

BUILDING OPPORTUNITY CAMPAIGN UPDATE

DECEMBER
2019

OUR MISSION

As stewards of a one-of-a-kind space, The Mount Community Centre contributes to well-being by increasing access to housing, food and community services.



CAMPAIGN CO-CHAIRS



Neil Hamilton



Kate Ramsay

themountcampaign.ca

AN UPDATE FROM OUR CAMPAIGN CO-CHAIRS

As 2019 comes to a close, we look back on an exciting year for The Mount Community Centre (TMCC). Our Food Centre & Fulcrum Café is busy with learning, laughing and connection. All the community spaces in our 131,400 square foot main building are full with 21 non-residential tenant organizations and more than 13 community groups renting space. Some of our new additions in 2019 include Fleming College's Early Childhood Educator program, Hardwood Nature School's Nature Kindergarten Program and the Liftlock New Horizons Band. Our beloved "Mount Crew" won a Civic Award for Community Betterment for the thousands of volunteer hours they have spent on repairs, maintenance and more.

We have also been hard at work constructing 15 affordable apartments including those through our partnership with Shared Dreams for Independent Living. Ten of those units are complete, ready to provide low-income individuals a safe, secure home just in time for the holiday season. The Shared Dreams units will be ready within the next few months so five men with developmental delays and physical challenges will be able

to live on their own, in a home of their own, with access to shared kitchen, dining, living spaces and 24/7 support.

Our *Building Opportunity Campaign* has raised over \$3.1M towards its \$4M goal; changing lives in meaningful and lasting ways. We are excited and motivated by the community's continued support of our cause and know that together we can make our community healthier, safer and stronger.

Please help us to continue to make that real difference in the lives of those less fortunate in our community. With an estimated 393 people homeless in the Peterborough area and a reported 1544 people on the wait list for affordable housing, a gift to The Mount Community Centre is a gift that can change the course of someone's life.



Building Opportunity...Changing Lives

THANKYOU THURSDAY

GivingTuesday is a global movement for giving and volunteering, taking place each year after Black Friday. The “Opening day of the giving season,” it’s a time when charities, companies and individuals join together and rally for favourite causes. Today, we are acknowledging **#ThankYouThursday** to say thank you to the donors, volunteers, friends and community leaders without whom The Mount Community Centre would not be possible. THANK YOU!

TMCC is grateful for the incredible support of the community. Please help us to share our appreciation to some of our amazing donors:

TIM & SHELLEY BARRIE AND BILL & GAIL LOCKINGTON

Thanks to community leaders Tim & Shelley Barrie and Bill & Gail Lockington whose generous support is helping TMCC increase accessibility while respecting the heritage of our beautiful building.

