

# habitat happenings

Keeping you up-to-date on everything Habitat WDG

## Join our "Hearts for Homes" monthly giving program

Read more on page 7





## A warm welcome to one of our new Habitat homeowner families.

With a little help, Habitat homeowners are able to achieve the strength, stability and independence they need to build better lives for themselves and their families. They are empowered to overcome the barriers that so often stand between their families and healthier, more financially stable lives.

### Meet Melchor, Mutya, Matthew and Liam.

Melchor and Mutya dreamed about owning a house. They were renting a basement apartment that lacked appropriate ventilation. Their youngest son, Liam, had developed asthma.

The Habitat for Humanity application process seemed relatively easy, but they were concerned about completing the 500 volunteerhours of 'sweat equity' that Habitat homeowners are required to contribute.

"The staff at Habitat WDG were always supportive, always encouraging us to keep going. Habitat gave us hope," shared Mel.

Mel's favourite part about the process turned out to be the part that had originally concerned him the most. His sweat equity hours were completed in part by working at the Guelph ReStore, and also by working at the Cityview Village build site, on the very site where his home would soon be located. He met new friends, learned new skills, and was able to feel involved, right from the start.

Mel commented recently, "This new community has so many families, our sons have made many new friends already."

"We are so happy – we did it for our children. Since moving into our home at Cityview Village, our youngest son's asthma symptoms have improved. Our well-being has improved. We are so thankful, so grateful that Habitat helped us to realize our dream."

# September 2019 brings new beginnings.

We are excited to announce the beginning of Phase 3 at our Cityview Village build in Guelph.

September has been a busy month at our Cityview Village build site in Guelph. The foundation and exterior framing of Phase 3 are well on their way to being completed by the end of 2019. This means that eight more homes will be completed in 2020 to create affordable homeownership opportunities in the Guelph community.

Our Broadway property in Orangeville is going through a planning process that could see us begin to build approximately 10 homes in the next two years.

Building at this scale requires focus, determination, an investment in time and resources, and support from our communities.

At Habitat for Humanity, we believe that a house is much more than a structure. When we build houses with our volunteers, skilled tradespeople, families, partners and supporters, we are building a vibrant future for our entire community.

Do you have experience in the home-building industry? Would you consider volunteering your time and talent to our build projects? Contact us today at [volunteer@habitatwdg.ca](mailto:volunteer@habitatwdg.ca) to learn more.

Do you know of a local business that would consider becoming a Corporate Partner? Investing in a Habitat build is an investment in your community's future. Contact us today at [sharron@habitatwdg.ca](mailto:sharron@habitatwdg.ca) to learn more.

Our corporate partners often work hand-in-hand with future Habitat homeowners to build decent, affordable homes. Through these homes, we build futures that extend beyond the four walls of a house. With you beside us, we can continue to build homes that foster families of today and leaders of tomorrow.



# ULTIMATE HABITAT HOUSE PARTY



**Habitat  
for Humanity®**  
Wellington Dufferin Guelph

*WELCOME HOME*

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2019

## The Ultimate Habitat House Party returns to Guelph!

Friday, November 1, 2019 ✨ 6:00 pm to midnight ✨ The Grand Guelph Banquet and Event Centre

Welcome Home, take off your coat and stay a while. At the Ultimate Habitat House Party, you're our guests of honour! Mingle, dine, and dance the night away during an evening filled with delectable food and wonderful entertainment all while supporting our mission of affordable homeownership by bidding up a storm at our incredible live and silent auctions!

Are you the owner of a business looking for a holiday party idea to treat your employees? Your group will have an amazing time, and you will feel great knowing that you supported a local community initiative.

Layne, The Auctionista, will have you on your feet and ready to make a real difference in your community in just one evening.

Don't miss this opportunity to see for yourself how together we are changing lives through affordable homeownership in your community! See you on November 1st! Order your ticket today at [habitatwdg.ca/events](http://habitatwdg.ca/events).

Learn more by following @habitatwdg on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.



The Wine Wall returns with an amazing selection, not available at the LCBO!

PRESENTED BY:



**MILLER THOMSON**  
AVOCATS | LAWYERS

PARTY SPONSOR:



**GUELPH & DISTRICT ASSOCIATION OF  
REALTORS®**  
YOUR SOURCE. YOUR CONNECTION. YOUR PROTECTION.

ROOM SPONSORS:



EVENING SPONSORS:





when you donate this...



you create moments like this.

Donate to your local Habitat ReStore

you want it.  
we have it.  
shop today.

### ReStore Hours:

#### Guelph

Monday – Friday: 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.  
Saturday: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.  
Sunday: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

#### Orangeville

Monday – Friday: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.  
Saturday: 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.  
Sunday: Closed

#### Fergus

Monday – Friday: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.  
Saturday: 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.  
Sunday: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

you have it.  
we want it.  
donate today.

