



## Habitat Manitoba's Largest Sustainable Development

**Zero Green House Gas Emissions  
55 Highly Energy Efficient Homes  
Powered by MB Made Renewable Energy**

**Coming 2022**



**Habitat**  
for Humanity®  
Manitoba

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*...and much more*



**Habitat Manitoba  
is building a  
55-unit  
'carbon-free'  
project  
in Transcona**



*Listed from left to right:*

James Teitsma, MLA, for Radisson; Honourable Rochelle Squires, Minister of Families; Shawn Nason, City Councillor, Transcona; Sandy Hopkins, CEO, HFHM; Daniel Blaikie, MP, Elmwood; Grand Chief Arlen Dumas; Julia Deans, President and CEO, HFHC; Candray Mehkary, Board Chair, HFHM

2021 was a year of adjustments and maneuvering during which we developed a rhythm that allowed us to accomplish a significant amount. Among the key achievements are:

- Finished 13 homes that had been started in 2020
- In Winnipeg, started the last 10 homes at Ken McCrea Cove on Templeton Avenue and two infill lots on Martin Avenue
- Completed a one week Blitz Build in October on four homes at Ken McCrea Cove
- Started two homes in Brandon

- Started single homes in Dauphin, Killarney and Winkler
- Gained approval from Winnipeg City Council for a 55 unit development on Pandora Avenue West, which was formally announced on October 29th
- Completed a bold new Strategic Plan
- Announced a major change in our senior management team with the promotion of Michelle Pereira to Chief Operating Officer and the addition of Christa Mariash to succeed Michelle as VP, Marketing, Communications and Philanthropy

While we were unable to host build volunteers for the first half of the year, we had a significant number of groups and individuals build with us between August and the end of October.

Looking ahead to 2022, in addition to completing homes started this year but not finished by year-end, we anticipate starting between 22 and 26 homes including the first 15 at the Pandora site.

*~Sandy Hopkins, CEO  
Habitat for Humanity Manitoba*

# our tradition



# is building home



# Moments that Matter

The pandemic has certainly been a challenging time for everyone. At Habitat Manitoba we have at times, been restricted from building with volunteers, and at times, been permitted to build with volunteers. We have worked at home, and we have worked at half-staff in the office. We have talked and texted, and zoomed and emailed. Not being together with our colleagues has been excruciating at times. That is not different from many others, including our volunteers who are the heart and soul of Habitat.

Recently we held our first Blitz Build since 2019. Blitz Builds are a significant and meaningful event at Habitat. At the end of this busy week of building, volunteers were reluctant to leave (always the sign of a successful event)! I stood and talked with several volunteers who were out for a Team Build day with their colleagues. When I asked them how their day went, one woman responded that it had brought her “Peace”. I was fascinated by her comment. I have heard many responses to that question over the years, but this was the first time someone responded with a sense of Peace. A colleague of this volunteer then talked about it in terms of it having been a very long couple of years of working remotely and how meaningful it was to be there that day. He said that he had started working with this particular coworker 18 months ago, and that day was the first time they actually had met face to face – on the Habitat site. These moments of “Peace” and of reuniting matter.

It is difficult to explain the impact that volunteering has on someone, because people generally volunteer in order to help others in need, as well as to make a

difference in their community. What they may not expect is that in return, they themselves also benefit. We clearly see the impact that the Habitat program has on families who purchase the homes, but there is an additional impact on volunteers that one must experience to understand. We know more than ever that it is important to be connected to people and volunteering enables those connections to be made.

## Volunteering has many benefits:

- It strengthens people’s ties to the community, and it broadens their social networks
- It brings people together who have common interests, and it is good for our mental and physical health
- It builds confidence and increases self-esteem.
- It help us to learn new skills (or maybe hone some existing skills)

Habitat volunteers help us to achieve our Mission of building safe, decent affordable housing for families living with lower income. It is a perfect, symbiotic relationship and it’s fun and rewarding! Volunteering changes the lives of others, but your life will be changed as well. You may leave exhausted and sore after a build day; but it will be a good kind of sore!

