

Chisholm's donates land for Habitat in celebration of their 150th birthday

By RODGER HANNA

For their 150th birthday, the Chisholm family met together as a family as they wanted to do something significant and community-based. Chisholm's (Roslin) Ltd. has been family-owned and operated since 1857. Not many businesses can say that they have been in business that long, let alone stay in the same family.

To celebrate the big event, Chisholm's has partnered with the Prince Edward-Hastings Habitat for Humanity affiliate to build a Habitat home on a one and a half acre lot that the company owns on the Upper Flinton Road, two kilometres south of Flinton. Chisholm's did not stop there as they are also donating \$20,000 worth of building supplies or services.

Doug Chisholm, President of Chisholm's and the fifth generation to run the business, explained, "It fits our business as it is a very worthwhile project."

Prince Edward-Hastings affiliate since 1995, the volunteers have built 8 Habitat homes, two in Picton, one in Trenton and the rest in Belleville. Construction of the home near Flinton will begin in

the spring with completion of the project in the fall.

"We're very excited about the partnership with Chisholm's," said Affiliate President Karel Vanek. "Our affiliate covers a lot of ground from Prince Edward County in the south to the very northern boundary of Hastings County." Vanek continued, "There's a need for decent, affordable housing everywhere within our territory. It's not limited to just the main population centres. One of our main goals is to expand our building program to include areas to the north. We're grateful to Chisholm's for helping us do that."

Doug Chisholm told *The Tweed News* that he and the company are familiar with Habitat as Chisholm's approached them. The building of the home allows Chisholm's to get involved in the project, not only with the supply of products, but also helping in the construction of the home. Chisholm mentioned that the immediate family will help out in the construction as well.

Chisholm stated, "Besides being good to our families, our business has provided considerable economic benefits

to the area. This project allows us to continue to contribute in a way that makes sense to us."

A Flinton Build Committee has been formed with volunteers in the Flinton, Northbrook and Tweed area. Chisholm's will also contact their suppliers to see if they would like to get involved with the project.

Currently, Chisholm's has 35 employees at their locations in Roslin and Tweed, with the sawmill, Tim/BRMart, kiln and their new home building venture to design and build homes.

Since 1857, when William Fraser Chisholm bought the flour and feed mill and sawmill on the banks of the Moira River from the Shipman family, six generations of the Chisholm family have been in the lumber business in Roslin. A donation of this magnitude shows that they are still community-minded after 150 years in business. If you would like to be a participant in the project and get involved, or information on how to buy a Habitat house, contact the Prince Edward-Hastings Habitat for Humanity.