NEW HOME, NEW HOPE FOR IQALUIT FAMILY

June 17, 2013

**Iqaluit, Nunavut** – Habitat for Humanity Iqaluit (HFHIQ) is very pleased to announce that a family has been selected for the new Habitat home being built in Apex this summer. Joanna Awa celebrated the news on Sunday with the first Global Village team to arrive in town. Volunteers delved right into work on her new home by starting to prepare piles for framing.

A new Habitat home for Joanna will enhance the situation of her daughter, Jenna, making life comfortable for both mother and daughter. Jenna, who is wheelchair bound, requires a home with minimal stairs and is wheelchair accessible. HFHIQ is making the adjustments and modifications to the house so that Jenna can spend more time at home with her family.

“This home means so much to me and my daughter,” said Joanna. “As Jenna is growing, it has become increasingly difficult to carry her up several flights of stairs, or maneuver in my current apartment. This new accessible home will mean that my daughter can stay longer and more often while she is in school, and eventually be able to live with me full-time. I’m so excited to start building.”

“Habitat for Humanity is all about giving families with an opportunity to provide a bright future for their children,” said Glenn Cousins, Chair of the Board of Directors for Habitat for Humanity Iqaluit. “Habitat Iqaluit is very proud to be partnering with Joanna. This partnership will not only mean that another Iqaluit family will have access to affordable home ownership, but a deserving family will be brought closer together.”

Habitat for Humanity homes are affordable because families pay an interest-free mortgage that is geared toward their income. Partner families must invest 500 hours of “sweat equity” as the down payment for their home. However, these home ownership opportunities are not possible without the support of dedicated volunteers and sponsors. Global Village volunteers travel all over the world to work on Habitat builds. This summer, over 60 Global Village volunteers will be travelling to Iqaluit to work on Joanna’s home.

Habitat for Humanity Iqaluit is able to build affordable homes in our community thanks to the ongoing and generous support of our volunteers and partners, including our Diamond Partners Igloo Building Supplies and First Air.

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***Habitat for Humanity Iqaluit, building homes and building hope!***