*~ Kelly Kluger  
Manager, Volunteer Services*

**To learn more about volunteer opportunities contact me today at [kkluger@habitat.mb.ca](mailto:kkluger@habitat.mb.ca)**



# Volunteer Accolades

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"I just wanted to thank you for everything you did to get our teams out yesterday to the Build Day!"

We had such an amazing time, and I know that I personally came away from the day with a new appreciation for everything that Habitat for Humanity does for the community.

Can't wait to come out again next year and see everyone's smiling faces."

*~Sydney Franchewski, balncd*

"Thank you so much for all your help with organizing yesterday. Everyone in our group had a blast and had nothing but smiles on their face all day!"

Also, the lunch was delicious – I'm not used to take out gluten free sandwiches being so delicious!"

*~Candray Mehkary  
Habitat Manitoba Board Chair*

"Thanks to you for facilitating this amazing opportunity even in the middle of Covid (for the second year). What a challenge!"

*~Diana Ardila  
Red River Mutual*

"It's always so much fun! And you get to meet the people you are helping build the home for."

*~Michelle Wall  
Red River Mutual*

"The event was incredible. I feel honoured to volunteer again. The team on the build site were awesome. They were helpful. They were teachers. Snacks and lunch were a great treat."

*~Robert Lamoureux  
Wawanesa Insurance*

"It was a fun build again this year. Really enjoyed working with the Savante team and as usual the Habitat team brought their A game and taught us a bunch of new stuff. Looking forward to seeing you all again next year."

*~Romey Whitwell, Wynward Insurance Group*

"My family, friends and I enjoyed our build day very much. I know I am repeating myself but Ken would be so very humbled by the honour Habitat paid to him. Thanks again for making my family and I feel so welcome!"

*~ Charlene McCrea*

# Habitat Build Day

## The Ultimate Team Building Experience!

Volunteers and sponsored build days are integral to our ability to build homes for families in need of affordable housing. In some ways, 2021 felt like a repeat of 2020. The start of our volunteer build season was once again delayed by months. Thankfully, by August we were eagerly welcoming groups back onto our construction site and this continued all the way to the end of October. With their help, we were able to accomplish an amazing amount of construction on 10 homes located at Ken McCrea Cove. Thank you to everyone that came out to build and thank you to all the groups that were unable to build, but provided financial support. We could not have done this without you!

### **Thank you to the following groups for their financial and volunteer support.**

Access Credit Union	Penn-co Construction Canada
Apex Surety & Insurance Ltd.	pico Architecture Inc.
Assiniboine Credit Union	Portage Mutual Insurance
balncd	Qualico
CARSTAR	Quintex
Cell Mechanics	Red River Mutual
Emergent BioSolutions	Rempel Insurance Brokers Ltd.
floForm	Rotary Club of Winnipeg
Fort Group Inc.	Savante Insurance Inc.
Gendis Inc.	TD The Ready Commitment
GP Kroeker Financial Inc.	The McCrea Family & Friends
Habitat for Humanity Manitoba Board of Directors	TransX Ltd.
HUB International	Urban Systems Foundation
Insurance Brokers Association of Manitoba	Value Partners Investments
IDC Communications	Warnick Wealth Management
IG Wealth Management	Wawanesa Insurance
IKEA	Western Financial Group   Wyatt Dowling Insurance Brokers
Jade Transport	Western Retail Lumber Association
McArthur Financial Services	Westland Insurance
Manitoba Hydro Professional Engineers' Association	Winnipeg Blues Hockey Club
Manitoba School for the Deaf	Winnipeg Construction Association
Neegan Burnside	Winnipeg Insurance Brokers Ltd.
Neptune Properties	WSP Canada Inc.
One Insurance	Wynward Insurance Group

Please contact [Susan Buffie](#), Senior Development Officer, Corporate Partnerships at [\(204\) 235-2400](tel:204-235-2400) or [sbuffie@habitat.mb.ca](mailto:sbuffie@habitat.mb.ca) to book your Build Day.



