

Issue 11
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John Gibson House Renovations



John Gibson House Program Director Jim McMinn and Trinity-Spadina MPP Han Dong.

On September 25th John Gibson House staff, residents and guests celebrated the completion of a major piece of renovation work. From the outside the only change is a new wheelchair ramp at the front door. But on the inside, big things have happened!

A bright and airy new dining room spans the front of the house, with French doors onto the long front porch. Part of the space previously occupied by the old dining room is now a library and television room.

They say the kitchen is the heart of the home, but at John Gibson House it was a dark, cramped and awkward space off the back hallway. Now it too has moved up front, with a large servery window opening into the dining room.

Some resident rooms were also relocated requiring a small group of residents to move out for a period. While they were gone,

the back of the house, including the old, dark kitchen and parts of the old dining room, were miraculously transformed into bright and pleasant new rooms for them.

Because the house continued to operate, the renovation had to be a true team effort. Everyone worked together; staff, residents, the general contractor and the trades. Other LOFT programs

stepped in when needed. St. Anne's Place not only made room for the people who temporarily moved out but they also made their kitchen available when needed for preparation of John Gibson House meals.

Even though these changes are significant, they are only part of what we hope to do. As John Gibson House has reached out to serve people in need, it has received an increasing number of referrals and enquiries regarding people with mobility challenges.

The new renovation has improved accessibility, including the new front door ramp, wider doorways and more open space. It also created two fully accessible rooms with roll-in showers. But it is not enough to meet the need and we still have more to do as opportunity and funding allow.

LOFT is very grateful to the City of Toronto, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration for their support in this important phase of renovation.



Simon Liston (on left), Manager, Housing Development & Gloria Gallant, Housing Development Officer, City of Toronto with LOFT CEO Terry McCullum.

Home for the Holidays

24th Annual Christmas Concert

Monday, December 1, 2014
at 7:30pm at St. James Cathedral
(corner of King and Church St., downtown Toronto)

Billy Newton-Davis



Breanne Dietrich



Thom Allison



Micah Barnes



TICKETS ON SALE NOW! PLEASE JOIN US!

Ticket Prices:

Benefactor level - \$500

2 tickets, plus \$430 tax receipt and invitation to the post-concert reception

Patron level - \$100

1 ticket, plus \$65 tax receipt

General level - \$35

1 ticket

Yes, I want to support the work of LOFT by purchasing concert tickets:

Benefactor # _____ tickets @ \$500 = \$ _____

Patron # _____ tickets @ \$100 = \$ _____

General # _____ tickets @ \$35 = \$ _____

I cannot attend, please accept my donation of \$ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Prov: _____ Postal Code: _____

Home Phone: _____ Email: _____

*If ordering Patron or Benefactor level tickets, please print name as you would like it to be listed in our program: _____

PAYMENT METHOD: CHEQUE ENCLOSED
 MASTERCARD VISA AMERICAN EXPRESS

Card Number: _____

Card Holder signature: _____ Exp: _____

Seating is reserved by ticket level and number; doors will open at 7:00pm.
We apologize that some seats have obstructed sight lines so order early for the best seats.
Charitable registration #: 13058 6605 RR001

TO ORDER TICKETS - MAIL, FAX, PHONE, OR EMAIL ORDER TO:

LOFT Community Services
15 Toronto Street, 9th Floor
Toronto, ON M5C 2E3

Phone: 416-979-1994 ext. 233 or 222 Fax: 416-979-3028 Email: atran@loftcs.org

Lead Sponsor:



Print Sponsor:



GIVINGTUESDAY

Tuesday, December 2

*Celebrate Canada's 2nd Annual GivingTuesday:
a day dedicated to giving and giving back.*

Around the world, and across Canada, #GivingTuesday marks the opening day of the giving season. Whether it's making a donation, volunteering time, helping a neighbour or spreading the word, it is a time to celebrate the true Spirit of the Season.

So if you are dreading Black Friday and Cyber Monday shopping stress, here's the perfect antidote.

Join the #GivingTuesday movement and help make your community – and the world – a better place.

Learn more at www.loftcs.org or www.givingtuesday.ca.



#GivingTuesdayCa



Together for the Long Run Team LOFT raises over \$41,000!

Over 100 Team LOFT members laced up their running shoes and crossed the finish line at the Scotiabank Toronto Waterfront Marathon in October! Thank you to everyone who supported us – runners, walkers, volunteers, sponsors and cheerers! We could not have done it without each and every one of you.

You have helped us raised over \$41,000 to date and money continues to come in. These funds will go to support items our budget just cannot handle – from replacing furniture to TTC tokens to social recreational activities.

It was a special day for all of us and extra special for one of our clients in particular. 71 year old Fred completed his first half marathon! That's over 21km! He couldn't have done it without the support of his worker and the hundreds of people who lined the race route cheering him on!

Way to go Fred, Team LOFT and all of our awesome supporters!

Thank You to Our Sponsors

Manulife Financial
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The Royal Ontario Museum