

FALL EDITION 2017

Rooflines

YOUR GIFTS IN ACTION WITH HABITAT FOR HUMANITY WATERLOO REGION



**every
one**
deserves a decent
place to live





Our partner families join us to improve the place they call home

The road towards homeownership is an eventful one; it includes 250 'sweat equity' hours per adult - and the work is often outside of our families' regular skill sets and experience.

Building a home and constructing a neighbourhood, such as the Habitat for Humanity Waterloo Region Kehl Street complex, isn't something our families do every day. Yet, each family participates in every aspect of the build process from foundation to the front door.

While volunteering on the build site this summer, both Sofiya and Natasha, and their husbands, donned their safety gear and listened

intently to our team leads and safety protocol each morning, along with a crew of 10 other volunteers. After each morning meeting, Sofiya and Natasha would nod their heads, pick up a hammer, or a piece of drywall, or a shovel (whatever was needed really) and off to work they went (building their homes and others). They climbed scaffolding, put up siding, cut 2x4s, set insulation in place - you name it, both of these women did it!

Fast forward to the first night in her very own home - Natasha was overwhelmed with a sense of pride. On that first night, she just couldn't sleep even though she was quite tired - moving four kids, and a dog, with her husband, is hard work! She crept through the kitchen, the one where she helped install the cabinets, and decided to sprawl out on the couch in the living room, and hopefully get some sleep. As she laid there, her mind racing, she couldn't help but look around and recall what her new home looked like when it was merely a foundation. The foundation that now supports walls, ceilings, rooms and her family - a foundation that she helped build - truly something to be proud of.



Looking to make some home improvements?

Contact our ReStore Salvage Team – we take out your old kitchen for free, and you get a tax receipt!

We also accept:

- Furniture (preferably 2 years old or less)
- Appliances (all must be in working condition and not older than 7 years)
- Working bathroom items
- Cabinetry and counter tops in good condition
- Building materials
- Flooring
- Hardware
- Heating and ventilation
- Lighting and electrical
- Millwork and mantels
- Plumbing
- Windows and doors
- Tools
- Outdoor items

All items have restrictions (i.e. age, condition, sizing, etc.) – we do NOT accept everything.



Plus, talk about security - every hammer swung, every dollar raised, and every single mortgage payment her family will make has built, and will build, a strong foundation for her family. A foundation that means strength, stability and self-reliance.

We build. You build. Strength, stability, and self-reliance through affordable homeownership.

Thank you!

Share your thoughts: do you have a memory from your first night in a new home?



FOR DROP-OFF SPECIFICATIONS please visit our ReStore Donate page www.habitatwr.ca/donate-0



Every campus can be a community builder

The University of Waterloo Habitat for Humanity Campus Chapter (HabitatUW) is one of them, and they continue to amaze us.

Founded collectively by Peter Oliveira, Ola Suchon, Matt Roberts, and Quynh Chau, the University of Waterloo Engineering students wanted to dig in and do their part in helping to build affordable homes for those willing to work along side them in this community.

Peter initially became involved with Habitat for Humanity while living and working in Houston, Texas during a University of Waterloo co-op placement. He volunteered much of his free time to their volunteer builds, and said he fell in love with the whole experience of being on site; working alongside the partner families as they built their homes, meeting and learning from skilled team leads, and making business connections. When he moved back to Waterloo for school, he sought out the same experience and found that there was a Habitat for Humanity in Waterloo Region. He has been volunteering ever since, and has introduced us to some of his equally dedicated friends and colleagues.

These students are leaders in our community. They are an inspiring up-and-coming generation of talented Engineers, that also happen to be renegades in community building, as well as advocates for affordable homeownership.

HabitatUW is a student-led, student-initiated organization at the University of Waterloo that has partnered with HabitatWR to fulfill the five functions of the Campus Chapter.

Not only is the University of Waterloo Campus Chapter organizing regular volunteer builds, they are also aiming to fundraise over \$70,000 in order to be a house sponsor – they hope to call it the Warrior Home.

This partnership program has created an unparalleled opportunity for students to implement what they have learned in the classroom into a comprehensive home design while giving back to the community.

For more information or questions, email info@uofwhabitat.ca. Like them on Facebook at www.facebook.com/uofwhabitat.



University of Waterloo Campus Chapter is aiming to fundraise

\$70,000



If you have a fundraising story that you would like to see featured here (and elsewhere), contact Jennifer Young with Habitat WR jyoung@habitatwr.ca.

If you are interested in sponsoring the Warrior Home, please consult sponsorship@uofwhabitat.ca



Every volunteer is key

Henry Pauls of Waterloo is a faithful volunteer with Habitat for Humanity WR, but few of his colleagues know that he was instrumental in organizing the world-wide ReStore movement from its early beginnings.

