

Raising the Roof

Issue 2 ■ Summer 2004



“Eight Houses in Eight Days”

Since 1987, Habitat for Humanity Winnipeg has built over 100 homes for families in Manitoba. This incredible trend continues in 2004 as Habitat Winnipeg plans to build 16 new homes in Winnipeg, Steinbach and Selkirk. Not since the Jimmy Carter Build in 1993 has Habitat Winnipeg forwarded such an ambitious build schedule.

As part of our 2004 build, Habitat Winnipeg has taken the unprecedented step of moving out of the core area of Winnipeg and into the suburban community. This year's build will see our “Eight Houses in Eight Days” initiative with new homes being built on Kildare Avenue East in the suburb of Transcona. Several factors precipitated the move into suburban Winnipeg. Availability of property was one, however, the primary reason is to ensure we keep with our mission; To provide safe, decent and affordable housing to low income families. While we are committed to continued development in the core area, we feel Habitat should pursue a more balanced build strategy, utilizing both the core area

and suburban communities.

With ground being broken in June and the Blitz Build scheduled for August 7 to 14, this is a very exciting time to be a part of Habitat Winnipeg. As in the past, we will have 15-20 volunteers working on each home along with one house leader and two crew leaders. Steve and Dale, our Volunteer Managers, have been working steadily over the past several months, communicating with sponsors, families and volunteers to ensure we have the volunteer power to accomplish our goals. Additionally, there has been significant planning in the organization of meals, coffee break sponsors and of course, the selection of a facility to start each build day. This year, our day will begin at the Saints Ukrainian Orthodox Parish, 1500 Day Street in Transcona.

The agenda for this year's build will mirror that of past builds. Habitat veterans will recognize a similar style of organization with one noticeable exception, the adherence to time schedules. We have been placing much emphasis on ensuring we keep to our schedules,

from registration to breaks and meal times, and of course, construction. Our construction team has been working diligently to develop a construction schedule that will further enhance the quality of our homes rather than working within a given time frame. Rest assured, this year's build will be a positive experience for all involved with a finished home that everyone can be proud of.

We at Habitat Winnipeg are very excited about the 2004 Blitz Build. If you are a Habitat Blitz Build volunteer, your Blitz manual will be out to you during the first week of July.

We look forward to seeing

Habitat Endowment Fund

In 2002, Habitat for Humanity Winnipeg entered into an agreement with the Winnipeg Foundation to establish an endowment fund. The purpose of this fund is to provide income to build safe, decent and affordable housing for low income families in Winnipeg.

Through this fund, donors

have the opportunity to help build a legacy, allowing us to continue advancing our mission and eliminate poverty housing in Winnipeg.

Canada's first community foundation, The Winnipeg Foundation, was established in 1921. Today the Foundation is made up of 1,500 Endowment Funds.

For more information on how you can donate, contact Ken Bishop at 235-2180.



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A Message From Our Chair



Sylvia Main
Chair, 2004-2005

It is my pleasure to bring greetings to you as the Chair of the Board of Directors.

It's hard to believe that it was just over a year ago that I was involved in the August build on Langside. By 9:00 a.m. on that first morning the site was already a beehive of activity. I could hear the drone of a band saw, the methodical ring of hammers and excited conversation. Someone yelled "we need an extra set of hands" and that was my cue to move a wheelbarrow full of mud.

All week I worked alongside the Interfaith Youth Build, members of the 402 Squadron, fellow Board members and seasoned Habitat volunteers. It was an eclectic group but truly represented the essence of a Habitat build. We were volunteers from all walks of life working alongside our partner family to build their home. During the Build emotions flowed, helping hands were offered and reassuring pats on the back reminded us we were all dedicated to the same goal. We were part of a new beginning for a family. This is what Habitat International founder Millard Fuller talks about when he references the biblical message "that we should love God and our neighbours, especially our neighbours in need."

The Blitz Build is the face of our organization that most of you are familiar with but it is the buzz of activity that goes on behind the scenes that keeps the Habitat machine running. Throughout the year our CEO Ken Bishop and his staff actively recruit sponsors to support our Build, partner with families to become Habitat homeowners, search for land and spread the message about Habitat throughout the community. We are focussed on our mandate of eliminating poverty housing through building safe,

decent, affordable homes for our partner families.

