

THE BLUEPRINT



SUMMER 2022

GREETINGS FROM THE CEO

Welcome to our latest edition of the Blue Print Newsletter. It has been great to finally reach critical mass in vaccinations allowing us to enjoy the summer and start our 2022 Build. We are so happy that we are able to maintain the ReStore open for everyone to shop, save money and repurpose many products.

We are so pleased to have commenced our latest build at 211 Heron St. as we can place another family in a position to build strength, independence and a brighter future through home ownership. Recent real estate trends have made it almost impossible for lower income families to find decent affordable housing. The upward trending interest rates and inflation have also contributed to that difficulty.

Habitat for Humanity Homeowner Partnership program enables families to purchase a house, free of interest and no down payment. The monthly mortgage payment is geared to household income. Habitat for Humanity does require the partner family to put in 500 "sweat equity" hours in lieu of a down payment. What a welcome opportunity to get involved on the build site, work at our ReStore or help out at fundraising events.

Down payments and interest rates are two major stumbling blocks for lower income families to finance houses through traditional financial institutions. The mortgage payments paid to Habitat are reinvested into building more affordable housing.



The need for decent affordable housing has never been greater. Seniors, families, veterans all need affordable housing. That's why we are asking for your help. Here is how you can get involved: Volunteer at the Build Site, Volunteer at the ReStore, Donate stuff (new or used) to ReStore, Shop the ReStore or give monetary donations by going to our website: www.habitattbay.com/donations We are a Charity and provide tax receipts for donations. Shop our ReStore and save the HST every day and always.

We hope you enjoy the rest of the newsletter and look forward to your comments and suggestions to make it better. Have a great summer and be safe!

Chief Executive Officer
Habitat Thunder Bay
Lana Vukelic

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OUR CURRENT BUILD

The Excitement is Building!!
Introducing Mark Colosimo, Build Co-ordinator

I'm so excited to start the 2022 build at 211 Heron Street. This is an infill bi-level house on a 25' lot. The house will be 3 bdrm, 1.5 baths with an area of just over 1,000 sf.

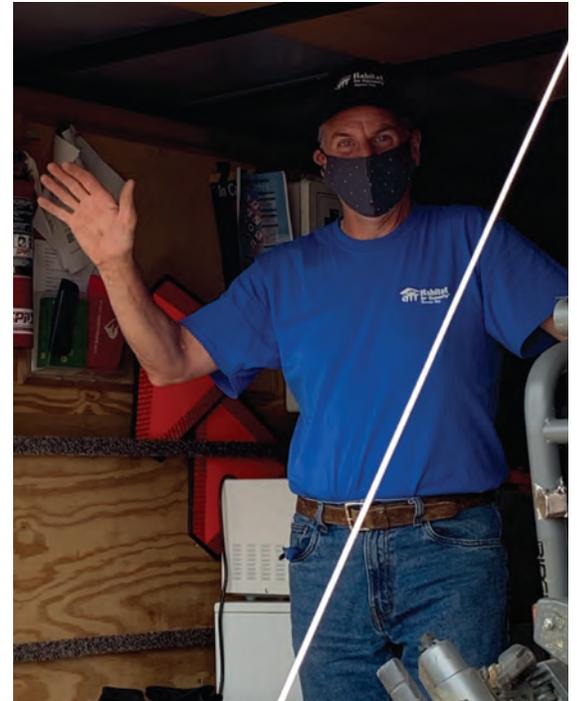
We are hoping to turn over the house keys to the Partner Family by October 31.

Since we could not build last year, we have been reaching out to many businesses for gift in kind services and supplies to build the house as we knew the supply chain issues and pricing of materials could give us a serious problem.

We are grateful for all the support we have received to date. A special thank you to all supplier donors and especially our major sponsors: Sagen, Clow Darling Home Depot and Everlast Windows & Doors.

Come out and volunteer on the build site, we will teach you a skill or share your skill, tell your corporate organization you want to participate in a Corporate Team Building Day or week or just come and see the build progress. Check out our website for details.