### Remodeling, cleaning out, downsizing, or just getting organized?

Donate your furniture, household items, and building materials to the Habitat ReStore. You'll get the satisfaction of knowing your donations helped support local families, and didn't end up in the landfill.

### Renovating? give your old kitchen a new forever home.

Donate your kitchen to the Habitat ReStore and have our expert salvage team remove it for free. You'll even get a tax receipt for your generous donation!

### Our new online booking system is easy!

Now you can quickly and easily book a free pick-up online. Visit our ReStore Donations page [habitatwdg.ca/restore/donate](http://habitatwdg.ca/restore/donate) to get started today!



Follow the NEW ReStore Instagram account to stay connected!



@habitatrestorewdg



## Ways you can help: Make a legacy gift

Donations of stocks, securities, life insurance, and RRSPs go a long way.

By giving a gift to Habitat WDG, you play a vital role in the future of individuals and families right here in your community. You can help ensure that Habitat for Humanity can continue to provide a hand up to affordable homeownership for future generations.

The process is easy, and should include consultation with your financial or estate planning advisor. Gifts are eligible for a charitable tax receipt at the time of the donation.

Contact us at [sharron@habitatwdg.ca](mailto:sharron@habitatwdg.ca) for more information.

## Partner Spotlight: Sleeman Breweries

Submission by John Sleeman, Founder and Chairman



Sleeman Breweries and my family have had a long history of wanting to support the communities where our employees work and live. One of the many great causes we are involved with is Habitat for Humanity. Over the past several years our employees have enjoyed working on Build Days to both renovate in Guelph and build new at the Cityview Drive project. We have been a proud sponsor of the Ultimate Habitat House party since its inception and look forward to helping Habitat for Humanity Wellington Dufferin Guelph achieve their goals at this year's event.

With a clear mission, strategic planning and proven reputation for providing affordable housing, we enjoy the varied sponsorship opportunities to get involved with Habitat. We've had an overwhelming response from our employees to volunteer at builds to make home ownership possible for people challenged by conventional home ownership.



One of the other projects that I am involved with is our family's new Spring Mill Distillery, located beside the Speed River in downtown Guelph. My great, great grandfather built his Spring Mill Distillery in the St. Catharines area in the early 1800's. We are delighted to be able to revive this old family tradition in a beautifully restored historic building that in fact was once a distillery in the 1800s. As our business grows and prospers, our family along with the distillery management and staff will, as we have done at the Brewery, begin exploring ways to support the surrounding community.

Contact us today to learn how you can partner with Habitat for Humanity.  
Sharron Riley-Persson, Director of Resource Development & Volunteer Services  
[sharron@habitatwdg.ca](mailto:sharron@habitatwdg.ca)

# Results from the Affordable Housing Symposium

Habitat for Humanity WDG hosted a free, two-day affordable housing symposium on September 19 and 20.

The symposium brought together City of Guelph and County of Wellington senior planning staff, developers, planners, and housing advocates. Approximately 40 organizations were represented among the estimated 75 attendees.

Attendees explored tools, structures and support mechanisms like inclusive housing, mobilized partnerships, social enterprise models and community land trusts.

At the end of the second day, there was an agreement to strike new models of partnership. Both Habitat WDG and leaders of the Guelph & Wellington Task Force for Poverty Elimination will be working together in the weeks ahead to form new leadership structures. For more information about the event, including outcomes and next steps, please visit [habitatwdg.ca/symposium](http://habitatwdg.ca/symposium).

SEPTEMBER 19 + 20

## 2019 AFFORDABLE HOUSING SYMPOSIUM

WORKING TOGETHER  
TO ADDRESS OUR LOCAL  
AFFORDABLE HOUSING CRISIS  
#OurHousingToolbox



Mike McCluskey, Associate at Miller Thomson, and Board Member at Habitat WDG

### Partner Spotlight: Miller Thomson LLP

Longterm commitment  
from a long-standing  
organization.



MILLER THOMSON  
AVOCATS | LAWYERS

Miller Thomson LLP is one of the oldest and largest law firms in Guelph. The firm has a long-standing commitment to its community and this is evident by the tremendous support it has given to Habitat for Humanity WDG over the years.

Over the past several years, Miller Thomson has not only provided continued support of our signature events like the Ultimate Habitat House Party, they have also participated on our build sites numerous times.

In addition to this amazing support, Mike McCluskey, a lawyer from Miller Thomson, serves on our Board of Directors. Mike has assisted Habitat both in his role as a dedicated member of the Board of Directors and also as a construction litigation lawyer.