In a recent study Habitat homeowners were asked what is the best thing about owning a home. They indicated that they "feel supported", that they have the "pride and responsibility of ownership and "we have a feeling of greater control over our lives now that we own our own home." This kind of feedback lets us know that Habitat Winnipeg is making a difference. However, there are still many families within our own community that are experiencing hardship. It's our challenge to provide families in need with an opportunity to live with dignity.

Thank-you to all those who support us as we work towards our 2004 goals. We truly are partners and together we can make a difference in the lives of Winnipeg families.

Sylvia Main
Chair of the Board of Directors
Habitat for Humanity Winnipeg

Habitat International Reaches 100 Countries Goal

Habitat for Humanity International's Board of Directors announced that Habitat is expanding the number of countries it is working in from 92 to 100, and named a managing director to help continue the organization's remarkable 28-year track record.

With the addition of Angola, Sierra Leone, Afghanistan, Laos, Myanmar, Macedonia, Turkey and Micronesia, Habitat will be working in more than half the countries of the world. Coinciding with this, the board named Paul Leonard, longtime volunteer and former board chair, managing director of the global nonprofit homebuilder.

Leonard, who brings experience in minis-

try and homebuilding to his new role, plans to "work hand in hand" with Millard Fuller and David Williams to provide day-to-day direction and management. Fuller is Habitat's founder, CEO and president, and Williams is executive vice president and chief operating officer.

Mortgage Free!



Habitat CEO Ken Bishop accepts the last mortgage cheque from Leona & Norman Izzard

Leona and Norman Izzard are Mortgage free! The Izzards moved into their Angus Street home in 1991; thirteen years later they made their last mortgage payment to Habitat for Humanity.

Leona & Norman raised nine children, all of whom are working or attending school. The Izzards instilled a strong work ethic in their children and are proud of the success their kids achieved in their careers and personal lives.

After their home was built in 1991, Leona and Norman continued to volunteer on Habitat Builds. They describe a positive experience with Habitat and feel that Angus Street was an exceptional place to raise children. Neighbours became friends and a real sense of community developed. The Izzards are proud to be a part of this neighbourhood.

Congratulations Leona, Norman & family!

Greetings from the CEO

Thank you...Thank you...Thank you

Individual donations are our main source of fundraising. Thank you to all those who contributed to this year's 2004 build program.

All funds donated go towards building homes. All contributions are used to purchase building materials and services for the construction of 12 new homes this year for low income families in Winnipeg. Habitat's work is a proven approach to building decent and affordable housing.

I Didn't Know That!

Recently, I met some Transcona residents at our groundbreaking ceremony on Kildare Avenue East. They wanted to know more about the Habitat program.

Q. I'm concerned! Will Habitat houses decrease the value of my home? What will the homes look like?

A. The houses we build will assimilate with those homes already in the neighbourhood. They will be similar in lot size, square footage and appearance as the neighbours. Habitat homes will be equivalent in value, if not higher (they are new homes) to any similar sized house in the area.

Tim Horton's to Sponsor Four Children

Four lucky children are going to camp as a result of the generosity of a long-time Habitat supporter, Phil Manore from Tim Horton's, JPM Enterprises and the Tim Horton Children's Foundation.



AJ, Michelle, Alexandra, and Tyler are *very* excited about attending Tim Horton's Camp this summer in St. George, Ontario. This means a lot of "firsts" for these kids – first

Q. Did Habitat get this property for free?

A. No. Habitat purchased the property and it was listed on the market.

Q. Are the homes free or do the families pay rent?

A. Habitat families buy the house at market value, however, we do not charge interest or require a down-payment. They are homeowners with a 20-year mortgage.

Q. Are the family members employed? How can they afford to pay a mortgage?

A. All Habitat homeowners must be employed for a minimum of three years and not on social assistance. Families pay 25% of their income (line 150 on their tax return) towards the principal of their mortgage. The payment includes mortgage and property taxes.

Q. How do you choose the families?

A. Anyone can apply. The criteria is as follows:

- The current living conditions are inadequate, crowded, etc.
- Meet the low income criteria.

Low income is defined using the Statistics Canada Low Income Scale. For example, a family of four would have an annual income of less than \$36,247.

