



Building strength, stability and self-reliance through home ownership

## MEDIA RELEASE

### Habitat Breaks Ground on Emma Street Project

Sarnia, ON – This morning, Habitat for Humanity Sarnia/Lambton celebrated the groundbreaking of two new fully accessible homes in Sarnia. Habitat Sarnia/Lambton went through a rigorous selection process to find two families for these homes. Both families are multigenerational families. The first is a family of seven from Syria including a grandmother, mother, father and four children. The second family is a mother with four children and one grandchild.

Families are selected on the basis of need, their ability to repay a no-down payment, no-interest mortgage, and their commitment to volunteer 500 hours.

Through the National Housing Strategy's National Housing Co-Investment Fund (NHCF), the Government of Canada has invested \$100,000 into these two homes in Sarnia, bringing Habitat for Humanity one-step closer to creating 1,117 new affordable homes across Canada.

"Every Canadian deserves a safe and affordable place to call home. Through the National Housing Co-Investment Fund, the Government of Canada is investing in affordable housing here in Sarnia, and across the country. Thanks to today's announcement and in partnership with Habitat for Humanity Sarnia/Lambton, two deserving families will achieve their dream of owning a home – homes they can proudly call their own. This significant step highlights our commitment to ensuring that everyone has an equal opportunity to achieve the pride of ownership. I hope that they find great happiness in their new homes." - **The Honourable Ahmed Hussen, Minister of Housing and Diversity and Inclusion**

"The Government of Canada is dedicated to supporting people with their housing needs, which is why we are working hard with our partners to provide not only safe and affordable housing, but also to strengthen our communities. Congratulations to the two families who will live in these new homes here in Sarnia. This is the Government of Canada's National Housing Strategy at work." - **Irek Kusmierczyk, Member of Parliament for Windsor-Tecumseh**

Habitat Sarnia/Lambton also was honoured to pay tribute to dedicated volunteer Maurice McAuslan who passed away last year. Maurice was a crucial part of our volunteer build team and dedicated eleven years of volunteer service toward building homes and projects for Habitat for Humanity Sarnia/Lambton accumulating over 18,700 hours. He was our resident cut expert and could always be found on the build sites with his mitre saw and quick-witted jokes. In honour of Maurice we are proud to name two home project "McAuslan Manor" and will feature a memorial sign with the dedication upon completion.



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Habitat for Humanity Sarnia/Lambton has been serving Sarnia/Lambton for 29 years, and is looking forward to helping two more families build strength, stability and self-reliance through affordable homeownership.

- 30 -

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