

PANEL OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING EXPERTS TO ATTEND NATIONAL HOUSING DAY FORUM

TORONTO, November 18, 2014 - In partnership with other housing-related organizations, Greater Toronto REALTORS® are bringing together experts in affordable housing solutions for a community breakfast and panel discussion on November 21st to mark National Housing Day.

The event, which will take place at Scadding Court Community Centre, will open its doors to the residents of Alexandra Park for a morning meal beginning at 8am.

“It’s a REALTOR®’s privilege to help people achieve the dream of homeownership, and showing our city’s residents support is most important to building a safe and prosperous region where opportunities exist for people from all walks of life,” said Toronto Real Estate Board President Paul Etherington.

A panel discussion moderated by Ene Underwood, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Habitat for Humanity Greater Toronto Area, will follow at 9am. Panelists include Greg Spearn, Interim President and CEO of Toronto Community Housing; Sean Gadon, Director of the City of Toronto’s Affordable Housing Office; Joe Vaccaro, CEO of the Ontario Home Builders’ Association; and Steve Rohacek, Senior Vice President of Municipal Business Development and Lending for Infrastructure Ontario.

Discussions will explore innovative approaches to affordable housing, potential partnerships to advance affordable housing projects and the type of political leadership needed to facilitate such initiatives.

“Studies show that those who make the transition to homeownership enjoy better health, contribute to the community more and even raise children who achieve higher grades in school,” said Mr. Etherington. “Simply put, it’s in everyone’s interests to make the dream of homeownership attainable for all of our city’s residents.”

The one-hour panel discussion will wrap up with a walking tour that explores revitalization initiatives underway in the Alexandra Park community.

Partners in the event include the Toronto Real Estate Board; Toronto Community Housing; Habitat for Humanity Greater Toronto Area; the City of Toronto, Affordable Housing Office; and Evergreen City Works.

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Media Inquiries: Mary Gallagher, Senior Manager Public Affairs (416) 443-8158 maryg@trebnet.com

