

Family takes possession of Habitat 'soy house'

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Peel Street home built with soybean materials



The Nicolas family of Halton Hills— Emil, Tess and daughter Margo— became the proud owners of a new home Sunday courtesy of Habitat for Humanity Halton. The home is uniquely green as some of the materials used in its construction included soy products grown by members of the Soybean Grower's Association.

Photo by Donavon Gaudette

The home the Nicolas family is purchasing is uniquely green. Its building materials include soy prod-

ucts grown by members of the Ontario Soybean Grower's Association. It was built by Quality Engineered

Homes at their factory in Kenilworth.

The house was originally on display at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair to demonstrate how environmentally sustainable soybean products can be used in home construction.

Building products used in the home include no-VOC paints and varnishes, bathroom fixtures, adhesives and insulation that use soy in place of petroleum oils.

The main components of the house were pre-fabricated by Quality Engineered Homes at their factory, display at the Royal Winter Fair last November, then transported to the Acton property, with subsequent work completed with the assistance of Habitat Halton volunteers, including the Nicolas family.

Like all Habitat Homes, it meets Energy Star standards.

Recognizing that 8.5 per cent of Halton residents live below the poverty line, Habitat Halton's mission is to mobilize volunteers and community partners in building affordable housing and promoting home ownership as a means to breaking the cycle of poverty.

Habitat has in the past few years built other homes in Acton and Georgetown.

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