# Building through a Pandemic

Habitat for Humanity Manitoba's Construction Department had an exceptional year. Building a Habitat home during a world-wide pandemic came with its own set of challenges but they planned, they pivoted and they were able to create a program that safely reintroduced volunteers to the build site and made it possible for eight families living with lower income realize their dream of owning a home.

**"The Construction Team persevered through some extraordinary challenges. They hung in and continued to bond, trust each other and work as a team," says Linda Peters, Vice President, Operations & Community Development. "They have always been strong, patient and respectful to each other and the volunteers they work with, but the past two years have really showed the true character of each and every one of them."**

They decided to finish the season by going all out with a week-long Blitz Build that saw 40 volunteers a day come out and frame four houses. A weeklong event like this requires good communication, exceptional planning and organization to ensure the volunteers and families that are participating have a meaningful experience. "It ended the construction year with a bang! Although, we had many challenges with provincial public health restrictions constantly changing and building without volunteers for the first part of the year, we learned to adapt to all situations and make the best of them," said Thomas Hoffmann, Site Supervisor, "So we can focus on what really matters - our mission to provide families a home."

The Blitz Build took place at the Templeton Avenue Development in Amber Trails that when complete, will be home to 20 families. To date, 10 families have purchased their homes and moved in and the remaining 10 will be in by spring of 2022.

We want to thank our trade partners that went above and beyond this year. Their continued support played an integral part in the success of the Habitat Mission.

The continued perseverance of the Construction Team will serve them well leading into the 2022 building season. Stretching three acres on Pandora Avenue West in Transcona will be Habitat Manitoba's largest sustainable development to date. This community will be home to 55 families living in highly energy efficient homes powered by Manitoba made renewable energy which will produce zero greenhouse gas emissions.

## **We'd like to introduce you to the amazing Habitat for Humanity Manitoba Construction Team:**

- Thomas Hoffmann, Red Seal Carpenter, Site Supervisor
- Ben Klymochko, Red Seal Carpenter
- Rob Martens, Red Seal Carpenter
- Kelly Kluger, Manager, Volunteer Services
- Herb Griffith, NCSO, Safety Coordinator
- Bryan Gamble, Project Coordinator
- Cory Halliday, Construction Helper/Driver
- Sterling Flett, Carpenter's Helper
- Anthony Schick, Construction Trades Supervisor (on leave)
- Patricia Pelletier, Project Coordinator (on leave)

## **Habitat for Humanity Manitoba would like to recognize a few of our longtime professional trade partners that went above and beyond this year:**

- On Grade Levelling
- Security Plus Ltd.
- Wilzer Sheet Metal & Heating Ltd.
- Dover Flo Plumbing
- Reimer Soils Ltd.
- Lacoste Garden Centre and Landscaping
- Lavergne Draward & Associates Inc.
- Prime Fasteners & Tools Winnipeg
- All City Exterior Ltd.
- Elite Excavating
- prairieHouse performance inc.
- Dover Glo Cleaning Services



# Building for the Future

## with Westland Insurance

Perhaps there's no better way to encapsulate the impact the Habitat for Humanity's homeownership program has on a family than looking at the faces of Muhammad Arshad, his wife Saima, and 12-year-old son Hashir.

Owning a home is a major life milestone and is an act of independence, a source of pride and joy. That's what was written all over the faces of the Arshad family, taking a tour of what will soon be their home, situated on a row of townhouses on Templeton Avenue in the heart of Amber Trails. Westland sponsors the program so they can see the impact individual projects like this have on families who need them.