It was 1998 when he took the job of ReStore coordinator at the Habitat for Humanity head office in Waterloo. He recently shared his story over coffee with our salvage team that had just taken out a kitchen for free to sell at the Waterloo ReStore.

There were six thrift stores when he started in 1998, each set up independently to raise funds for local Habitat for Humanity chapters. They had a variety of names including Habitat Thrift Stores, Used Building Material, and Recycle Store.

“I immediately saw the potential for growth and the need for a good branding program,” said Henry. During a brainstorming meeting with ReStore managers, he said a consensus emerged that there should be consistency and a standard name or brand for all stores.

He suggested the name ReStore and the team came up with the colours, the font, and design that is now used by all ReStores in North America. He claims that this could be his most significant contribution to the ReStore program because the United States followed the Canadian lead.

more than 100

ReStores across Canada

By the time Henry left the national office in 2007, there were 60 ReStores across Canada. He had a hand in establishing almost all of them, helping local chapters develop a business plan, choose a location (eg. close to a hardware store frequented by do-it-yourself shoppers) and to launch their venture.

He went from coast to coast – from St. John’s, Newfoundland, to Victoria, British Columbia, indicating that one of the highlights of his job was meeting so many nice people dedicated to Habitat’s mission of alleviating “poverty housing”. Today there are more than 100 ReStores across Canada, more across the United States and in many countries around the world. They all share the same name, colours, and logo, which is exactly the consistency Henry hoped to achieve.

Henry recalls meeting Annette Verschuren when she was Chief Executive Officer for Home Depot, Canada. She gave the ReStore movement a big boost by donating end-of-line scratch-and-dent merchandise from the nation-wide chain of retail outlets. Rather than setting up a discard bin with bargain pricing, Home Depot donated to ReStores. Sometimes the only “flaw” was a damaged box with pristine merchandise inside; other times it was simply stale inventory. Today other retailers, such as Lowes and Home Hardware, have come on board to support homeownership.

The ReStore movement not only provides a solid base of income to a well-respected international charity, but it’s also an environmental steward, re-directing tonnes of material out of landfill sites and selling it to people who put it to good use.

Henry Pauls continues to turn up at households in the Waterloo Region to help salvage kitchens and send them to two ReStore locations: Northfield Dr, Waterloo, the other just south of Highway 401 in Cambridge.

Thanks Henry!

| Article submitted by Jim Romahn

Sign up for our new ReStore Newsletter:

You probably know this, but the ReStore is where it's at! When you shop and donate to the ReStore you are directly supporting Habitat for Humanity Waterloo Region as all our administrative costs are covered by ReStore sales.

With an **opportunity to save 50-80%** on new and gently used goods like furniture, building supplies and more, why wouldn't you shop here?



Email development@habitatwr.ca to learn more about monthly savings, promotions and sales happening at both our Cambridge and Waterloo ReStores.

**opportunity
to save
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Every community can jump in and have an impact

When we purchased the property in Wellesley, our hope was that the township would jump in and embrace the build – and they did! Here are just a couple of great stories we want to highlight.

A group of ten women, organized by Deb Harte, formed the team We-Have-Harte and dedicated their time towards two build days. The team had to fundraise \$2,500 to qualify as a 'team build' on-site (dedicating the whole site as well as lunch and snacks for the day). With the help of local businesses, like My Sister's Kitchen and Hergott Industries, they raised more than enough.

Teachers from Wellesley Public School, organized by Christine Rose, also raised money to be a part of team build and had fun! WPS was integral in the community, getting the word out to both students and families, and even organizing a candygram fundraiser.

Though no one in either group was an experienced tradesperson, they all had a great time learning. No experience necessary!



raised more than

\$2,500



INTERESTED IN ORGANIZING A TEAM BUILD FOR THE DAY?

Contact our office: 519-747-0664.

For more info about our events, contact Jennifer Young: jyoung@habitatwr.ca

OTHER WAYS TO PARTICIPATE:

Donate on Giving Tuesday – Nov. 28
#GivingTuesday

Kids can join the Genworth Meaning of Home writing contest – ongoing - www.meaningofhome.ca/



Every key opens new doors

On October 19th, we celebrated the dedication of homes with partner families who have completed their 250 'sweat equity' hours (500/couple), and have now moved in to their new homes.

This event always bears witness to some tears within the audience, as we come together to celebrate the hard work and determination of deserving families, who are realizing the stability offered by homeownership.

The Dedication Ceremony also gives us a chance to thank the many people from our community who partner with us, and the families, that make it happen. Donors, volunteers, board members, committee members, staff, and our local community, all work together to help carry out the mission of Habitat for Humanity Waterloo Region.

