



We build strength, stability and self-reliance.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 1, 2018

AFFORDABLE HOUSING – NOT JUST A TERM FOR POLITICAL PLATFORMS

Local Habitat for Humanity addresses the affordable housing crisis in scale with additional build plans announced for Dufferin County.

Affordable housing, is a term we hear often. We hear it in the news, from our politicians, or even in conversation with our neighbours. We hear it so often because the reality is that affordable housing is becoming harder and harder to come by – we're in an affordable housing crisis that can be felt across Canada. Dufferin County is no exception.

Affordable housing goes far beyond just having a roof over one's head. The Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) points out safe, affordable housing is needed to enrich the communities and drive economic growth. At the recommendation of FCM, the federal government announced the National Housing Strategy in 2017 - of which affordable housing was a key priority.

Habitat for Humanity is an advocate of creating more sustainable and affordable housing options that will benefit Canadians and our local communities. Steve Howard, CEO, says "our local Habitat for Humanity, has put together a plan that takes a holistic and collaborative approach to affordable housing solutions. We develop affordable homes for people in need of housing, no matter their situation," says Howard. "This can include dual-parent families, single-parent families, seniors, individuals and people with disabilities that meet our qualification criteria".

Locally, Habitat for Humanity is about so much more than just building homes. They're about building community. Habitat for Humanity Wellington Dufferin Guelph (Habitat WDG) is leading affordable housing discussions and developing pathways to solution in partnership with local social service agencies. More than that, "we drive economic growth," says Howard, "through our ReStore retail operations, providing local job opportunities for skilled trades on our build sites and so much more".

Habitat WDG recently announced a number of initiatives to develop safe, affordable housing in the Town of Orangeville. Currently, they're building Cityview Village – a 28 multi-residential development in Guelph. In Orangeville, an emphasis will be placed on the housing needs of seniors, victims of family violence and people with disabilities.

Habitat WDG has several housing projects planned for the Town of Orangeville, including a 10 unit multi-residential development on Broadway and 3 properties of which are being converted into 5-6 units of affordable housing. These projects will be in partnership with Family Transition Place (supporting women and families in transition). Discussions are underway with Community Living Dufferin County regarding a deeper partnership.

Habitat WDG relies on the generosity of the community in order to build houses for those in need. Find out how you can help Habitat WDG make our community a better place to live by visiting www.habitatwdg.ca. Currently, they have an Ultimate Great Canadian Expedition Lottery and Party underway. To learn more visit <https://habitatwdg.ca/events/lottery/>.

-- 30 --



We build strength, stability and self-reliance.

For interviews and more information, contact:

Amber Wood; Director – Development, Marketing & Communications
amber@habitatwdg.ca | 519-767-9752 Ext 37

About Habitat for Humanity Wellington Dufferin Guelph

At Habitat for Humanity Wellington Dufferin Guelph, we build more than just houses. We build community – we build a world where everyone has a safe place to call home.

Since inception, our local Habitat has built more than 25 homes in our catchment community of Wellington Dufferin Guelph. But, there is a critical need for affordable housing in our community that can't be met one home at a time. We need to build more to support the growing need for affordable housing. We've embarked on our most ambitious build yet – Cityview Village – a multi-residential affordable home ownership development. Cityview Village is more than just a housing development. It's a community for change. No matter who we are or where we come from, we all deserve to feel the strength, stability and self-reliance that owning a home provides. We're also planning our next large-scale build in Dufferin. With your support, we can build a solid foundation and bright future for everyone. We can build homes, stronger and more vibrant communities. And we won't stop there. We plan to continue building more, because the future of our community and affordable housing depends on it.