We are excited to continue to work with Mike and Miller Thomson as we strive towards our goal of affordable homeownership in our community!

**Join us!** Show your commitment by making a donation to Habitat at [habitatwdg.ca/donate](http://habitatwdg.ca/donate) or completing the donation form on the back page.

# Volunteer Spotlights



This season, we selected three ReStore volunteers that go above and beyond for Habitat for Humanity. We are so grateful to have such dedicated volunteers who are committed to helping our ReStores, Habitat for Humanity and our community.



Greg, his daughter and his dog, heading out for another adventure

## Greg - 192 hours and counting at the Guelph ReStore, since November 2018

When Greg began his volunteer work, he connected to the mission right away. Greg quickly became a respected and valued member of the team. He bonded with other salvage crew members easily, sharing his infectious smile with everyone!

### What made you first want to volunteer here?

I was a beef farmer, and when I retired I downsized to a 50 acre tree farm. I was looking for something positive to do in the winter months so I checked around for some options. If truth be told it was the ReStore manager and the staff that convinced me. I observed such a positive spirit and a genuine love of the people and the work, that I just wanted to hang out at this place. I think it has worked out very well for me.

### What is one memory from your time at the ReStore that stands out?

When I saw another volunteer secretly buy something for someone obviously in need, and then deliver it to their home. THAT is the true spirit of a volunteer.

### What do you like to do in your spare time?

I am an avid backcountry canoer/camper, so I spend a lot of time on the water or dreaming of being on a river.

### What is your favorite food?

I am a lover of ALL foods - except for maybe octopus. My quest is to eat breakfast at every roadside diner in Ontario. Hopefully the arteries hold up.

## John - 1,412 hours and counting at the Fergus ReStore, since July 2018

John works at the ReStore 6 hours a day, 5 days a week, and is our number one 'product cleaner'. John is a huge asset to us, and has been a key factor in our success from Day One! John always has a smile on his face and is ready to help with anything. John loves to have a chat about his many travels over a coffee.

### What is your favorite part about volunteering at the ReStore?

I like working with everyone, staff and other volunteers. I like to think I do a great job keeping everything clean.

### What would you tell others that are thinking of becoming a volunteer?

It is a busy place to work, with great people and it is very rewarding to know you are helping others.

### What's a hidden talent that you have that the people at the ReStore may not know about?

I like to sing!

### What is your favorite place that you have traveled to?

California

### What is one memory from your time at the ReStore that stands out?

Helping set up the store for the official Opening Day and waiting for the doors to open to the public.





## Hugh - 279 hours and counting at the Orangeville ReStore, since June 2018

Hugh volunteers several times a week. He is amazing at organizing and helping us maintain a clean and organized store, which is such a vital job. He is a fast mover and always on the go. Hugh comes in with his own equipment, ready to work. He always has a smile on and a mission to complete. He starts from one side of the store and works to the other. Not only does he do amazing work inside the store, he also ensures that the storefront is welcoming, even planting flowers as an added touch. Not only does Hugh share his precious time with us, he regularly brings in donations.

**What is your favorite food?** Fish, especially Salmon.

**What would you tell others that are thinking of becoming a Volunteer?**  
It is very self-satisfying helping others for a great cause.

### **What made you first want to volunteer here?**

I had heard in the community that the ReStore was looking for help. Since I am retired I was happy to offer my support.

### **What is one memory from your time at the ReStore that stands out?**

Coming into to volunteer one Monday morning to find the an entire apartment worth of furniture and home items more full the entire side parking lot area dropped off. It was unexpected ,and we had customers even helping to move and sort and clear. That was pretty memorable.

### **What is your favorite part about volunteering at the ReStore?**

Seeing people find wanted treasures; meeting the student volunteers and finding out what they aspire to do in the future.

## Do you have an eye for merchandising or a knack for customer service?

If you have hours to give, please consider the following volunteer roles available at our ReStores in Guelph, Orangeville and Fergus:

### **Customer Service**

Interacting with customers, donors, and team members, processing transactions, providing sales assistance.

### **Warehouse/Distribution**

Unloading donations at the back entrance while demonstrating a strong connection to our mission.

### **Kitchen Salvage**

Safe and responsible deconstruction of kitchens and assorted building materials, while demonstrating gratitude and respect to the donor while in their home.

### **General Maintenance/Cleaning**

Support the cleanliness, organization, maintenance and overall appearance of the store.

### **Mentor/Ambassador**

Our volunteers benefit from having mentors with lived experience in these areas. Can you share your skills and experience? We are looking for your support!

## Volunteering is easy. Here's how.

### **Contact us**

Fill out our online volunteer form by visiting [habitatwdg.ca/volunteer](http://habitatwdg.ca/volunteer).

Or send us an at [volunteer@habitatwdg.ca](mailto:volunteer@habitatwdg.ca).

