2010 annual report States.







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### Solutions for Affordable Housing

Habitat for Humanity Calgary is a non-profit organization working for a world where everyone has a safe and decent place to live. It has been consistently providing affordable housing in Calgary and surrounding areas for the past 20 years, achieving results and making a difference for local families.

Habitat's homeownership model empowers families by providing a "hand-up, not a hand-out." Through volunteer labour and donations of money and materials, Habitat builds and rehabilitates simple, decent houses alongside homeowner (partner) families. Founded in 1990, it is a member of Habitat for Humanity Canada, and part of a worldwide network that spans 93 countries and has built over 400,000 homes.

### **Our Mission**

To mobilize volunteers and community partners in building affordable housing and promoting homeownership as a means to breaking the cycle of poverty.

# about habitat for humanity calgary

**2010** was an exciting year for Habitat for Humanity Calgary. Not only did we be build our 100th and 101st Homes in the Calgary area but we also celebrated our 20th Anniversary. These two achievements were significant as they prove that breaking the cycle of poverty through homeownership is working.

In July, HFH Calgary was excited to host a picnic to thank the volunteers and families for their dedication and commitment to their community and their fellow neighbours. With many longtime supporters in attendance, it was a great opportunity to reminisce about the past two decades and take note of the many accomplishments of the organization.

### Habitat Calgary Over the years

**1990** – HFH Calgary was incorporated as a Society.

**1995** – First Habitat of Humanity Calgary home is built in the community of Highland Park.

# celebrating twenty years

**1996** – The first ReStore location opens in Calgary, selling quality new and used furniture, appliances and building materials at reduced prices.

**1996** – Habitat for Humanity Calgary launches "The Playhouse Project" fundraiser. Going on 14 years, this is HFH Calgary's most successful internal fundraiser, raising more than \$1,000,000 through the work of 200+ volunteers. To date, 76 playhouses have been built and raffled.

**1996** – UN celebrates the first World Habitat Day with the theme "Shelter is My Right." This annual event is held on the first Monday of October with a new theme each year to reflect on the state of human settlements and people's right to sufficient shelter.

**2005** – 50th Habitat for Humanity Calgary home is built in the community of Ogden. **2006** – HFH Calgary builds its first high efficient home in the community of Evanston.

**2008** – Lafarge hosts first annual Habitat for Humanity Golf Tournament (now in its 13th year).

**2010** – HFH Calgary consolidates its three ReStore locations and opens its ReStore Superstore – the largest in Canada. ReStore has diverted approximately 67,000 tons of waste from landfills.









In 2010 we celebrated our 20th anniversary, and our rich history that clearly demonstrated the positive impact homeownership has on breaking the cycle of poverty. While we will continue to build our safe, decent and affordable homes, we also recognize that in order to meet the growing demand for affordable housing in this city, we need to create alternative models of homeownership for hard-working, low income families. The new and innovative programs implemented this year are proof that there are many ways to achieve this outcome of supporting families to positively change the trajectory of their lives and the lives of generations to come through the stability and benefits our homeownership model provides. It has also been a year of building - both internally as we reinforce

the foundation of our organization through hiring a new CEO and strengthening our vision, governance, systems and practices, and externally as we worked with many partners to create homeownership options. Highlights include:

• The completion of our 100th and 101st homes, beautiful side-byside two story homes in Elgin that match the architectural standards of the surrounding neighbourhood perfectly, yet inside reflect our beliefs in simple, basic and energy efficient homes, achieving Platinum levels in the Built Green Standards. The deserving family recipients of these two homes, with their combined 10 children have already established themselves as model Habitat partners, acting as spokespeople and completing their 500 sweat equity hours faster than any previous families. These are just some of the amazing family stories we are privileged to be a part of each day.

• Breaking ground in Cochrane, starting the first of two five-plex units. This is our first build in partnership with the Town of Cochrane, and the support of the community has been extremely positive.

- The long-standing commitment of our dedicated group of core volunteers, who truly build our homes.
  One of our most amazing volunteers, George Procter has helped build
  100 of our 101 homes!
- Our highly successful PEAK program, a partnership with Trico Charitable Foundation, Alberta Housing and Urban Affairs, and Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, which resulted in 50 families achieving homeownership in condominiums built by Trico Homes as part of a larger multi-family complex.
- Revising our planned projects in both Airdrie and Langdon. After consultation with the newly elected officials in both areas, the plans are being updated to meet the needs of the surrounding communities. We anticipate starting a smaller scale project in Airdrie in 2011.