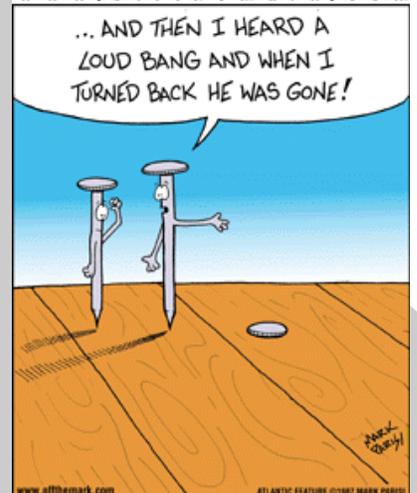
- Must be employed for a minimum of three years and not on social assistance.
- Must have the ability to pay 25% of their annual income towards the mortgage and have excellent credit.
- Willingness to partner with Habitat by volunteering for 500 hours of work (sweat equity).

Habitat examines all of the above criteria and conducts interviews with the families in their current home. In all, the application process takes two to three months of due diligence.

If you have any questions regarding our Habitat program, email us at info@habitat.mb.ca. If your group or company is looking for a speaker, please contact Dale Aymont by telephone at 235-2181

Ken Bishop
Chief Executive Officer

off the mark by Mark Parisi
www.offthemark.com



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time flying, first time at a camp, and first time being away from their parents for nine days! In August they will be on an adventure leaving them with lasting friendships and memories.



These four children from Habitat families will experience an opportunity of a lifetime and we want to express a big "Thank you" to the Phil and Tim Horton Children's Foundation.

The Volunteer Zone

Summer is finally here and excitement is building (pun intended) for this summer's building projects. We will be building in numerous areas both in and out of the city.

Hundreds of volunteers have signed up to volunteer from August 7th-14th in Transcona for our "8 Houses in 8 Days" blitz build. The response has been tremendous. We are completely full! Thank you to all those who will be donating their time.

This year's post-build will be on August 19-21 and August 26-28. We're still accepting volunteers to help during this timeframe. Specifically, we need construction professionals who have finishing carpentry skills.

As always, Habitat depends on construction volunteers with a wide range of skills. At the moment we need construction professionals to lead volunteers during our build. (i.e. carpenters) If this is you, we'd really like to hear from you.

In other volunteer news, **THE RE-STORE, OUR HOME IMPROVEMENT OUTLET CENTRE**, which raises funds for Habitat, is currently recruiting volunteers who can commit to regularly scheduled hours, whether that is a few days per month or a few days per week. We are currently seeking volunteers in all departments includ-

ing, lighting, product assembly, plumbing, electrical, hardware, receiving, cleaning and organizing. Current volunteers at our new store have expressed the satisfaction they feel in knowing they are helping Habitat to build more homes and helping customers find great deals on their home improvement needs.

If you are interested in any of these opportunities, give Dale a call at 235-2181 or email at dalca@habitat.mb.ca

On a more personal note, it is with sadness that I tell you as of the end of July, I will be finishing my job at Winnipeg Habitat for Humanity. I have decided to return to school. It has been a wonderful experience getting to know so many great volunteers who are dedicated to the task of eliminating poverty housing. I will miss you!

To make the transition as seamless as possible, Habitat has hired Dale Aymont to take over the HR/Volunteer Services. Dale is a Certified Human Resources Professional and comes to Habitat with an extensive background in HR management. Feel free to give Dale a call and introduce yourself and take the opportunity to meet him at this year's Blitz Build.

Steve Dick
Manager, HR/Volunteer Services

Cold Weather doesn't Cool Groundbreaking Reception



personality Colin Mochrie, from attending our historic groundbreaking ceremony and barbecue on June 8.

Transcona was buzzing with activity as Habitat for Humanity Winnipeg came to community to

It was a cool, cloudy morning, however, it did not prevent dignitaries, sponsors, families and guests, including the television

break ground on the Kildare Avenue East site where "Eight Houses in Eight Days" will be built during this summer's blitz.

Habitat families receive a warm welcome from Transcona government representatives, community leaders and residents and all our guests enjoyed the opportunity to speak about the great things Habitat has accomplished.

Speakers included Bill Blaikie, MP for Transcona; Daryl Reid, MLA for Transcona; Russ Wyatt, City Councillor for Transcona; Our own Sylvia Main and Ken Bishop; and of course our special Guest, Colin Mochrie.

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The Construction Corner

Welcome everyone to the Winnipeg Habitat for Humanity 2004 "Eight Houses in Eight Days" build. I trust every is ready to throw on the tool pouch and help us build 12 houses this year, offering a hand up to those in need.