Or ask a member of our knowledgeable staff.

### **Time Commitment**

You volunteer when you can, but we will ask you for your availability so that we can make a schedule that works for everyone.

### **Have Fun!**

It's as simple as that!

**Visit**  
[habitatwdg.ca/volunteer](http://habitatwdg.ca/volunteer)  
**for more information.**

# "Hearts for Homes" Monthly Giving Program

Show that you have heart for Habitat by becoming a monthly donor in our "Hearts for Homes" program

Monthly donations help a charity to sustain a steady stream of donations throughout the year. And the process is easy on your wallet too - instead of taking out a large lump sum, you can break up your donation each month.

For as little as \$10 a month you can join our Hearts for Homes team of supporters. As a token of our appreciation, we'll send you a Hearts for Homes tote bag!

Complete the form on the back page, or visit [habitatwdg.ca/donate/hearts-for-homes/](http://habitatwdg.ca/donate/hearts-for-homes/) today!



## Partner Spotlight: Tacoma Engineers Inc.

A proud supporter for over ten years!



Mike Gilles, President, Tacoma Engineers Inc.

According to Mike Gilles, President of Tacoma Engineers, "Our concept of housing and engineering are well-aligned with Habitat for Humanity Wellington Dufferin Guelph." From the time Tacoma's management team decided to make Habitat WDG their charity of choice, their staff were thoroughly engaged. They have enjoyed being on the build sites and working together on Habitat's various builds. Tacoma's expertise in framing has been a great addition to several of our build projects in the community.

"It's all about community", says Mike. Mike and Tacoma believe in supporting their community by utilizing their core competency of structural engineering, and the connection with Habitat WDG has always been a natural fit.

In 1986, Jack Tacoma, founder of Tacoma Engineers, served on Habitat's build committee and was a critical member to support the build locations and design for many years. Jack is still Tacoma's ambassador within the community and the Tacoma team is proud of that role.

Mike believes that his job as a leader is to grow and develop the team and further develop employee ownership in Tacoma's plans and mission. Tacoma employees serve on Habitat's board and assist in decision-making. In addition, Mike supports nurturing and strengthening each employee's ambition for growth and enthusiasm in their roles at Tacoma. Tacoma is happy about the fact that the bulk of their work is local, and also proud that it spans across Canada and the U.S. They have managed over 34,000 projects to date with professionalism and the highest degree of quality.

Every donation helps a family build a decent and affordable home.  
Make your donation at [habitatwdg.ca/donate](http://habitatwdg.ca/donate)

# Coming Up in October: Habitat for Humanity at the Storm Game

We hope you will join us on  
Sunday, October 20, 2019

The Guelph Storm have selected Habitat for Humanity Wellington Dufferin Guelph as the featured organization at their October 20th game against the Sudbury Wolves! At the game, fans can purchase a puck to participate in the always exciting puck toss for a chance to win a great prize! All proceeds from the puck toss will go to Habitat WDG.

Also during the game, Habitat WDG staff and volunteers will be stationed at Gate 6 with information about the Habitat model of affordable homeownership, the Habitat ReStore, our upcoming Ultimate Habitat House Party, and the projects we are working on in the community.

After the game, fans are invited to skate with the Guelph Storm! This Free Skate is sponsored by Sleeman and RBC, and is open to all ticket holders. Remember to bring your skates!

We hope you will join us and show your support!

Free Skate sponsored by:



RBC Royal Bank®



## Past Events: The Beer Store Bottle Drive and Donation Drive

Thank you for your support!

The beginning of September 2019 saw Habitat for Humanity WDG at various Beer Store locations with teams of volunteers working hard on our bottle drive. In total, 22 volunteers were situated at seven locations: four in Guelph, and one in Orangeville, Fergus and Elora.

"It was a beautiful day and a great opportunity to discuss the Habitat purpose with customers and passers-by," shared Sharron Riley-Persson, Director of Resource Development & Volunteer Services.

Thank you to all of the Beer Store locations, customers, and Habitat volunteers who made this year's donation drive such a success! Your generosity will help local families realize strength, stability and independence through affordable homeownership.



# annual engagement partners



**Yes, I choose to support Habitat for Humanity WDG**  
I believe that everyone deserves a safe and decent place to live.

Here is my one-time gift of:

- \$ 25
- \$ 50
- \$ 100
- \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is my cheque made to Habitat for Humanity Wellington Dufferin Guelph

Please charge my donation to VISA Mastercard

Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Cardholder Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to become a Hearts for Homes monthly donor. Please send me my free tote bag!

To process your one-time or monthly donation online,  
please visit: [habitatwdg.ca/donate/](http://habitatwdg.ca/donate/)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Prov: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