They currently live in a small apartment. Hashir shares a bedroom with his grandfather. The Arshad family wasn't able to save money for a down payment on a home. That was their only barrier to homeownership. So, imagine their joy when they were accepted into the Habitat homeownership program, with the opportunity to own a spacious new three-bedroom home.

"It was just never in my mind that we would get an opportunity to buy a home in Canada," Muhammad said. As he spoke, Westland Insurance employees were working close by, volunteering their time to help builders on the site.

That's where the rubber hits the road as well for Westland Insurance, the lead sponsor in a collective of Manitoba property insurance sponsors, committing \$50,000 to the Arshad home. The company's national support of Habitat for Humanity means they are committing money to housing projects like this, benefiting Canadian families.

The national insurance brokerage recently launched its Westland Amplifying Communities Initiative. This initiative is designed to support community projects and initiatives across Canada. Those projects will focus on wellness and mental health, equality and inclusion, homelessness, food insecurity and environmentalism. Westland has made \$1 million available in 2021, so there will be other community support announcements in the months ahead.

"This is a core value for Westland Insurance," said Todd Peterson, Vice President, Prairies, Westland Insurance, on-site with the Arshad family. "It's something we're really excited about. We want to give back to the communities we do business with. It's a critical part of who we are. Our goal is to help families in need, so this project is a perfect example of that."

Visit <https://youtu.be/ux5CU9PNncw> to meet the Arshad family and representatives from Westland and Habitat for Humanity Manitoba.



# Spirit of Hope

The 2nd Annual Spirit of Hope cycling event was an incredible success which included 19 first time cyclists. In total, 34 passionate cyclists rode along the western shore of Lake Winnipeg completing a round-trip journey from Winnipeg to Hecla and Gull Harbour.

**The team collectively raised more than \$43,000 ...**

for the construction of Usman & Sobia's home located at Ken McCrea Cove that is projected to be complete in the spring of 2022.

This year's ride tested the fortitude of the cyclists as they battled strong headwinds and dodged inclement weather with a downpour on

their last day of the ride. They successfully completed a 400 Km journey in five days.

This event would not have been possible without a dedicated team of volunteers. We would like to thank **Janet Nickel, Johnathan Scott, Ken Sommer, Miles Purdy** and **Rick Mahon** for their dedication and commitment to the event.

Special thanks to **Danny Goovaerts** for once again designing a fantastic jersey & T-shirt; **Woodcock Cycle** for sponsoring the jersey production, **Beaver Bus Lines** for the use of a luxurious motor coach, **Stony Mountain Institute** for the use of AEDs, **Camp Arnes** for the comfortable accommodations, **Kris' Fish and Chips** in Gimli for the delicious meals and **Gordon Food Services** for the nutritious snacks.



# Ride Around the Lake

The 15th Annual Ride Around the Lake was an overwhelming success this year. 41 cyclists challenged themselves on three spectacular routes around Kenora, Ontario.

Thank you to **Qualico, Winnipeg Building and Decorating Ltd., Pollard Banknote Ltd., Garibaldi Investments, Parrish & Heimbecker, RBC Royal Bank and Murray Auto Group.**

**The event raised more than \$420,000 and set a new fundraising record.**

Ride Around the Lake raised enough money to build two Habitat homes. Chantel and her son's Nicodem (15) and Jeremiah (12) will now have a strong foundation to build strength and stability.

Special thanks to **Andrea Tetrault** and her team at **Tetro Design** for the creative kit design, **Bobby Wall Team** and **GarmaTech** for producing the jersey, bib shorts and T-shirts, **Alter Ego Sports** for the outstanding mechanical support, **Tom Thomson Photography** for the incredible event photos and of course **Marie Loewen** and **Johnathan Scott** who provided additional support throughout the event.

We would also like to thank the **Thiessens, Vans** and **Heimbeckers** for opening their beautiful cottages to host the participants throughout the event and **901 Westside** for the amazing catering.