This year sees a few changes to the way builds have been structured in the past. Not only have we moved into new areas of the city, but we have broken our blitz build into a three-phase project. The main blitz build week is still just as exciting and has all the content of past builds however the scope of work we need to accomplish has been reduced to getting the house to lockup stage only. Lockup meaning walls, roof and exterior doors in place. We feel this will provide us with a safer working environment and allow sub-trades to get in and perform their work under more controlled circumstances. Further, this will allow for more volunteers to experi-

ence the mission of Habitat for Humanity and participate in this very important work.

After the August 7-14 blitz, there will be two mini post blitz programs, first being insulation, vapour barrier, and drywall installation; Then all painting and finishing. All in all, some 400 volunteers will see us accomplish our mission to provide safe, decent and affordable housing to low income families.

In the next few weeks, volunteers will be receiving a detailed information package on the build. Please be sure to read it carefully. Make note of the tools and safety clothing required to participate in this year's build.

I look forward to seeing all of you in August

Wayne Sage
Project Manager

The ReStore Review

The doors of our new **ReStore Home Improvement Centre**, has been opened for over three months. In that short time we have seen an influx of customers experiencing the ReStore for the first time. The result is, record breaking sales and merchandise leaving the store faster than we can bring it in. Therefore we are in need of product for our customers.

This is a call to all manufacturers, suppliers, builders and retailers; Do you have any materials that you have been storing for the last three years thinking "someday I'll use this?"; The ReStore could use it today.

Why Donate?

Our donors give because they know materials donated to our Restore can be used in households, rental properties,

cottages, churches, theatres, schools, community groups. Your old cabinets could end up as much needed storage for nonperishable items in a food pantry. Your sheets of plywood could fix a leaky roof for a family who could otherwise not afford repair costs.

Tax Donation Receipt

Sure, you feel good when you donate something to a worthy cause. However, when you donate materials with a sale value of \$200.00 or more, you will be issued a tax receipt.

Keep us in mind when you are buying, selling or donating materials. Through our friends and donors, you will help Habitat build safe, decent and affordable homes.

Al Leighton
ReStore General Manager

Thank-you to our House Sponsors



The Kinsmen Club
of Winnipeg



Cargill Ltd.



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Eastview Community Church



Cycle of Hope
Cyclists 2004



The Home Depot



Fort Garry Mennonite
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*Eliminating poverty housing by
building safe, decent and
affordable housing for low income
families*



Playhouses for Hope a Huge Success

There were many sponsors and builders this year. Thanks to the following sponsors for donating money, time or materials-in-kind for their playhouse and thanks to the volunteers who built the playhouses:

Type of Playhouse	Sponsor	Builder	Winners
Anne of Green Gables House	Palliser Furniture	Palliser Furniture	D. Caswell
Medieval Tourist Tower	Clodhoppers	Chez-Soi Chapter	L. Ang
Goldilocks & 3 Bear's Log Cabin	Herzing College	Herzing College & Girl Guides	D. Christensen
Family Barn	Clodhoppers	Manitoba Construction Training	K. Barnabe
School House	Springfield Middle School	Springfield Middle School	L. Bourcier
Gingerbread House	Star Building & Qualico	Manitoba Construction Training	C. Panas
Gucklupf	U of M Faculty of Architecture	Student Architectural Society	B. Berrey
Winnie-the-Pooh House	Clodhoppers	Selkirk Chapter	C. Bridges
Miniature Retro Barbie House	The Loewen Family	Reconditioned	A. Nacionales

Congratulation to all the Winners!

Cycle of Hope—Ready to Roll

The official start of the 11th tour of the Cycle of Hope is fast approaching and the cyclists have been giving much of their time and effort into training and fundraising.

Leaving Denver, Colorado on the 17th of July, cyclists will be riding over 1600 kilometers during the 14 day event. Scheduled to arrive in Winnipeg on July 31, supporters of Habitat will add to the

\$1,000,000 raised to date to support the Habitat for Humanity Winnipeg goal of eliminating poverty housing.

While the 2004 Cycle of Hope is full with its current compliment of 57 cyclists,

you can still support this ride though sponsorship. For details on how to support the Habitat for Humanity Cycle of Hope, call Jane at 233-5160.
