

Making Dreams Come True



Realtors with Century 21 Bachman and Associates are “in the business of making dreams come true,” says broker manager Darlene Clare. The firm’s 50 realtors delight in finding the perfect home for their clients. But why stop there? By teaming up with non profit organization Habitat for Humanity, the real estate agents are reaching out to a low-income family and making their wish for home ownership a reality.



BACK ROW (LEFT TO RIGHT) Denis Voyer, Ralph Fyfe, Lorne Weiss, Roberta Weiss, Roland Biber, Judith Biber, Joanne Olson.

FRONT ROW (LEFT TO RIGHT) Janice Fyfe, Darlene Clare, Robert Prystupa, Maryann Mazepa, David Watson, Natasha Kouk, Karen Tereck, Roger Burns, Tracy McLachlan.

Missing from the photo are Dave Lowery and Greg Grewal



AN OUTSTANDING "T.E.A.M." EFFORT "Together Everyone Achieves More"

More than a dozen of the firm's realtors recently joined forces to raise the frame of a bi-level, two-bedroom, 765-square-foot house in the West End. For now, it's a physical structure, but before long it will be much more.

"A home—that's where all of life is lived," Clare says. "It's where memories are made. It's more than bricks and mortar — that's just the shell. What happens on the inside is what changes a house into a home."

The new owners—a couple originally from the Philippines and their two sons—will have put in more than 500 hours of sweat equity by the time they move out of their basement apartment

and into their new house in November. The realtors were happy to lend a hand. "If a family is going to be able to live here and fulfill their dreams, then it was a small price for us to pay to help make that happen," says real estate agent Lorne Weiss.

For many of the realtors, it was the first time ever picking up a hammer. "This was the most rewarding charity work I have ever done and I've been involved in charity since I was a little girl," says Natasha Kouk.

Fellow realtor, Roger Burns, says it gave them all a new perspective: "It gets us involved in construction, which is a completely different side of the business."

Ken Bishop, chief executive officer of Habitat for Humanity in Winnipeg, predicted the realtors would leave the site happy but with sore muscles. Volunteer Janice Fyfe agrees. "I think we'll all feel it tomorrow, but right now the adrenaline is pumping," the realtor says, in between hammering nails.



Pairing up clients with their dream homes feels good, Fyfe adds, "but being able to build somebody's home is even more rewarding."

Roberta Weiss, also a realtor, says she'll feel good driving by the Toronto Street home in years to come, knowing she played a role. "There will be a connection for sure," she says. "For us to be able to do this is terrific. It's a very worthwhile cause."

PHOTOS BY LANCE THOMSON



Century 21
Bachman & Associates



The Local Experts™

The most recognized name in Real Estate.
The best trained sales people.
The world's largest referral network.
AIRMILES® program sponsor.

360 McMillan Avenue, Winnipeg
(204) 453-7653