# Partner Family Spotlight



For Chantel, home is an intergenerational gift. An everlasting place of belonging. A gift she will pass on to her children, whom she hopes will later pass on to her grandchildren, and then her great-grandchildren after that. When Chantel got the phone call from Habitat for Humanity Manitoba, letting her know that her application was accepted, she was immediately thinking towards the future.

For many like Chantel, home will always be more than four walls and a roof over their head; it will be a place to return to. Chantel wants her children to have that option – to have somewhere to come back to. This is one of the many, many advantages 'home' provides.

**“I’ll have a home to provide for my children when they’re ready to leave for college or university. If they want to come back, there’s that option. In the future, it’s where my grandchildren will come**

**visit – I’ll have that for them, too. That’s how far I’m thinking into it. I want that reassurance for my family and for their children,” says Chantel.**

As a single mother to three children, aged 16, 12 and 10, Chantel truly does it all to support her children. Recently, she decided on a significant career change – from Early Childhood Education to Human Resource Management – to provide more for her family and she is currently studying and working a full-time job. She has an impressive work ethic and is constantly striving to create a better future for her children – this is where Habitat comes in.

Chantel first heard of Habitat for Humanity’s Homeownership Program about 10 years ago. She didn’t think much of it at the time, assuming she wouldn’t qualify, and spent the next 10 years renting from Manitoba Housing. But after her family started outgrowing their rental, Chantel decided to take a chance and apply. Much to her

excitement, her application was successful.

The process has been moving quickly. Within weeks of partnering with Habitat Manitoba, Chantel started working towards her 500 hours of mandatory service. The entire family has been cutting grass all summer, and her children are always more than excited to help. They’re eager to participate as often as they can, because they know what’s next. They’re looking forward to having a bigger house, to finally having their own rooms, and having space for the hobbies they all enjoy.

Most of all, they’re looking forward to being together in a space that is their own.

Chantel foresees her new home being a place for growth – both for herself and her children. As she looks towards the future, she sees new opportunities within their grasp, and she can’t wait to take full advantage of the strength and stability a Habitat home provides.

*- Ria Salad  
Habitat for Humanity Canada*

**Inspire your  
students and  
give back**

## **Contest opens for entries January 3, 2022.**

The Meaning of Home is an annual writing contest for students in Grades 4, 5 and 6 in support of Habitat for Humanity Canada. Students across Canada are invited to submit a poem or essay explaining what *home* means to them. It's a great way to engage your students in an interactive and fun way, and it teaches youth the importance of safe, affordable housing.

## 2021 Grants

**Thank you to the following Foundations, Non-Profits and Institutions who have made Grant contributions in 2021:**

Brandon Area Community Foundation  
Brandon Economic Restart Program  
Carl von Baeyer & Deborah Lake Foundation  
Charities Aid Foundation of Canada  
City of Brandon  
Denise and David Wall Fund  
Edward Lee Stebbing Foundation  
Grant & Linda Floren Family Foundation  
Mahon Family Foundation  
Morden Area Foundation  
MREA Shelter Foundation  
Murray & Charlotte Taylor Foundation

Noreen and Robert Allen Charitable Trust  
RBC Foundation  
Richardson Foundation  
Roofing Contractors Association  
Sagen  
The Cardinal Foundation  
The Home Depot Foundation  
The Killarney Foundation  
The Winnipeg Foundation  
Thomas Sill Foundation  
Vehicle Technology Association Inc.  
William & Daphne Thompson Foundation

\*we apologize for any omissions

# Chapter Updates

## Our Chapters are doing phenomenal work!

As the year comes to a close, Habitat for Humanity Manitoba Chapters throughout the province continue to build. The project in Killarney is close to wrapping up with the new homeowner, Tanja, taking ownership on December 16th. Most certainly it will be an early Christmas present that this family will never forget! And while one project is coming to a close, another build just started in Morden. Businesses, town council members, churches,

and restaurants have all come together and made the start to this project a great success! All in all our Chapters had a banner year in 2021 with seven new homes started!

