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MEDIA RELEASE

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CMHC Donates \$5,000 to Habitat for Humanity Niagara

Port Colborne, ON – Canadian Housing and Mortgage Corporation has made a significant donation of \$5,000 to Habitat for Humanity Niagara's Port Colborne Build. In addition to the financial contribution, CMHC will be participating in the build on Paul Street in Port Colborne on Wednesday June 25 and Thursday June 26. CMHC representatives will be helping with the interior construction of the single family home. Just prior to lunch, the cheque presentation of \$5,000 will be made to Habitat for Humanity Niagara's Build – truly a donation to help build a community.

CMHC's community commitment through hands-on involvement, financial contribution and advocating homeownership has allowed Habitat to build stronger, more vibrant communities. Homeownership is often an unattainable dream for many Canadians. Thanks to a continued partnership between CMHC and Habitat for Humanity, this dream can become a reality for more Canadians.

As an independent, charitable housing program dedicated to the elimination of poverty housing from the Niagara Region, Habitat for Humanity Niagara builds simple, decent, and affordable houses and provides interest-free mortgages to families who would otherwise not be able to purchase their own home. By working with our community to provide a long-term solution, our mission is to make decent, affordable shelter a matter of conscience and action.

"We are a volunteer based organization reaching out to all members of our community; individuals, corporations, businesses and the public," remarked Alastair Davis, CEO Habitat for Humanity Niagara. Davis added, "Strategic partnerships allow us to provide families in need a 'hand up, not a hand-out' while strengthening the fabric of our community. This is why we want the whole community to become involved."

"When organizations step forward, like CMHC, a house built by a community can quickly become a home for a local family in need," said Davis. "We are always grateful for the support we consistently receive from our community; our reward is the change we can make in the lives of local families."

About Habitat for Humanity

Habitat for Humanity is a non-profit, charitable organization dedicated to improving the lives of economically disadvantaged persons through home ownership with the belief that decent, affordable housing is a basic human need. Established locally in 1993, Habitat has constructed 27 houses in Niagara. Habitat for Humanity is a non-profit, faith-based organization dedicated to the elimination of substandard housing worldwide. The houses are sold at cost, with no-interest loans to partner families who contribute 500 hours of volunteer labour called “sweat equity.” www.habitatniagara.on.ca.

Habitat invites people of all backgrounds, races and religions to build houses together in partnership with families in need. Through volunteer labour and donations of money and materials, Habitat builds simple, decent houses with the help of the homeowner (partner) families. The homeowners' monthly mortgage payments are used to build still more Habitat houses. Habitat is not a giveaway program. In addition to monthly mortgage payments, homeowners invest hundreds of hours of their own labour – sweat equity – into building their Habitat house and the homes of other partner families.