

Raising the Roof



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Did you know that the international brand equity of the Habitat logo is \$1.8 billion. This is comparable to Starbucks and Intel. The Coca-Cola logo represents around \$100 billion.

Work is underway internationally and nationally to improve the logo. One might ask "why would anyone change a logo with such strong brand equity and jeopardize such a good thing?" The rationale is that the Habitat logo will become even stronger and more futuristic. After all, if Microsoft didn't strive to get a pc at every work station, where would we be?

Habitat for Humanity Winnipeg

Habitat for Humanity Winnipeg Breaks New Ground

The sun was shining and the birds were chirping despite the ground being a bit rugged as this year's Groundbreaking Ceremony was led by CEO, Ken Bishop.

"Each one of us is part of Habitat," said Olenka Antymniuk, Chair of the Board of Directors, "in every way we work with Habitat, we help families live better lives and we breathe life into Habitat." Each child's name who is a member of a future Habitat home was listed having a brighter future because of Habitat.

Minister MaryAnn Mihychuk representing Premier Gary Doer's office shared words of inspiration about the importance of building communities and what hard work it is particularly as single parents in working full time, raising young families and putting in hours towards a home. Minister Mihychuk commented, "I too was a single parent for 10 years and I know how difficult it can be to provide a decent, happy place for children."

Mayor Glen Murray, Honourary Chair of this year's Cycle of Hope, presented words of support and enthusiasm for this year's build and for Habitat to help build communities over the next three years wherein Habitat will build 50 homes.

The Groundbreaking took place on May 13, 2003, at the empty lots at 413-417 Langside Street, where three



Starting at left: Minister MaryAnn Mihychuk, _____, Jim Phillips, Ted Petkau, Mayor Glen Murray, Kathy Lanthier, Robin Bonne, Bev Watson, Olenka Antymniuk

homes will be built during this year's **Yvon Dumont Habitat Build**.

Sponsors, families, government representatives, community members, and Habitat staff and Board members were present. A special blessing was provided for the site by Rev. Harry Lehotsky of New Life Ministries. "May God bless this site, the future homes, and give strength to all who help make it a community for these families."

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Thanks to Olenka Antymniuk, Chair of the Board of Directors

As the leadership of Habitat changes, we acknowledge the special efforts of Olenka Antymniuk, a giving, caring person who has dedicated so much of herself to making Habitat what it is today—a



Olenka Antymniuk, Chair of the Board of Directors presenting words of inspiration at the Groundbreaking Ceremony, May 13, 2003.

growing, enterprising, caring organization.

Olenka presided as Chair for the past four years. During this time, she hired a new CEO, led the organization through a very busy Ed Schreyer Build, and endlessly ran meetings, wrote reports, and participated in public events. Her involvement with Habitat began over 10 years ago. She has cycled over 10,000 kilometers for Habitat and served on many committees. She is a freelance Interior Designer specializing in new home construction. She has a flair for bringing the right people and resources together to make magic. Very sadly, Olenka lost her mother this year and reminded staff when condolences were shared, that Habitat was still there for her. Born and raised in Saskatchewan, Olenka graduated from the University of Manitoba with a degree in Interior Design. Olenka has contributed countless hours to helping children of Habitat families build dreams. Olenka's contributions to Habitat for Humanity Winnipeg will be acknowledged at the Builders' Ball planned for November 2003.

Profile of Two Habitat Families



Moses, Martha with Bettina and Moses Jr., future Habitat homeowners of the VIM house.

Moses, Martha and their two children, Bettina and Moses Jr. live in a two bedroom apartment. With a baby due in June, they are anxious about their house being completed so they can have a bit more space and the baby can have a room. Moses is a security guard works shifts, while Martha works in the health care industry and says she's looking forward to their new house. It's been an interesting road. The family came to Canada two years ago from Sierra Leone, Africa. Moses, a former accounting clerk with the government was forced to flee because of his position. The family left for Canada, likely never able to return to see their parents, their siblings, or their friends. They've made a new start and will make yet another new start in their future Habitat home that is being built during the August build and is sponsored by VIM, a Unilever household product.

"We miss our families very much. We e-mail or try to call as much as we can to tell them about our

experiences," says Moses, "the Winnipeg community has helped this be our new home." The family has developed a close relationship with their church who has helped them with this undertaking.

Tammy and her daughter Kira are another Habitat family that will have their home built during the August build. The Rotary Club of West Winnipeg is the house sponsor. Tammy has attended a few Rotary functions including the annual Chicken Fest, which raised a substantial contribution toward the home. Tammy, a book-keeper, says she's looking forward to her house being built and helping to revitalize the West Broadway community even more. Tammy says, "Kira is the most important person in my life and I want to make sure she has every opportunity in life. I grew up with my mom, who was also a single parent, and I know how challenging life can be."

Building is Underway

This is the first build that will be overseen by Habitat's new Project Manager, Wayne Sage. Properties are being prepared for the build including basements being dug and foundations poured. This is part of the pre-build that occurs before the many volunteers gather for the actual build.

For the July build, July 12-19, these jobs are nearly

done and the pre-build is beginning on homes planned for the August build, August 9-16.

As seen in this photo crews were out pouring the basement on a sunny afternoon on May 20 at 576 Pritchard Avenue in preparation for the build of the **All Weather Windows** home to be owned by John and Susana.



576 Pritchard Avenue, future Habitat home having the basement poured.

Volunteer Profile –Jake Pries



Volunteer Jake Pries, retired now from Habitat after 10 years of volunteering.