THE STEWART FAMILY FOUNDATION AND JIM & KATIE STEWART

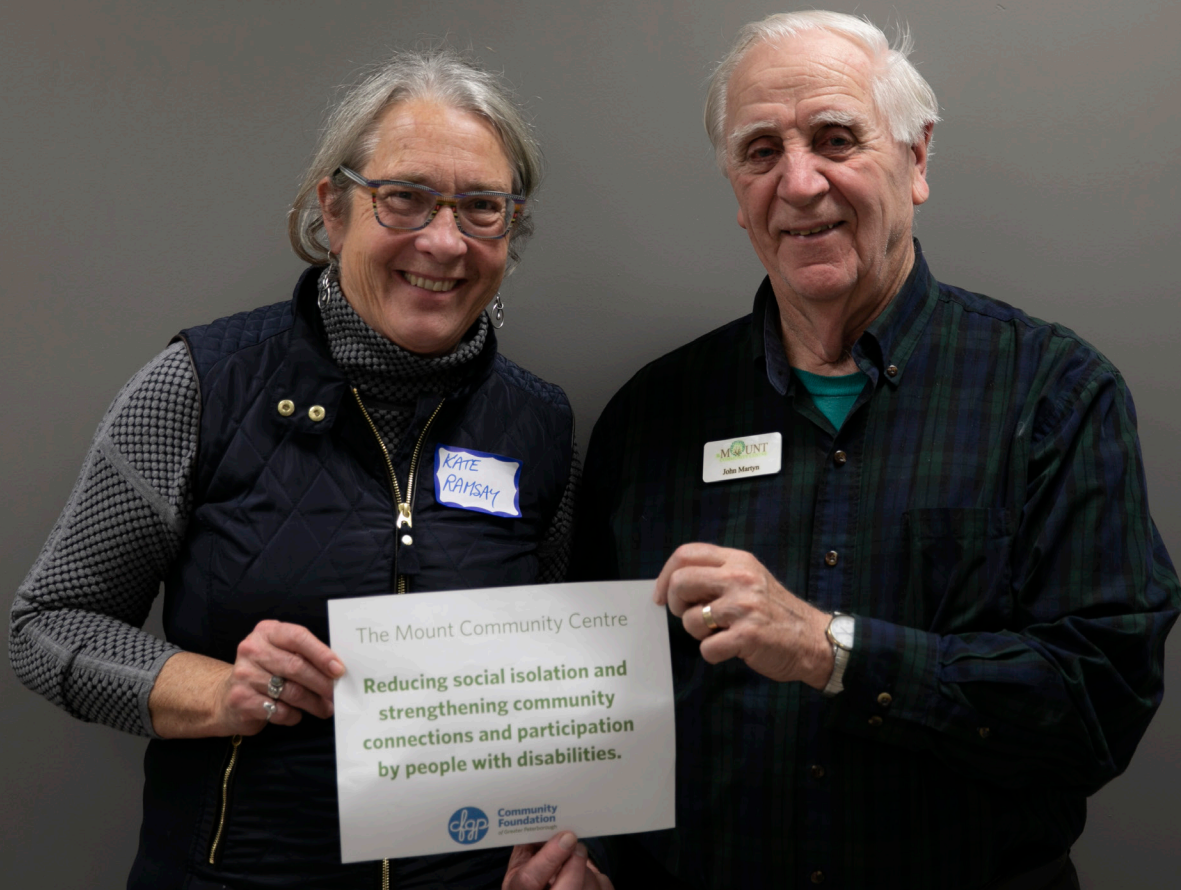
Thank you to The Stewart Family Foundation and Jim & Katie Stewart for their recent \$20,000 donation bringing their total *Building Opportunity Campaign* support up to \$40,000.

DANBY PRODUCTS LIMITED

A big thank you to Danby Products Limited who provided us with a 40% discount on the appliances for our new apartments!

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF GREATER PETERBOROUGH

Thanks to the Community Foundation of Greater Peterborough (CFGF) who donated \$5,000 towards increasing accessibility to our site. TMCC’s Kate Ramsay and John Martyn are pictured below at CFGF’s Vital Community Grant Reception.



THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS!



"I GIVE BECAUSE ...COMING FROM A LARGE FAMILY OUR PARENTS TAUGHT US TO BE THANKFUL FOR WHAT WE HAVE BUT THAT YOU ALSO HAVE TO GIVE BACK."

When Paul Ayotte heard that volunteers were needed to help to renovate The Mount six years ago, he put his hand up. Today, he does a little bit of everything at TMCC – from removing ceiling tiles to building walls and glazing windows – he does not, however, paint!

Paul is motivated by his fellow volunteers and the feeling of satisfaction seeing each phase completed. He is always interested to see what the next challenge will be. He remembers the day some of the Sisters of St. Joseph visited the building, "...the emotion and the satisfaction they displayed knowing their former home would no longer be

sitting idle and deteriorating but would be used by deserving community members for safe housing was kind of neat."

Paul provides his time to several organizations locally including Junior Achievement, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Immaculate Conception, and the Knights of Columbus. When asked why he volunteers, Paul shared a quote from Tuesdays with Morrie. Mitch Albom quotes Morrie as saying, 'Devote yourself to loving others, devote yourself to the community around you, and devote yourself to creating something that gives you purpose and meaning.' The Mount does that for me."

