



We build strength, stability and self-reliance.

News Release:

Aug 17, 2023

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Key Ceremony to Welcome Seven Families Into New Homes in Courtenay

Courtenay, BC – Habitat for Humanity Vancouver Island North proudly welcomes seven families into their newly built homes today on Piercy Ave., commemorated through a key ceremony. This life-changing event signifies a transformative moment for families as their dreams of owning a home become a reality.

Beyond a celebratory occasion for these new homeowners, the day also marks the culmination of tireless efforts from volunteers, the generosity of donors, and the dedicated Habitat for Humanity team, all of whom collaborate to make this day possible.

"This day is truly what it's all about and what volunteers, donors and the community at large, look forward to most," said Habitat Vancouver Island North Executive Director, Jeff West. "This exemplifies our core purpose."

The key ceremony serves as a reminder of the mounting challenge of attainable housing in the Comox Valley region and throughout British Columbia. Each of the seven families entering their new homes symbolize a step forward in addressing the demand for increased housing options for families.

Through the National Housing Strategy's National Housing Co-Investment Fund, the Government of Canada has invested \$473,550 into these homes, bringing Habitat for Humanity one-step closer to creating 1,117 new affordable homes across Canada.

"Today's announcement builds on the success of the partnership between the federal government and Habitat for Humanity," said Sean Fraser, Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities. "Through our shared dedication and combined efforts, we amplify our impact and show how much farther we can go when we work with each other. Amazing things can happen when we join forces. We're not just building houses but building better lives and stronger communities."

In March 2023, the Government of Canada and Habitat for Humanity Canada announced an additional \$25 million investment to build 500 new affordable homes across Canada over the next three years. This brings the total federal investment in Habitat for Humanity to \$80.8 million through the Government of Canada's National Housing Co-Investment Fund.



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Notable figures participating in this key ceremony celebration include Gord Johns, Member of Parliament for Courtenay-Alberni, Courtenay Mayor Bob Wells, and other local representatives. Their presence underscores the recognition that secure, safe and affordable homeownership profoundly contributes to families establishing a stronger foundation for a lifetime of success.

About Habitat for Humanity Vancouver Island North

With the help of volunteers and Habitat homeowners, Habitat for Humanity Vancouver Island North builds safe, decent, and affordable homes. We also operate two Habitat ReStores, one in Courtenay and one in Campbell River. Habitat Vancouver Island North has brought the community together to build 39 affordable homes on North Vancouver Island since its founding in 2004. Because of families who eventually sold their homes back to Habitat, we have been able to serve a total of 43 homeowner families. Habitat does not give away free homes — the families who partner with us pay an affordable mortgage geared to their income and volunteer 500 hours with our organization. As Habitat homeowners pay off their mortgage, the funds are reinvested into a revolving fund, which we then use to build more homes for more families in the community. Our model of affordable homeownership helps families by providing them with the opportunity to purchase their own Habitat home and build a better future. For more information, visit habitatnorthisland.com.