- We are thrilled to assist with the selection and ongoing support for the seven families that are part of Paul Brandt's Built It Forward project. This project will not only change the lives of seven local families, but also of families in developing countries as one member of each family will complete a portion of their sweat equity hours supporting a family and community in a developing country.
- Despite frigid temperatures, our Women Build week was extremely successful, bringing together more than 200 women of all ages and backgrounds to help construct a home. These hearty volunteers showed up full of enthusiasm, and by the end of the day they had acquired new skills and a sense of empowerment.

## message from the president and ceo, and board chair

• The start of a partnership with Mark Giordano, respected defenceman with the Calgary Flames, and his wife Lauren who have committed to raising funds and create awareness to build one of our Cochrane homes but also four international builds.

It has been a year of growth and transition. It is only through the generous support and commitment of our volunteers and community partners that we are able to achieve our mission of Building Homes, but more importantly Building Hope.



Leslie Tamagi President & CEO Habitat for Humanity Calgary

Andy Robertson Board Chair Habitat for Humanity Calgary

### **Board Chair**

Andrew Robertson Partner Macleod Dixon IIP

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board of directors

### 100th and 101st Homes

In 2010, along with house sponsors, Pace Oil and Daylight Energy Ltd., our volunteers and donors were hard at work on out 100th and 101st homes. Tucked away in the neighbourhood of McKenzie Towne, the homes have access to schools, transit, parks and shopping for our two families to enjoy as they establish stability and become homeowners. A home dedication and key presentation took place in December. These milestone homes are the first two units to receive Platinum level Built Green certification - the highest environmental, energy efficient standards for home construction through the Built Green Canada Program.



# construction

### Cochrane

We broke ground in Cochrane in November 2010 with construction of the first of two, five-plex multifamily units. Comprised of two-story townhomes, the development is anticipated to be certified Platinum through the Built Green Program. We are thrilled to become part of the Cochrane community to bring much needed affordable housing to the area.

M Habitat for Humanity

# partnering with families

The Habitat homeownership program reduces the barriers to homeownership for families in financially vulnerable situations. Our model is one of partnership, where families become part of their own housing solution by building and purchasing their own homes.

### How it works

Habitat homes are sold to partner families with no down payment required and are financed with affordable, no-interest mortgages. The homeowners' monthly mortgage payments go into a revolving fund, which are used to build more homes for more families in need.

### Who qualifies

There are three criteria a family must meet to qualify for a Habitat home:

#### In need of affordable housing:

The family income must be below the government-set low income cut-off (poverty line) and their existing living conditions must be inadequate in terms of structure, cost, safety or size.

#### Able to repay a Habitat mortgage:

The family must have a stable income sufficient to cover the monthly Habitat mortgage payments and other expenses that come with homeownership.

### Willingness to partner with Habitat: Homeowners must demonstrate a willingness to partner with Habitat for Humanity by contributing 500 hours of volunteer labour ("sweat equity") towards the building of their home.

### **Family Testimonial**

In the apartment that we were renting, we were over-crowded – it only had three bedrooms and we have six children. The neighbourhood wasn't very peaceful; sometimes we had our stuff taken from our backyard. We didn't feel safe.

Before partnering with Habitat for Humanity Calgary, our potential to buy a home in the open market was very slim. Since we were new to Canada, we had to build our credit and save for the big down payment.

When we received the call that we were approved, we were jumping for joy and couldn't believe it. We felt so blessed and really thrilled. Our home has really changed our lives. We have more stability, security and feel safer because we know that the community is very peaceful. We no longer fear that something will happen to our kids. Compared to renting, our money now just doesn't go down the drain. We wish to send our children to college in the future and as much as possible, want to save something every month for their education. Now we are able to do that, so feel very blessed.

Our dreams came true because of all the support from volunteers, donors and Habitat for Humanity Calgary. This home is very special to all of us.