**Keep safe wherever you are.
Mark**



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VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT PAULINE VRANASICH



1. Why did you decide to join Habitat for Humanity?

Pauline actively volunteers in different organizations and has been volunteering for a long time. In fact, she was volunteering for a different organization and one of the people the organization was supporting was getting a house. The organization needed people to come and volunteer for the sweat hours to help the young man. So, back then Pauline volunteered as a part of a different organization and eventually became a part of Habitat for Humanity.

2. When did you start volunteering for Habitat for Humanity?

Pauline has been volunteering at Habitat for Humanity for over 5 years now.

3. What did you do before you retired?

Pauline was a Camp Nurse for 10 years. She volunteered at Community Living for 15 years. She has also been volunteering for different organizations over the years like Diabetes Health, Slovak Legion, Ukrainian Catholic Church of the Holy Cross and whenever someone needed a hand.

4. Do you have any children? Can you tell us about them?

Pauline has a daughter who lives here in Thunder Bay.

5. What is your favorite hobby?

Pauline likes to do gardening. She spends all summer in her garden. She also likes to do canning and preserving. She loves baking and making pies. Once in a while, Pauline brings her delicious homemade muffins for Habitat for Humanity staffs and volunteers. And, everyone appreciates it.

6. What is something fun about you that not many people know?

One thing that not many people know of about Pauline is that she loves travelling. She has been to many places like Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Russia, Germany, Netherlands, France, Normandy, Italy, Galápagos Islands, Central America, Panama Canal, Columbia, China, India, and Philippines. She has been on cruises in the Mediterranean. One of her best trips was her trip to Australia which was three and a half months long. South America and the Arctic in Canada are next on her bucket list.

7. On what days do you volunteer at HFH?

Pauline volunteers every Saturday at Habitat for Humanity.

8. What do you do on the days that you are not here?

On the days when Pauline is not volunteering with us, she is either volunteering somewhere else or looking after her daughter's 3 dogs that she recently got. She also prepares her seed for gardening season on her free time.

9. Explain your typical day at HFHTB.

On a typical day at HFHTB, Pauline first of all does any specific task assigned to her like cleaning and sanitizing. She then proceeds to cleaning and reorganizing the store. She also assists at our Donation Centre.

10. Do you have any message for us? Or for anyone thinking of joining Habitat for Humanity as a volunteer?

Pauline says, there's lots of work that goes into helping somebody acquire a home. There is work for everyone including students to come and volunteer where they can learn things practically. Pauline makes sure she tells people to donate the items that they no longer need to Habitat for Humanity. She says, "It can be a small item for someone but for someone else it could still be something that's difficult to buy at a store". She asks people to come to the ReStore, look around and buy products at an affordable price.

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PARTNER FAMILY INTRODUCED



The Family Selection Committee had to review a lot of applications, family visits and interviews and financial vetting, before Partner Family was selected.

Introducing the Hokannen Aho family for 211 Heron St. Lydia and Ryan (mom & dad) and their 3 lovely daughters Toini (5 mths), Audrey (2 yrs) and Scarlet (7yrs)

They are so excited to become new homeowners of the lovely bi-level, but they have to do their 500 "Sweat Equity" hours first. "I'm so happy our family will have their dream home at last!", said Kevin.

We are now accepting applications for the 2023 build so please check out our website for qualifications at www.habitattbay.com/homeownership Applications for 2023 close September 15, 2022.

RECYCLING WITH HFHTB

eco CARBON || FOAM

We collect styrene foam Plastic #6 Usually comes in the form of packaging that comes with new appliances and electronics. We teamed up with Eco-carbon Foam in Thunder Bay in May 2022, who recycles the styrene foam 100% into rigid insulations for homes. Previously Styrene was not recycled so it went straight to landfill. Habitat is proud to work with Eco Carbon Foam to divert styrene out of the City landfill and help our planet. Drop off your styrene packaging into the orange bin next to the ReStore.

RECYCLING SCORE CARD



Landfill diversion:
Since January 1st, 2022



Metals:
3.9 Tons



ReStore Donated Goods:
646,100 lbs



Styrene:
Since May 2022

\$5 OFF
YOUR NEXT PURCHASE
OF \$50 OR MORE!

Limit 1 coupon per customer. Not valid on prior purchases. No cash value.
Expires September 15th, 2022

Habitat for Humanity
Thunder Bay

ReStore

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