

Fall Annual Meeting Wednesday, November 22, 2006

- Wednesday, November 22, 2006 AGM is MennoHomes Affordable Housing Day!
- 5:30 p.m. Light Supper & quick AGM Meeting at Rockway Mennonite Church at 32 Weber St. W., Kitchener in the Fellowship Hall. Parking in Zion United Church parking lot.
- Affordable Housing Walking Tour starts at 6:30 p.m. to see Mary's Place on Frederick St.; The Working Centre on Queen St.; Heartwood on Gaukel St.; ending with a tour by Joe Mancini at the new St. John's Kitchen on Victoria St. and a short debriefing session.
- Looking forward to seeing you there!

MennoHomes Inc. Board of Directors

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Mennonite Foundation

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February '07 Open House

Watch for more information for an
Open House in February 2007.

We expect to be able to show you
The Rockway Gardens Village,
our new seniors project
located at 1420 King St. E.,
in Kitchener.

Printing courtesy of Waterloo Printing



The Roof Is On!



*The roof at The Rockway
Gardens Village (1420 King
East, Kitchener) was raised at
the beginning of October.*

Revised Fundraising Goal

In our previous flyer (Spring 06) we reported a fund-raising goal of \$575,000 to meet our equity contribution requirements to build a 50-unit seniors affordable housing project at 1420 King East, Kitchener at a cost of \$5.8 million.

Subsequently we encountered an additional cost of \$200,000 to remove an underground storage tank and to clean the site to Ministry of Environment standards. In addition the Board made the decision to use energy-savings measures. This added another \$100,000 to the capital budget. Our amended budget is \$6.1 million (shown below). These changes have resulted in a revised fundraising target of \$675,000. With \$535,000 in cash and pledges to date, the remaining amount to be raised is \$140,000. Should we be so fortunate as to exceed the goal, the additional amounts will be used to pay down the mortgage debt.

| | | |
|--|-----------------------|--------------------|
| <i>Canada-Ontario Contribution</i> | | \$2,100,000 |
| <i>Region of Waterloo grant in lieu of Development Charges</i> | | 194,705 |
| <i>MennoHomes Contributions</i> | a) land | 520,000 |
| | b) cash | 675,000 |
| | <i>Subtotal (57%)</i> | \$3,489,750 |
| <i>Mortgage from Mennonite Foundation of Canada (43%)</i> | | \$2,610,250 |
| TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET | (100%) | \$6,100,000 |

Sponsor a Set of "Green" Appliances

One way to help MennoHomes complete its fundraising goal of \$675,000 is to sponsor a set of "green" appliances for each kitchen. An energy-efficient stove and fridge set will cost \$1,000 (rounded). Fifty-one sets are needed - one each for the 50 units and one for the multi-purpose room. The fridges will be Energy Star-rated hence the reference to "green" appliances.

This project would be suitable for individual donors or groups such as churches, businesses or community service organizations. Please see attached pledge form.

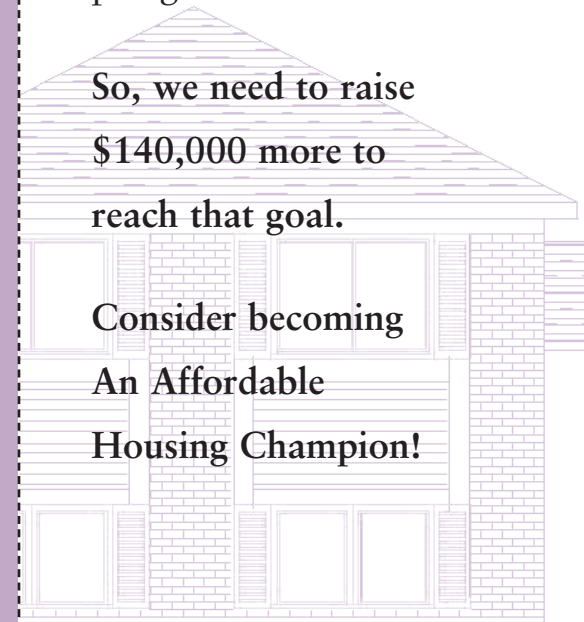
Thank you for
your warm response
to the need for
Affordable Housing!

We are close to
reaching our
\$1,195,000
Campaign goal!

To date we've raised
\$520,000 in land and
\$535,000 in cash and
pledges.

