

Media Release - Habitat for Humanity Sault Ste. Marie and Area

February 15th, 2024

For immediate release

Do you need help buying an affordable home for you and your family? Habitat for Humanity Sault Ste. Marie and Area is continuing to accept Expressions of Interest for our largest build yet – a five-plex at 661 Goulais Avenue.

We believe that everyone deserves a safe, decent, and affordable place to call home. Since 2002, we have been working hard to help local families in Sault Ste. Marie break the cycle of poverty and purchase their own Habitat Homes. We do not give away free homes; rather, the families we partner with pay an affordable, geared-to-income mortgage which helps fund future builds.

"[Getting a house from Habitat] will give us space to think about other things, like developing and progressing ourselves," one of our homeowners says. "To everyone [wanting a home and having] a lot of difficulties and challenges, Habitat for Humanity is the best thing to do."

The Goulais Avenue build is conveniently located along a bus route in the city's west end within walking distance of Korah Collegiate & Vocational School, three elementary schools, Northern Community Centre, parks, pharmacy, health clinic, and grocery stores. The building offers units with two to five bedrooms, depending on family composition. Selected families may suggest minor customizations to the unit within limits. In partnership with SalDan Construction Group, Habitat will break ground on their Goulais Avenue build this Spring. The land used for the new build has been graciously donated to us by Soo Mill Buildall.

To serve a larger demographic, we have increased the maximum income thresholds for the Goulais Ave build. For one applicant, the maximum amount is \$89,000; for two applicants, the maximum amount is \$109,000. To qualify, applicants must demonstrate a need for safe, decent, and affordable housing. They should have a stable income with a history of good credit but need assistance qualifying for a conventional mortgage. Lastly, applicants must be willing to partner with Habitat for Humanity by contributing 500 volunteer hours per household, including homeowner education courses.

To access the Expression of Interest form, as well as more information on the Affordable Homeownership Program, visit our website under the "Homeownership" tab. If you have any questions or need help filling out your Expression of Interest form, please contact us at community@habitatsault.ca. Our team will be happy to assist you. There is no deadline for the application. It will remain online until all five homes are filled. Apply now!





Rendering of the five-plex on Goulais avenue.

About Habitat for Humanity Sault Ste. Marie and Area

Founded in 2002, Habitat for Humanity Sault Ste. Marie & Area is a non-profit community-based organization working towards a world where everyone has a safe and decent place to live. HFHSSMA offers a sustainable solution to the housing crisis facing our communities by mobilizing volunteers and community partners to build affordable housing and promoting home ownership.

For more information, please contact us at marketing@habitatsault.ca