

FirstOntario, Bethlehem Housing and Penn Terra celebrate the success of affordable housing initiative

Church Street location welcomed hundreds who were on affordable housing waiting list

Niagara, ON, October 13, 2020 – The Niagara community is celebrating a milestone, as the homes at 111 Church Street in St. Catharines have been filled with people who have been waiting a long time for a safe and affordable place to live. This affordable housing initiative came together as a result of a dedicated partnership between Bethlehem Housing Support Services, Penn Terra Group Ltd. and FirstOntario Credit Union.

"The need for affordable housing in the Niagara Region is at a critical stage – with thousands of people having nowhere to go," said Lloyd Smith, CEO at FirstOntario. "We are happy to support this project, and work with the likes of Bethlehem Housing and Penn Terra, to make an impact in this community. We are thrilled to know the building is a success and is now home to so many."

With COVID-19 restricting the ways in which people can get together to celebrate such a milestone, the partners developed a short video to share their thoughts and appreciation for everyone's contributions to making the Church Street affordable housing a reality. It is in times like these where it is more critical than ever, to take care of those in need. By the end of the summer, all 127 units were full.

About FirstOntario Credit Union

FirstOntario is a full service cooperative financial institution, serving Members for 80 years throughout the Golden Horseshoe, Niagara Region and Southwestern regions of Ontario. With \$5.8 billion in assets under management, FirstOntario is one of Canada's largest credit unions. Everyone is welcome to be part of FirstOntario for financial services including daily transactions, mortgages, lines of credit, loans and investments. FirstOntario profits are invested into the communities we serve through support for entrepreneurs, competitive rates and charitable pursuits including our award winning student nutrition program. Learn more about us today at FirstOntario.com.

Media contact:

Stacey Marshall
Manager, Communications and Public Relations
FirstOntario Credit Union
905-387-2133
Stacey.Marshall@FirstOntario.com