So, we need to raise
\$140,000 more to
reach that goal.

Consider becoming
An Affordable
Housing Champion!



How Can You Help?

You can help through
**a one time gift or
a pledge...**

Gift Enclosed _____

Pledge for 2007 _____

Pledge for 2008 _____

**We will need 51 sets of “Green”
appliances for The Rockway
Gardens Village at \$1000.00
per set.**

**Sponsorship of one set of
“Green” appliances is:
\$1,000.00** _____

Two or more: _____

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

email _____

**Please return to:
MennoHomes Inc.
50 Kent Ave.,
Kitchener, ON N2G 3R1**

**Thanks for becoming
An Affordable Housing
Champion!**

St. Jacobs Mennonite Church Involvement is great!

June 25, 2006, the St. Jacobs Mennonite Church was filled with beautiful music.

Bethany Horst, soloist, and her sister Abigail Horst, pianist, volunteered their time and energy to raise funds for MennoHomes. Thanks to family, friends and members for their support – the evening raised \$2,400 for MennoHomes.

We also received an invitation from the St. Jacobs Community Vacation Bible School to present a Kids Power Point Presentation on MennoHomes Inc. What a wonderful opportunity to help kids realize there is poverty right in their own backyard. \$650 was given by the children to MennoHomes for the Special Needs fund.

We sincerely appreciate the ongoing support from St. Jacobs and their concern for the working poor and affordable housing.



*Abigail and
Bethany Horst*

A Revolutionary Vision!

MennoHomes Inc was created in 2001 by Mennonite and Brethren In Christ people in Waterloo Region as a response to the need for affordable housing. Sponsored by MCC Ontario, MennoHomes based its biblical reason for existence on Jeremiah 29: 4-14.

Do we want communities that are sensitive to the needs of persons of low and modest income who need decent, safe and affordable housing? It will happen when people of vibrant faith come together to make it happen. The well being of all are inter-related in the vision of Jeremiah, a champion of housing. It is a revolutionary vision, and a blessing, for us also to experience in the twenty-first century.

We need 62 Champions of Affordable Housing:

- One major donor of\$39,000
- Ten significant donors of \$5,000 each ..\$50,000
- 51 sponsors of “Green” appliances\$51,000
- Or variations of the above to equal\$140,000

“A Sense of Community”!

On Sunday afternoon, Sept. 17/06, we held our first annual BBQ at ‘The Village’ on Village Road in Kitchener. MennoHomes Inc. provided the meat, drinks and dessert and each one of our families brought a salad, or ethnic dish to share. Close to fifty residents joined in playing with a parachute, three-legged race, water balloon toss, and many other fun activities. The excitement for me was seeing a mini United Nations playing and eating together as we spread our tables and BBQ’s over 6 backyards!

During my almost two years of sharing and interacting with our tenants, I’m always amazed at how much I receive in return. For example, Jenny (not her real name) was the recipient of some shampoo, soap, and travel packages of toothpaste/toothbrushes. At first, when I offered her the supplies, she was a little hesitant, not having been used to “handouts” before her illness, loss of job and change of accommodations. But, she did accept them. Several months later, she wanted to tell me how the toothpaste/toothbrush story continued. When she had no money for toothpaste, she remembered her travel packages. As she was removing the toothpaste from the small package, she said she thanked God for MennoHomes, for the care, concern and friendship that the Community Worker was giving to her. So now each time she brushes her teeth, she prays for us! She asked me to share with our Board, her appreciation for the interest cheque on her last month’s rent – she had no money to provide transportation for her daughter to attend a wedding in Toronto. During her daily two hour prayer time, she prayed and asked God for \$50. The next morning she received our interest cheque – for \$55.00! “Praise God,” she said, “there was an extra \$5!”

It has been a privilege to serve as MennoHomes first Community Worker. Thank you!

Dorene Rudy-Snyder



Profile of Future Tenants of The Rockway Gardens Village

The majority of applicants for one-bedroom units are single women many of whom are widows. Typically their gross annual income ranges from \$15,000 to \$25,000. Most of them face rising rental rates beyond their level of affordability. By applying to MennoHomes’ The Rockway Gardens Village, they look forward to safe and secure housing with public transportation at the front door. Across the road is the Rockway Seniors Centre and Rockway Gardens, amenities for them to enjoy.