

## Mission Statement

MennoHomes' mission is to provide affordable housing to those in need. Our housing projects will be economically and environmentally viable and sustainable and will include support services for our tenants.

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## Board of Directors 2016-2017

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Nick Driedger, Secretary  
Arnie Bender  
Chip Bender  
Steven Reesor Rempel  
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### Community Support Worker

Karen Lebold

### Bookkeeper

Dave Bechtel

### Executive Director

Dan Driedger



202 - 50 Kent Ave. Kitchener, ON N2G 3R1  
Phone: 226-476-2535 [www.mennohomes.com](http://www.mennohomes.com)  
[ddriedger@mennohomes.com](mailto:ddriedger@mennohomes.com)  
CRA# 86304 7015 RR0001





## The Welfare of the City

The Jeremiah 29: 1-9 letter to the exiles in Babylon was a departure from what was expected. It encouraged the exiles to settle down, have faith, build families, plant gardens and trust. Trust in exile is difficult but it was necessary. The peace the exiles were seeking was to come about when they sought the welfare of the city of their exile. In a world where many are in precarious housing, in need of security and safe places to call home, in our deep desire for stability MennoHomes has found its place as it works to restore equity and seek the welfare of all who dwell in the city.

We are privileged to be called into the work of building solid, and substantial housing but we also seek the greater good of the community. We work to create a concept of home that is beyond bricks and mortar and where the cement that holds life together is the relationships that exist among those who reside together. We recognize that it takes intention and communication and we place a high value on a life shared where laughter is heard, where joy is shared and where hope is realized.

It is a blessing and a privilege to see the structures rise from the ground and witness the spirits of people rise in expectation of home. We have celebrated the new life that has arisen in Elmira at The Foundry and also the House that is opened for a refugee family in St. Jacobs. The future calls us to continue to seek the welfare of the city and its inhabitants and we have hopes, dreams and plans for the coming year where new life will be built within our communities. Thank you for being part of the joy of the restoration of the city.



**Margaret Nally, Chair  
On behalf of the Board**

## Au revoir (until we see each other again)

Grade eight French was not the highlight of my public school education, but one phrase that I recall is *Au revoir*. I appreciate that while it acknowledges a departure, it also anticipates a reunion. As we approach the end of 2017, there are a number of *Au revairs* that need to be said; to long-serving and dedicated board members, to staff transitioning into full retirement, and to volunteers serving on building and capital fundraising committees. It is also time to say *Au revoir* to construction contractors, planners and architects, site meetings, my hard hat, and my steel-toed boots.

"Until we see each other again" because our work is not finished. Yes, we have accomplished a lot over the last year. A 25 unit apartment building in Elmira was completed and a large family house in St. Jacobs was renovated to provide housing for a Syrian refugee family. MennoHomes continues to look ahead to what is next. With over 3,000 households on the waiting list for affordable housing in Waterloo Region, we cannot sit still.



What does the future hold for us? We anticipate returning to urban Kitchener-Waterloo and are currently exploring new opportunities and potential partnerships. MennoHomes will continue to respond to the need for affordable housing and we invite you to join us in this important work.

**Dan Driedger  
Executive Director**

## By the Numbers

**2.6**  
Million dollars  
donated toward our  
**A Place to Call Home**  
capital campaign  
for Elmira

**7**  
Families that are  
new to Canada  
within the last  
five years

**105**  
Rental units  
throughout  
Waterloo Region

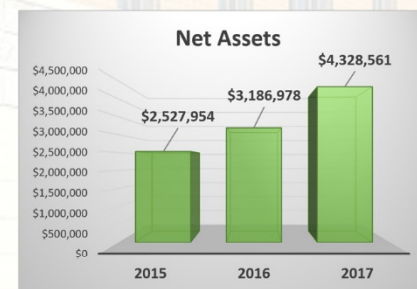
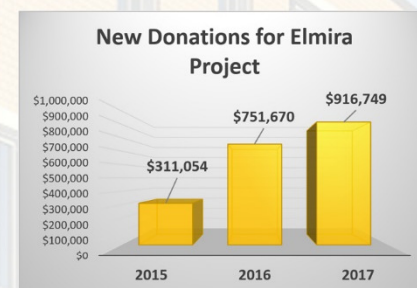
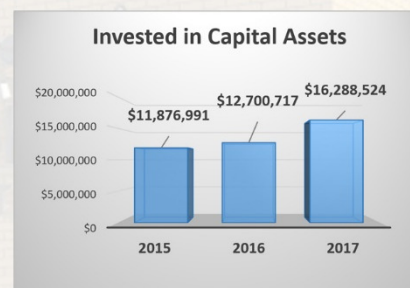
**25**  
New  
affordable housing  
units completed  
in Elmira

**34**  
Quilts & Comforters  
given to new  
households as a  
welcome gift

**87**  
Pre-school to  
young-adult  
children

**58**  
Applications  
received for 25  
units in Elmira

## Financial Highlights\*



MennoHomes budgets each of our projects to break-even on a cash-flow basis. After contributions to general operating (10%) and replacement reserves, rent and other operating income is utilized to pay property expenses such as mortgages, utilities, property management, and maintenance.

\*audited financial statements available upon request