What makes someone dedicate 10 years as a volunteer to Habitat? According to Jake Pries, former Gift-in-Kind Coordinator, "In my heart is always Habitat. I worked with nice people who cared about each other and all had a common goal—to carry out the Lord's work and help build communities." Jake retired from Habitat this year after helping the organization in many areas.

Jake began his work with Habitat in late 1992 when he helped establish the Re-Store. A former manager with Woodland Supply, he had the connections needed in the building materials industry. During the 1993 Jimmy Carter build, Jake helped acquire kitchen cabinets and bathroom vanities for all 18 Habitat homes. He fondly re-

calls the Jimmy Carter build as one of the highlights of his Habitat career.

Jake built his career in the building materials industry having worked for Woodlands for 33 years and only left because of health problems. He and his wife Nettie share seven children and 15, almost 16 grandchildren who live throughout Manitoba and Ontario. After escaping communism throughout Eastern Europe and living in South America, Jake came to Canada. "I'm thankful we were able to come to Canada, to study here, raise my family and I always wanted to give something back—a pay back because Canada gave me so much," recalls Jake, "my wish is that Habitat could help build many more communities."

New Faces in the Habitat Office

Habitat says farewell and thanks to Dan and Karen Giesbrecht for all their hard work. Bonnie Snow replaced Karen as Family Selection and Support Coordinator. Bonnie comes to Habitat after working for the John Howard Society for four years as a counsellor and program facilitator. Prior to that, Bonnie worked in Thompson as a family conciliator. Bonnie says, "by coming to Habitat, I hope to do something really meaningful for families—I hope to help them ensure their success as homeowners." Bonnie is happily married and has two dogs.

Other new faces in the Habitat office include two summer employees. Rachel Petkau is a recent graduate of the I.H. Asper School of Business at the University of Manitoba, with a major in marketing. Rachel will be working on various marketing-related and administrative projects. Crystal Friesen joins Habitat office this summer too. Crystal is a graduate of the Canadian Mennonite University and plans to continue school next year at the University of Manitoba in education. Crystal is working in the accounting and reception areas.

Welcome to Bonnie, Rachel and Crystal!



Bonnie Snow, Family Selection and Support Coordinator

Playhouses for Hope—A Big Fat Habitat Success



This little girl is seen inside Noah's Ark donated by Woodland Supply.

This year's Playhouses for Hope draw took place on Saturday, April 5, at St. Vital Centre where all seven new and exciting designs were on display and two designs were previously on display during the Home Expressions Show at the Winnipeg Convention Centre.

Jimmy Mac of the A-Channel's Big Breakfast broadcast live at the mall promoting the Playhouses. Habitat raised enough to build one Habitat home during this summer's **Yvon Dumont Habitat Build** through the Playhouses for Hope.

Special thanks to this year's sponsors of the Playhouses including: Noah's Ark by Woodland Supply, Camelot by Job Works Youth Builders and Habitat for Humanity Winnipeg, Lord of the Rings Castle by Habitat Winnipeg staff, Selkirk Cottage by Selkirk Chapter of Habitat for Humanity, Hobbit Cottage by Manitoba Home Builders Training Institute and Star Building Materials, My House by Palliser Furniture, and a Victorian Cottage built by Job Works First Nations Carpentry Students with materials supplied by Qualico Homes.

Annual General Meeting

This year's Annual General Meeting held May 28 at the Ukrainian Labour Temple highlighted many successes over the past year. As well, during the meeting there were some changes in Board members and their roles. Olenka Antymniuk, Chair of the Board of Directors for the past four years, handed the reigns over to John Loewen. Sylvia Main was elected as the new Vice-Chair.

Outgoing Board members include Tom Stokes, Jackie Melnyk, Lori Matties, and Tom Thompson. There are

two incoming Board members, Brent Hekert, a Chartered Accountant, and Lynne Rochon.

Much gratitude and appreciation are extended to the Board members who have dedicated their time and effort to building affordable housing through Habitat for Humanity. Congratulations and welcome to the new Directors.

Interfaith Youth Build

The Interfaith Youth Build is set to volunteer during this summer's build. The group represents all faiths and those who participate are between the ages of 18 and 25. There will be 15 people every day over 8 days.

This initiative was developed by our Faith Relations Committee under the leadership of Joanne Kury of the Charleswood United Church.



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Building Homes Building Hope

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

Cycle of Hope Update

The Cycle of Hope group has been busy promoting and training for their upcoming ride. They've also had many volunteers organizing where to sleep during this year's 10th ride, the best routes to take, and where the cyclists' meals will come from. The Cycle will ride from Fernie, B.C. to Winnipeg July 5-19.

Training rides have been held most Saturday mornings at Bird's Hill Park although many have mentioned that they just can't find the same kind of hills they know exist on the route from Fernie.

Clinics have also been held including one on packing appropriately for the ride.

The Cycle of Hope will raise its one-millionth dollar this year in support of a Habitat house that will be built at 880 Magnus Avenue.

This year a public service announcement for television was created to promote the Cycle. As well, the Cycle of Hope Committee is producing a calendar that will be for sale during the summer.



Heather and Bill, future homeowners, Mayor Glen Murray, Honourary Chair of Cycle of Hope, Bev Watson, Chair of Cycle of Hope, John Loewen, past Chair.

Re-Store

The Re-Store extends thanks to **Opportunities for Employment** for providing their assistance in organizing the store.

What a difference you make when you buy things at the Re-Store. For example you:

- Save 40-60% on the items you buy;
- Provide funds for building more houses;
- Recycle items that would go to the landfill; and

- Provide families opportunities to buy building supplies they may not otherwise be able to afford.

Re-Store hours are:

Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.

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

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

Closed Sundays and holidays.