Levy & Liezl Magdadaro, Habitat Homeowners



Our volunteers provide the majority of the labour for the overall construction of our Habitat homes. Individual volunteers, corporate groups, church groups and student groups joined together for the single purpose of providing safe, decent and affordable housing for families in need. In 2010, we worked with 1,800 volunteers to organize, plan, design, and build Habitat, homes and help with ReStore, administrative tasks and special events.

With the outstanding contributions and acts of kindness of our incredible volunteers, Habitat Calgary continues to build hope for many deserving families – thank you!

### **Volunteer Highlight**

#### George Procter

George Procter has been a very hard working volunteer at Habitat for Humanity Calgary for the past 20 years, generously and selflessly donating his time and energy to the construction team every Tuesday. He has been on all Habitat Calgary builds with the exception of one. During these 20 years, George has contributed thousands of hours towards Habitat Calgary's mission of building affordable housing and promoting homeownership as a means to breaking the cycle of poverty.

"I've probably been here longer than anyone else," George says. "I enjoy working with Habitat because I get to learn more about building. I also enjoy working with other volunteers, getting to know their abilities and inabilities."

George decided to start volunteering with HFH Calgary because he hates to see items thrown away. He recalls his first experience with Habitat, demolishing wooden barrel racks at the Alberta Distillery Warehouse for resale by Habitat. Procter says he started out when Habitat was still new to the city, and recalls building Habitat's third and fourth houses.

"I believe Habitat homes are built better than most homes done by a construction company," says George, "If something isn't done right the first time, then we do it again. If it's worth



doing once, it's worth doing twice. An old Habitat maxim."

He particularly enjoys meeting the Habitat homeowners who work so hard to achieve their goal of living in a safe, decent and affordable home of their own. He loves to see the children running through the home in excitement, claiming which room is going to be theirs.

George is a very dedicated Habitat ambassador, a wonderful teammate, a supportive and reliable crew leader and a true inspiration.

### **2010 Volunteer Hours**





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The Habitat for Humanity ReStore sells quality, new and used furniture, appliances and building materials to the public at greatly reduced prices. All products are donated by local people or businesses keeping helpful items out of the landfills. ReStore proceeds help cover Habitat Calgary's administration costs, ensuring that donations go directly to the construction of affordable homes for families in need.

In 2010, many new and exciting changes occurred for our ReStore. Our three existing locations were consolidated into one large superstore.

In October we moved into our new 28,000 sq ft superstore located at 3465 Sunridge Way NE. This facility is the largest ReStore in Canada. A lot of thought and planning went into designing a colourful, well lit and well merchandised retail outlet that rivals many well known big box retail/warehouse stores.

# habitat for humanity restore

The new facility boasts a large receiving area, and a large service area for repairing appliances and other products.

The location places us on the busiest retail street in Calgary. By focusing all of our efforts into one store, we are better able to offer our customers efficient service and one of the most unique shopping experiences in the city.

### Habitat for Humanity Calary ReStore

FURNITURE

### Women Build. Poverty ends at home.

Women Build is an international movement that transforms the lives of women and their children around the globe. Women Build 2010 was held in November with 200+ women gathering in the community of New Brighton to frame a two-story home. Many participants experienced construction for the first time and were thrilled to be giving back to their community.

## programs

Women Build is an annual event and HFH Calgary looks forward to hosting participants from May 2nd – May 7th, 2011 in Cochrane, Alberta.



### Peak Homeownership

Foundation, Alberta Housing Affairs and Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, the PEAK Homeownership Program is aimed at assisting hard working Calgarians who need a "hand-up" to qualify for a mortgage.

PEAK is short for *"Public, Essential And Key"* workers:

- Public stands for public sector workers such as civic, provincial and federal employees.
- Essential stands for essential workers like teachers, health care workers, social services, firefighters, police officers, paramedics and air traffic controllers.

• Key stands for key workers needed for a vibrant Calgary; like artists, trades people, non-profit sector, service industry and journalists.

In its inaugural year, more than 50 families achieved homeownership.



www.peakcalgary.ca





Government of Alberta



### **Build it Forward**

In partnership with country singer Paul Brandt, the Calgary Homeless Foundation and Samaritan's Purse, Habitat for Humanity Calgary has the opportunity to change the lives of seven local Habitat families, and families abroad, in this new documentary television series.

Habitat has supported Build it Forward with the family recruitment and selection process. With our extensive experience in partnering and supporting families in attaining affordable housing, we are a suitable partner for Build It Forward. After a family moves into their home, we will continue to offer ongoing support, making a long-term commitment to the well-being of each family.