"I GIVE BECAUSE ...I HAVE BEEN SO BLESSED...I AM STILL IN GREAT HEALTH SO I AM SIMPLY TRYING TO SAY THANK YOU IN MY OWN LITTLE WAY."

Bob McLaughlin and his wife Mary are active volunteers in the community. In addition to support they provide to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Bob is also a member of the Mount Crew team – just "one of the guys," he says.

As a member of the Mount Crew (of over 40 volunteers), Bob works with his teammates to provide labour and expertise in a variety of construction and renovation related activities. His motivation is knowing their endeavours are realizing dreams – providing modern, affordable housing and a community for city residents.

Bob was one of the first volunteers involved with TMCC – once the

property was secured by the Poverty Reduction Network in 2013, Bob and another volunteer, "proceeded to 'destroy' A-wing to allow 43 affordable apartments to be constructed where up to 300 nuns once lived." He was drawn to the project by the vision and commitment to tackle a growing need in both time and funding. He is inspired by witnessing "the collaboration by contractors, board members, and former colleagues in the workforce (who volunteer hours and sweat equity) when a major project arises." His desire to volunteer is buoyed by "the continuous flow of support and gratitude from residents, tenants and 'friends' of the Mount."



THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR VOLUNTEERS FOR HELPING BUILD OPPORTUNITY EVERY DAY!

Would you be interested in helping The Mount Community Centre Build Opportunity in Peterborough? Contact campaign@themountpeterborough.ca to find out more!



Tenant Spotlight: Rebecca Turland

"The Mount is a great place to live," shares Rebecca Turland. After living at The Mount Community Centre (TMCC) for three years, Rebecca has had the opportunity to embrace all it has to offer. She moved to Peterborough six years ago for school and was struggling to afford the rent in her shared apartment. Rebecca was referred to TMCC through Peterborough Housing and appreciates her good timing to be able to access one of the first apartments.

Rebecca's first visit to TMCC was very welcoming. She found the apartment was immaculate, the grounds were beautiful and the volunteers were very helpful and kind. She felt lucky to be able to live here.

Once she moved in, she found there were many opportunities to participate in the TMCC community. The residents are friendly and look out for one another. She appreciates the learning opportunities available to her and has participated in classes in yoga, gardening and cooking. She particularly enjoys the special dinners, citing the Christmas Dinner as a favourite gathering for the residents where they enjoy fellowship, good food and live music.

One of Rebecca's favourite things about living here is that when there is a need at TMCC, the community finds a way to meet it. A visit from a veterinarian to provide affordable care for some of the residents' pets inspired Rebecca to pursue a career as a pet groomer. With the support, encouragement and stability she has enjoyed since moving into TMCC, Rebecca feels confident enough to reach for her goals.

Rebecca wants others to know what The Mount is doing in the community. "The Mount is making things possible that weren't before – doing things that are new and fresh for those who may not have otherwise been able to. It is a very charitable place," she shared.



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☐ YES! I AM INTERESTED IN BUILDING OPPORTUNITY

☐ I wish to support the Campaign through a gift of:

\$100 \$50 \$25 Other: _____

Payable by cheque to The Mount Community Centre

☐ I would like to speak to someone about supporting the Campaign

☐ I am interested in a tour of TMCC

☐ I am interested in volunteering for the Campaign

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

TMCC Newsletter 1219

LOOKING FOR A MEANINGFUL GIFT TO GIVE THIS HOLIDAY SEASON?

Make a donation on behalf of a friend, loved one or colleague. Print out the note below and give the gift of helping others!

MERRY EVERYTHING AND HAPPY ALWAYS!

To celebrate the holiday season a donation has been made in your name to The Mount Community Centre's *Building Opportunity Campaign*. Together we are improving the lives of those less fortunate!

THANK YOU AND HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

