

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Habitat for Humanity Celebrating Carter Work Project in Orillia this Summer

Bay Street Project to be included in 150 Habitat builds across the country in biggest national project ever

ORILLIA, ON – It's official, the Habitat for Humanity build at 499 Bay Street in Orillia has been accepted as one of the 150 homes taking part in the Carter Work Project hosted in Canada this summer.

Former U.S. President Jimmy Carter and former First Lady Rosalynn Carter will be in Canada for Habitat for Humanity's 34th Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter Work Project. The goal? To help build 150 homes for Canada's 150th anniversary of confederation – Habitat Canada's biggest build project ever.

The nationwide project will feature projects from coast-to-coast-to-coast, from groundbreaking to key-turning ceremonies. In Orillia, Habitat will host a community conversation on Tuesday, June 20 to garner support and announce official plans for the project and celebrations.

"It is an honour to host President and Mrs. Carter. We are grateful for their support and the many volunteers whose commitment to Habitat's mission has helped us empower communities through affordable home ownership," said Mark Rodgers, President and CEO of Habitat for Humanity Canada. "These are homes that provide families with the strength, stability and independence they need to build a better life."

Early in 2016, the City of Orillia sold two parcels of land to Habitat for the nominal fee of \$1. Now, three local families will be able to experience the strength, stability and self-reliance of homeownership for the very first time while becoming members and ratepayers of a growing and engaging community.

"What's special about a Habitat build is the level of community engagement typically involved," said Habitat's Director of Development and Communications Britta Gerwin. "From volunteers, donors, local businesses and governments – the family will know their neighbours all had a hand in this new life – and that's truly profound."

Everyone in Canada has the right to a safe, affordable and decent place to live. By volunteering your time or donating to the Carter Work Project, you can help build a more caring Canada – where neighbours help neighbours build homes that provide a safe and affordable foundation for a better life. If you would like to join the upcoming Orillia build as a sponsor, partner, or volunteer contact Habitat's Director of Director of Development Britta Gerwin at (705) 646-0106 ext. 205 or email bgerwin@habitatgatewaynorth.com.

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