The Build it Forward Program will air on CMT in 2011.



www.builditforward.ca

### 5-for-5

A unique partnership championed by Mark Giordano of the Calgary Flames

In an effort to address the issue of affordable housing both locally and globally, Mark Giordano from the Calgary Flames and his wife Lauren will assist in the fundraising efforts and create awareness to build homes. Of these homes, four will be built in developing countries and the '5th' home in the Calgary area. The '5th' home is the end unit of our first five-plex in Cochrane, Alberta.

The international projects involved with "5-for-5" are located in Kenya, Ethiopia, India and the Philippines. "5-for-5" will work in partnership with the Habitat for Humanity Canada Global Village



program which consists of short-term house-building trips designed to give people the opportunity to observe and contribute to Habitat for Humanity's work first-hand. Thousands of volunteers from around the world work hand-inhand with local families in support of this program.

Many new and exciting "5-for-5" initiatives are planned for 2011. Visit 5-for-5.ca for more information.

Habitat



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Tr Habitat

Independent special events, or third-party fundraisers, are a very important component of our fundraising activities. Events held by individuals and our community partners allow Habitat Calgary to increase our capacity to build more homes to make the dream of homeownership a reality for deserving families. 2010 was a terrific year working with many great organizations.



### **Golf Tournaments**

Habitat for Humanity Calgary was very fortunate to be the charity of choice for two major golf tournaments in 2010. Between the 12th annual Lafarge Golf Tournament and the 25th annual Urban Development Institute (UDI) Golf Tournament, Habitat Calgary received more than \$61,000. A big thank you to both companies for working tirelessly to make both these tournaments successful.

### **Casino Fundraiser**

Rotary Club West of Calgary again supported Habitat for Humanity Calgary with proceeds from their Casino event, Volunteers spent an entire two days and nights at Elbow River Casino. All of their time, dedication and energy raised more than \$67,000.

### Thrill of the grill BBQ series

Over the summer months, Delta Hotels hosted various BBQ themed events in support of Habitat Calgary. They hosted the 'Thrill of the Grill' BBQ series, the 2nd Annual 'Lobster BBQ' and the 'Titanium Chef Cook-Off' to raise \$28,000.

### **Evening of Fashion**

Shisomiso Boutique and Gallery hosted a fashion show and silent auction event at Art Central. A fun evening of music, food, dance and fashion, this first time event raised \$5,000 for Habitat Calgary.

### Gingerbread Cookie Campaign

The year ended with the Gingerbread Cookie Campaign at Good Earth coffee shops. From November to December, all Good Earth locations sold seasonal packages of fresh-baked gingerbread families. One dollar from the sale of each gingerbread was donated to Habitat Calgary. The Campaign kicked off with a charity gingerbread-decorating contest at Bankers Hall. Members of Habitat families, the Calgary Flames Better Halves, the local media and Good Earth staff teamed up to take part. The campaign raised \$2,300.



# special events





# habitat facts

Habitat for Humanity Canada was founded in 1985, with the inaugural meeting and first home built in Winkler, Manitoba.

> It takes about 150 pounds of nails to build a Habitat home.

Habitat for Humanity Canada has provided 1800 families across Canada access to homeownership.

> It takes between 50 and 95 litres of paint to complete a Habitat home.

ReStore has recycled over 2.1 million lbs of metal in 2010.

> There are approximately 35,000 Calgary families in need of decent, affordable housing.

# our donors

### Thank you to our Donors

Thank you to the following donors who have helped us achieve our mission in building affordable housing and promoting homeownership as a means to breaking the cycle of poverty.

#### House Sponsors \$100,000+

Burnet, Duckworth & Palmer LLP Canadian Natural Resources Ltd. Daylight Energy Trust Government of Alberta – Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs Pace Oil and Gas Ltd. Trico Foundation

#### Turn-Key Title and Grass Roots Sponsors

\$55,000 - \$99,999 Edith Cavell #25 Order of the Eastern Star Rotary Club of Calgary West and the Rotary Club of Cochrane Vintage Fund

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#### Picket Fence Sponsors \$5,000 - \$9,999

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### **Builders Club**

up to \$5,000

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# contact us

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