

Spring Newsletter 2022

Last year at this time, we were just completing our most recent apartment building at the corner of Bridgeport and Lancaster in Kitchener. Forty-eight households now have accessible and affordable homes.

We are now in the midst of construction at Sprucelawn Apartments for Seniors in St. Jacobs. With 20 one-bedroom and 8 two-bedroom apartments, this will be a much-needed addition to the existing 30 apartments. Construction completion is scheduled for summer 2023.

We live in a prosperous community, yet many seniors struggle to find affordable housing. Good housing is out of reach for many, especially those on fixed incomes. It is time to ensure that seniors in our community can live affordably, with dignity, in safety and comfort.

To make this dream a reality, a new Sprucelawn Capital Campaign will raise \$2 million from mindful visionaries like you. Please join other supporters by helping us build *A Place to Call Home*.



Dan Driedger
Executive Director

[Donate](#)

Photo Gallery



Out-Spok'n Bike-a-thon - June 11th

Just over one week to go until our 2022 Out-Spok'n Bikeathon! This year, we will be hosting a hybrid version of this event. You are welcome to Join us in Elmira for the traditional ride on the Kissing Bridge Trail, to join the early morning 60km ride, or to participate remotely at a location and time that is convenient for you.

Click the image below to register or to sponsor someone who has already registered. All donations for this year's event will go towards our Sprucelawn Project in St. Jacobs

[Register or Donate](#)

REGISTER NOW
for
Saturday June 11th

www.mennohomes.com
226-476-2535

**Raising funds for new
affordable housing.**



**To view a step-by-step guide for registering and setting up your page on
Canada Helps click here on Guide**

[Guide](#)

Annual General Meeting

MennoHomes held its Annual General Meeting virtually on January 26th. We had a very successful meeting with over 110 people joining us by Zoom. Even though we couldn't meet in person it was great to "see" so many familiar faces and we were pleased to have welcomed some new ones for the first time.

To read our Annual Report click [here](#)



Annual General Meeting - January 26,
2022

Taylor's Story

Meet Taylor, a 28-year-old gymnastics coach and a tenant at 544 Bridgeport Rd. East, Kitchener.

Prior to becoming a tenant with MennoHomes, Taylor struggled with severe anxiety. She wasn't able to pay her rent and she couldn't afford quality food. Some days Taylor could only work for an hour before anxiety took over. It was a terrible cycle and the impact on her health and finances were significant.

Although she was working 5 days a week, it was often only part-time. It was taking 60% of her income to pay for her housing. She was struggling. When Taylor learned of the possibility of moving into the new MennoHomes apartment building at the corner of Bridgeport and Lancaster, she felt like it was her last hope to stabilize her life and "reset" her future.

Taylor moved into her new home in July 2022 and was one of the first tenants in the new building. She has a modest one-bedroom apartment. Access to quality affordable housing was just what she needed to stabilize her life.

Since moving in, she is now able to work full-time as a gymnastics coach for 18-month to 16-year-olds and is helping with administration tasks where she coaches. She is less worried about missing work and getting behind in her rent. Taylor is eating better and healthier foods and is able to buy the things she needs.

Plus, she has been able to give back to the community! Living in apartment building has required adjustments, but when asked to give a descriptive word about living at 544 Bridgeport Taylor says *"relief"*. She has broken the cycle of her anxiety. She has an affordable place to call home!



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