
Habitat for Humanity NWT Unlocks Doors to Homeownership for Families in Hay River and Yellowknife

YELLOWKNIFE, HAY RIVER (May 16, 2024) Two families in the Northwest Territories have a safe, decent, affordable place to call home thanks to Habitat for Humanity Northwest Territories (HFHNT), local volunteers, and community partners and donors. Two key celebrations took place this week in Hay River (May 14) and Yellowknife (May 15) welcoming Brandee and her two children in Hay River, and Candace and Christian and their two children in Yellowknife.

Brandee and her family moved into their new home in 2023. Due to multiple evacuations in Hay River last summer, the key ceremony was postponed until May 2024.

“As a government we are committed to working with organizations like Habitat for Humanity to ensure that all Canadians have a safe and affordable place to call their own,” said Michael V. Mcleod, Member of Parliament for the Northwest Territories. “This investment is made possible through the National Housing Strategy’s northern carve-out which addresses the housing challenges and needs here in the Northwest Territories. I am very happy to see these families get the keys for their new homes and I wish them the very best as they start this new chapter in their lives.”

The Affordable Housing Fund’s (formerly known as the National Housing Co-Investment Fund) \$60 million northern carve-out has been set aside by the Government of Canada to address housing needs and challenges in the Northwest Territories. This critical funding is currently being rolled out to offset high construction costs caused by the unique building challenges faced in the north. The funding is designated for initiatives that serve those most at-risk, including women and their children, people with disabilities, and seniors.

“The Habitat for Humanity model gives families an incredible opportunity to own a home without a down payment, with mortgage payments geared to their income so they can start saving for their family’s future while building equity and financial stability. Once again, our communities and supporters came together to help make these builds possible to make a meaningful difference in these family’s lives, and we are so excited to officially welcome our new deserving homeowners in two communities,” said Dave Hurley, Board Chair, Habitat for Humanity Northwest Territories.

Both the Town of Hay River and the City of Yellowknife donated building lots for these Habitat home builds. Since 2013, the City of Yellowknife has donated or subsidized eight residential building lots to enable Habitat for Humanity NWT to build affordable family homes.

Funding support for these builds was provided by the Government of Canada's Affordable Housing Fund, the Government of the Northwest Territories (Housing NWT and Anti-Poverty Fund) and Elks Lodge #314 Yellowknife, as well as many local contractors and businesses in Hay River and Yellowknife providing free and discounted goods and services.

Additional information on homeownership eligibility is provided on the Habitat for Humanity NWT [website](#).

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