



Building homes. Building community.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 5, 2022

**Centre Wellington Community Foundation makes significant social impact investment in upcoming Habitat for Humanity build project in Fergus, Ontario.**

Fergus, ON - Habitat for Humanity Guelph Wellington (Habitat for Humanity GW) is excited to be working with Centre Wellington Community Foundation (CWCF) following their recent investment in the upcoming build project in Fergus, Ontario. Following the launch of Habitat for Humanity GW's Community Bond program, CWCF stepped forward to provide a significant investment of \$50,000 to help accelerate the build project.

This investment in Habitat for Humanity GW aims to unlock new opportunities for affordable home ownership in Centre Wellington, with a 32 unit stacked townhome development planned for the site just west of Downtown Fergus on Garafraxa Street West.

*"Community leadership and partnership building is a big part of who we are. This social impact investment is a new way for us to increase our impact in our community," said Raymond Soucy, CWCF Executive Director.*

Through their ongoing work, CWCF strives to strengthen the community by helping donors to achieve their giving goals, and by helping local non-profits find resources to support their important work.

*"Our investment in Habitat for Humanity's community bond is a natural extension of our Foundation's mission and vision. Social impact investing can transform community development, unlocking more than double the impact of our dollars, keeping investments local and strengthening our communities with new partnerships," said Randall Howard, CWCF Board Chair.*

New in 2022, Habitat for Humanity GW has launched a Community Bonds offering for their upcoming build projects in Guelph and Fergus. Community Bonds are an interest-earning investment opportunity for socially conscious investors; they provide organizations like Habitat with seed funding to get projects off the ground, and they provide organizations and investors with an opportunity to partner towards meaningful social impacts close to home.

*"We are so encouraged by the enthusiastic community investments we've received to date, following the launch of Community Bonds in September," said Ryan Deska, Director of Community Engagement and Development with Habitat for Humanity Guelph Wellington. "Between Guelph and Fergus we have nearly reached our goal for this initial offering, with more to come."*



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Whether it's \$2,500 or \$250,000, every investment from the community directly supports the upcoming build projects, through land procurement and site plan approvals.

With the early investments of residents and community organizations, Habitat for Humanity GW officially closed on the property at 465 Garafraxa Street West on November 30, 2022.

Interested investors can submit inquiries at [www.habitatgw.ca/communitybonds](http://www.habitatgw.ca/communitybonds) or reach out to the Habitat team through email at [invest@habitatgw.ca](mailto:invest@habitatgw.ca).

There are numerous other ways to support Habitat GW. Contribute a cash donation, shop and donate at the ReStore, or sign up to volunteer. Full details are available on their website at [www.habitatgw.ca](http://www.habitatgw.ca).

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**For more information or to schedule an interview, contact:**

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**About Habitat for Humanity Guelph Wellington**

Habitat for Humanity Guelph Wellington envisions a world where everyone has a safe and decent place to live. To achieve this vision, they partner with the Guelph and Wellington County communities to build homes that provide the foundation for bright, stable and empowered futures for the families and individuals who live there. Habitat for Humanity Guelph Wellington builds affordable homes in Guelph and Wellington County and partners with families through affordable housing so that they may attain social and financial stability to transform their futures and our community.

The Habitat for Humanity Canada model of affordable homeownership bridges a gap for people who face barriers to homeownership and would not otherwise qualify for a traditional mortgage. Local Habitat for Humanity organizations in every province and territory across Canada help build and rehabilitate decent and affordable homes, from single-family houses to multi-unit developments. With the help of volunteers and donors, Habitat helps families build their own homes and allow for them to pay an affordable mortgage geared to their income. Safe, decent and affordable homeownership plays a critical role in helping families build a foundation for a life with better choices and more opportunities and provides our community with a diverse range of employees and volunteers, coming from a wide range of socioeconomic backgrounds.



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**About Centre Wellington Community Foundation:**

*Centre Wellington Community Foundation (CWCF) is a public charitable foundation created for and by the people of Centre Wellington. Our mission is to strengthen the Centre Wellington community by combining community leadership, support for donors, and community-focused granting.*

**For more information on Centre Wellington Community Foundation**

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