIM**, a Unilever household product.. Watch for highlights of these house dedications in the next issue of *Raising the Roof*.

Re-Store Update

Anticipation seems to be the buzzword at the Re-Store these days with the construction of the new building well under way. In February 2004, customers will no longer have to dodge potholes on our overcrowded gravel lot for that allusive parking spot; soon they will easily find space on our new, large, paved parking lot and larger store (20,000 square feet). A larger selection of discounted merchandise will be on hand.

The Re-Store is grateful for the terrific merchandise received. More recent items include:

- New, hollow pre-hung doors in oak and mahogany;
- Eight slightly damaged Boeing-style tubs; and

- A large assortment of home furnishings.

Re-Store hours:

Monday, Tuesday, & Thursday:

9:00 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Wednesday & Friday : 9:00b a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Saturday : 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Closed Sundays and holidays.



60 Archibald, site of the new Re-Store opening February 2004 (right across the street from Habitat's current location).

Remembering Volunteers—William (Bill) Peters

Bill Peters, a long time volunteer for Habitat Winnipeg, passed away July 26, 2003. Bill worked during the July build as a house leader on the house sponsored by the Playhouses for Hope fundraiser located at 1091 Manitoba Avenue. This home, including an interview with Bill, was featured in an issue of *The Times*.

He will be sadly missed—his cheery smile and willingness to spend summers working on Habitat homes.

Bill was born and raised in Saskatchewan. He

worked for the Canadian National Railway for 33 years and later worked as a volunteer with his wife, Elizabeth. Bill volunteered at Camp Arnes, Manitoba and worked with the Mennonite Disaster Service.

Bill will be missed by his Habitat family—the many families he helped over the years, the volunteers and staff of Habitat Winnipeg.

The staff and Board of Habitat Winnipeg extend our condolences to the Peters family.

Habitat for Humanity Winnipeg Builds Internationally

Last year seven homes were built in Kingston Jamaica thanks to the support Habitat for Humanity Canada contributions. When funds are donated to Habitat Winnipeg and are not designated to a specific house, 10% of these donations are sent to Habitat Canada for building homes internationally. Over two years, \$30,000 was sent to Habitat International from Winnipeg, which contributed spon-

soring seven homes in Kingston, Jamaica.

Many people participated in the Jamaica build in May 2002, including 15 youth from Charleswood United Church under the leadership of Joanne Kury.



Habitat home being built in Jamaica.

Interfaith Youth Build



Two members of the Interfaith Youth Build work on the house at 433 Langside St.

This was the first year the Interfaith Youth Build participated in a Winnipeg build. Throughout the week, about 25 young adults (ages 17-35) helped build the house sponsored by Habitat's Board of Directors. These volunteers worked alongside the McKay family who are the future Habitat homeowners of the Board's house. Many of the volunteers from the Interfaith Youth Build came out most of the week.

Those who belong to the Charleswood United Church gave feedback about this experience to the church congregation at a recent celebration. Many felt a renewed faith as they worked together. They felt a common ground had been established with all

faiths working side-by-side. Their feelings were very powerful and most felt their faith had grown. All are planning to return and perhaps, bring others.



The McKay family (future Habitat homeowners) with members of the IYB.

For photos from the IYB, check out the Archdiocese's website: www.manitobacatholic.net and go to the photo gallery.

Building a Better School

Save your school books and donate them to so kids in Jamaica can have an opportunity to read books. Alkah Brown, a volunteer with Habitat Winnipeg and someone who spent many years in Jamaica, is collecting books and building materials. She frequents Habitat's Re-Store for new and used materials to help build an addition to a school in Jamaica. She says the school is so small that classrooms of kids meet under a tree everyday. "One day I was there," says Alkah, "and there were no children. I asked the teacher where everyone was and she told me that because it was raining, they couldn't have school so the children went home." Alkah returned to Winnipeg on a mission to expand the school for all

those children. She's purchased the materials out of her own pocket and hopes to send them in January 2004 along with many more books for the students.

"I'm planning a contest for the Jamaican students," says Alkah, "each child needs to read three books per week and be tested on the contents of each book. I'll give them a free dinner in my brother's restaurant in Jamaica if they do it."

If you have used books for children Kindergarten to Grade 8, drop them off at the Habitat Re-Store.



Donate your child's books so that children in Jamaica can improve their reading skills.

A Note About Recent and Upcoming Media Coverage

Hopefully you noticed increased media coverage of Habitat's build this summer. Being a not-for-profit organization, this is one of the most inexpensive ways to market the work Habitat does. By making what Habitat does better known in the community, there are more donations and more volunteers, which are how we exist.

Watch out CKY Television's "Manitoba Moments" show featuring the Ratel family. This story will air on September 21, 2003, and feature interviews with John Ratel, homeowner of the All Weather Windows house; volunteers including Len Wiebe; and a family from the one of the early builds in Winnipeg. This will be a half-hour show so be sure to set your VCR's!



Habitat for Humanity Winnipeg

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Building Homes Building Hope

WE'RE ON THE WEB
WWW.HABITAT.MB.CA

First Habitat Tribute Dinner—November 8, 2003!

Mark your calendars and plan to buy your tickets early for this exciting event. The First Annual Builders' Ball, A Tribute Dinner to Olenka Antymniuk is being planned for November 8, 2003, at the Winnipeg Convention Centre. Dinner is at 7:00 p.m. and tickets are \$1,200 per table or \$150 each with a \$100 tax receipt provided. Donations for our silent and live auctions would be appreciated.

Please consider attending. The purpose of this dinner is to acknowledge the hard work and dedication Olenka has given to Habitat over many years. As a fundraising effort, we are targeting raising \$60,000—enough to build one Habitat home during 2004.

If you haven't received information about this, please complete the form below to our office.



Olenka Antymniuk speaking at the Groundbreaking Ceremony in May to be honoured for her contribution to Habitat Winnipeg.

Cut and fax this form to (204) 233-5271

**Yes, I want to attend Habitat for Humanity Winnipeg's
First Annual Builders' Ball
Tribute Dinner to Olenka Antymniuk**

**Saturday, November 8, 2003
Winnipeg Convention Centre
Cocktails at 6:30 Dinner at 7:00 p.m.**

Yes, I wish to donate to the silent or live auction!
Please consider my donation of _____ for the auction.

I would like this item picked up. (Circle one)
Yes or no
Your item should be delivered to the Habitat offices
by October 24 if possible.

Method of Payment Cheque MasterCard
 Visa

Please invoice me for _____ tables at \$1,200.00 each (a tax receipt will be provided for \$800 per table purchased). Name to appear on table sign:
Name _____

Please invoice me for _____ individual tickets at \$150.00 each (a tax receipt will be provided for \$100 per ticket purchased).
Address _____

Phone _____

Credit Card # _____

Signature _____