To learn more about the various places that Habitat has a presence visit:

<https://www.habitat.mb.ca/chapters>

## Killarney



## Winkler-Morden



# Habitat Brandon Chapter

We are continuing to develop on the 700 block of Franklin Street on land that was graciously donated by the City of Brandon. For the first time Habitat Brandon is completing a side by side build in an effort to increase density and serve more families.

The Habitat Brandon Chapter kicked off their build at the end of September with a three day Women Build Blitz. They hosted 17 different volunteers working alongside partner families who put in over 160 hours of sweat equity. Collectively these volunteers raised \$2200 in pledges to help with the build!

Heritage Co-op finished out Brandon's Build week by having seven team members from across Westman join us for a Team Build.

Our first side by side build has proven to be successful and should be ready to house new homeowners in the spring of 2022.



# ReStore Accolades



HONOUR 150 presented by Canada Life, recognizes 150 people from across the province who stand out for their role in making Manitoba such an amazing province. Nominated by people in their own communities, these 150 individuals represent the diversity of our province. Ryan Pandolfi, Manager, ReStore in Brandon was one of the honourees. He continues to help others in his community and we are so proud to have such an inspiring person as part of our organization.

**Ryan Pandolfi**  
Brandon Chapter  
Bringing his community together while advocating for mental health awareness through entertainment.





# Community Development Partners



## Build Partners



Canada Life is a leading insurance, wealth management and benefits provider focused on improving the financial, physical and mental well-being of Canadians. For more than 170 years, individuals, families and business owners across Canada have trusted us to provide sound guidance and deliver on the promises we've made. On January 1, 2020, Great-West Life, London Life and Canada Life became one company – Canada Life, and today, we proudly serve more than 12 million customer relationships from coast to coast to coast.



At Dufresne Furniture, we believe it is our honour and our responsibility to support the communities that have continued to support us for nearly 30 years. We are proud to partner with HFHM by providing product to the ReStore and a new energy efficient washer and dryer pair for each new home built in Winnipeg. Find out more about Dufresne at [www.dufresne.ca](http://www.dufresne.ca).



floFORM Countertops, with its Head Office in Winnipeg, is a leading manufacturer of quality countertops. Since 2010, floFORM has been fabricating and installing all countertops for Habitat for Humanity homes in Winnipeg.



Qualico, a fully integrated real estate company with our roots established in Winnipeg, has supported and partnered with Habitat for Humanity Manitoba for nearly 30 years. Our support includes the lead sponsorship of the annual Ride Around the Lake cycling fundraiser alongside a dedicated involvement with Women Build events, and we are proud to have partnered with Habitat for Humanity Manitoba on its first-ever net-zero build in 2018. Our employees also join in and volunteer on the job site to build homes for Habitat builds each year, assisting working families in their pursuit of homeownership.



The Richardson Foundation helps Canadian charitable organizations achieve their goals by providing meaningful funding that will enrich the lives of the people in the communities served by James Richardson & Sons, Limited and its affiliated companies: Richardson International, Tundra Oil & Gas Limited, Richardson Financial Group, Richardson Centre Limited and Wynward Insurance Group.



Wawanesa Insurance, a proud Manitoba company, has actively supported Habitat for Humanity for many years in a variety of ways including sponsorship of our Special Events. Since 2013, Wawanesa has been the lead donor for the Manitoba Property Insurance annual home build. In addition to the cash support to Habitat, Wawanesa employees don their work boots and tool belts to assist to build a home each year.

## Title Home Sponsors



The Estate of Patricia MacDonald



Faith Build



Manitoba Property Insurance Build



Ride Around the Lake

Helene Reimer and the late Erna Reimer

Women Build

## Supporting Home Sponsors



Brian & Ruth Hastings

Cycle of Hope

Mahon Family Foundation

The McCrea Family

Spirit of Hope

## Community Partners

