



News Release

Habitat for Humanity Edmonton
8210 Yellowhead Trail NW
Edmonton, Alberta T5B 1G5
T: (780) 479.3566
F: (780) 479.0762
W: HFH.org

For Immediate Release

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Habitat for Humanity welcomes home nine families into the largest Habitat build in Canadian history.

Edmonton, Alberta – Nine well deserving families were presented with keys to their new homes and futures as Habitat for Humanity Edmonton (HFHE) moved one step closer to completing construction on Neufeld Landing, the largest Habitat for Humanity build in Canadian history. The families will all be neighbors and are excited to begin their new lives. Each partner family must commit to working 500 hours as a sweat equity down payment on their home. The families' achievements were celebrated by donors, supporters, dignitaries and HFHE staff.

The Government of Alberta has seen the benefits of Habitat for Humanity's affordable home ownership program and has invested in the program since 2006. Since that time over 350 families have been helped by the program, and an increasing number of families continue to benefit.

"Supporting Habitat for Humanity projects is one way our government helps provide safe and affordable homes for Alberta families," said Sarah Hoffman, Minister of Seniors. "These nine families will benefit from a stable housing situation that contributes significantly to their overall well-being."

The City of Edmonton made it possible for HFHE to acquire the land for the largest Habitat Build in Canadian history through the Cornerstones program. The City has been a big supporter of HFHE's work for many, many years.

"With the completion of these units, nine more Edmonton families are on the pathway out of poverty, with assurance that their housing needs are taken care of," said Mayor Don Iveson. "If Edmonton is to be a truly inclusive and livable city, programs like Cornerstones and organizations like Habitat for Humanity are essential to creating the conditions for success."

HFHE partner families work hard for their Habitat home. After investing 500 hours of sweat equity as their down payment, families pay an interest-free mortgage with payments that are never more than 25 percent of their household income. The Habitat mortgage is what makes the homes affordable.

“The Habitat for Humanity model works in every community,” said Alfred Nikolai, President & CEO, Habitat for Humanity Edmonton. “These nine families will now have the stability to create a life of their choosing. They don’t have to experience the anxiety of deciding between buying necessities or paying the rent – between surviving or thriving. They are free to focus on raising healthy families.”

The major supporters of the nine homes are the Government of Alberta, City of Edmonton Cornerstones, TD Bank, Gordon Food Service in partnership with Intercity Packers, Stantec, ATB Financial, All Weather Windows, Weinrich Consulting, and Lafarge Canada.

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About Habitat for Humanity Edmonton

Founded in 1991, Habitat for Humanity Edmonton (HFHE) is a charitable organization working towards a world where everyone has a safe and decent place to live. They mobilize thousands of volunteers and community partners in building affordable housing and promoting home ownership as a means to breaking the cycle of poverty. Visit HFH.org for more information.

Contact

Alfred Nikolai
President and CEO
Habitat for Humanity Edmonton
(780) 722-6164
anikolai@hfh.org