

- Yes, I want to support the new affordable housing build in Elmira.

Here is my gift of _____

and/or

Here is my pledge of _____

for _____ years.

Name

Address

Tel: _____

Email: _____

Please return this form to:

Dan Driedger
MennoHomes Inc.
202- 50 Kent Ave.
Kitchener ON N2G 3R1

Charitable Registration #:
86304 7015 RR0001

For further information contact:
Dan Driedger - 226-476-2535,
ddriedger@mennohomes.com.



www.mennohomes.com



MennoHomes

Annual General Meeting & Concert

Wednesday Nov. 25, 2015

7:00pm

Waterloo Mennonite Brethren Church

245 Lexington Road, Waterloo

Featuring folk artist Janice Jo Lee

with Richard Garvey



Newsletter Editor: Nancy Regehr

www.mennohomes.com



MennoHomes 202-50 Kent Ave. Kitchener ON N2G 3R1
226-476-2535

Janice sings and shares stories about love and the struggle for social justice and is the City of Kitchener's Artist in Residence for 2015.

Join Janice and Richard for a soulful, rousing and singalong good time.

A bit of business and a great evening of music – Everyone welcome!

Free admission with all donations going to support MennoHomes' affordable housing project in Elmira.

Printing courtesy of Waterloo Printing



a response to need for affordable housing FALL 2015

Out-Spok'n V Raises \$46K for Elmira Project



On Saturday June 20, 2015 over 100 riders participated in Out-Spok'n V for Affordable Housing, raising \$46,128 for a new 3-storey apartment building to be built in Elmira in 2016.

After the opening remarks by Dan Driedger, Regional Chair Ken Seiling, and local MP Harold Albrecht, cyclists, runners and walkers headed out on the Kissing Bridge Trail between Wallenstein and West Montrose. A stop for ice cream in West Montrose was a highlight for many. Earlier in the day an enthusiastic group of cyclists (see the photo above) took part in the 75km ride from St. Jacobs to the Shand Dam near Fergus and back.

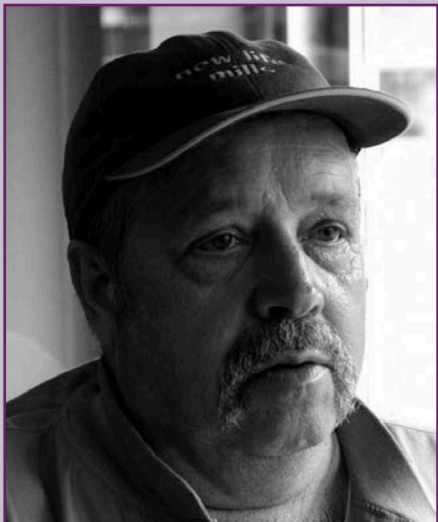
The event wrapped up at noon with a BBQ lunch hosted by Elmira Mennonite Church, after which a group of motorcyclists headed out for a backroads tour through Perth and Wellington Counties.

Thank you to the businesses who generously provided donations of food and the door prizes. Corporate sponsorships were provided by Mennonite Savings and Credit Union, Mennonite Foundation of Canada, and MAX Canada Insurance. Thank you to the volunteers, riders and walkers who made the bike-a-thon such a success.

Mark your calendars – Out-Spok'n VI for Affordable Housing is scheduled for Saturday June 18, 2016.

Gordon's Story

Gordon is one Elmira resident whose life could see a dramatic change for the better when MennoHomes' 25-unit apartment building in Elmira is finally completed.



At 60, Gordon is surprised how hard it is to get around.

"I've always been able to do hard manual work" he says, "in tile yards, poultry farms, dairy farms, or feed mills." But years of hard work have taken a toll. "This past summer I just wasn't able to stay steady onto my feet anymore."

Gordon can walk with the help of two canes, but it is a struggle for him to manage the 24 steps to his second floor apartment in downtown Elmira.

The stairs are hard on a regular day, but become an even larger obstacle on laundry day. Gordon has to "step" his laundry basket down the stairs from his apartment, while juggling his canes and trying to stay standing. Within minutes he is fatigued, but after the drive to a nearby laundromat, the entire process is repeated when he returns home.

With help from his son Jason, Gordon has been looking for an apartment with enough room to use a walker. They've found very few options, and so far everything is well beyond Gordon's limited budget. "One of the things I'm looking forward to is being able to have a walker and be able to get around that way rather than with canes" Gordon says.

MennoHomes' planned apartment building will have features such as wide doorways and an elevator in order to respond to the needs of Gordon and others like him in Elmira that face the same daily struggle.

"I would love to see the people in and around Elmira get behind this project." Gordon's son, Jason.

To watch a video of Gordon's story, go to: www.mennohomes.com



MennoHomes is pleased to announce that the Region of Waterloo has identified our Elmira project as a "Priority Project." Regional Council approved \$1,703,850 for our planned apartment building.

MennoHomes will launch the A Place to Call Home capital campaign this fall to raise the balance of funds required. Construction of the 25-unit apartment building is expected to begin in spring 2016 with occupancy in 2017.

The architectural drawings have now been completed and the project is "permit ready." This building will be the only affordable rental apartment building in Elmira with an elevator. With one, two and three bedroom units, tenants will be a mixture of seniors, non-senior singles and small families.

Your donations and pledges are critical. Please partner with us and respond to the need for affordable housing by completing and returning the attached tear-off slip.

Ring the Doorbell

Housing Opens Doors is a multi-year campaign to make affordable housing a priority for Ontario. Led by the Ontario Non-Profit Housing Association (ONPHA), the campaign has many supporters, including housing providers and tenants, organizations serving the public good, corporate sponsors and concerned people.

As of 2012 there are 156,358 households on waiting lists for affordable housing in Ontario. The campaign is asking people who are concerned about affordable housing to ring the doorbell – 156,358 rings of support, one for each Ontario household still waiting for an affordable home.

To ring the doorbell, go to www.housingopensdoors.ca.

Fast Facts about the Elmira Project



- located at the corner of Church St. and Memorial Ave. on the lot shared with Woolwich Community Services
- 14 one-bedroom apartments
- 9 two-bedroom apartments
- 2 three-bedroom apartments
- barrier-free design with elevator
- housing for seniors, non-senior singles, and small families
- affordable rent starting at 60% of average market rent
- \$3.4 million in donations and grants pledged or received
- \$1.7 million still to be raised
- construction start anticipated for early 2016, with occupancy in 2017.