

Donors quickly fill thrift store's new location

BY SANDRA BOLAN
sbolan@yrmg.com

The Care & Share Thrift Shop's new location was filled weeks before the doors even opened.

"We have incredible donors," said Deborah LoPatriello, the store's operations manager.

The Ringwood Drive location, which was previously home to Randy's Refrigeration and Appliances, officially opened last Thursday.

The new space has 5,000 square feet, but the Mennonite Central Committee-owned thrift store is

currently in the process of getting a 3,000-square-foot addition.

"The more space you have, the more space you fill," Ms LoPatriello said.

"Thrift is the new movement," she said.

The larger facility has enabled the creation of a receiving department. Once moved into the new location, the intent was to start accepting larger items. Some bigger pieces will be accepted, however, the prospective donor must first send the Care & Share a photo

of the item they wish to donate. An in-person inspection of the piece may be required. Those results, along with the availability of space, will determine whether or not it is accepted, according to Ms LoPatriello.

Items the store cannot accept include anything baby-related such as car seats, baby gates and cribs, unpackaged small toys, as well as body lotions and face creams.

Donations can be dropped off at the back of the new building, 33 Ringwood Dr., Monday to Friday

from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Store hours are Monday to Saturday from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For the next three months, the Care & Share will remain open until 7 p.m. Thursdays to give people who work during the day more opportunities to shop, Ms LoPatriello said. Depending on its reception, the extended hours may or may not continue.

Once the Care & Share has completely vacated its Main Street space by Dec. 31, the town, which owns the building that also houses

the Latcham Gallery, will renovate it to create two large multipurpose rooms, according to Maria Schembri, spokesperson for the town.

Renovations are expected to be completed in the spring. Programming won't start until the early summer, she said.

"Staff are currently reviewing our roster of programs to determine which programs are best suited for this facility and to ensure that we address program demands in the downtown area," Ms Schembri told The Sun-Tribune via e-mail.

UPPER CANADA MALL
Gorgeous



NEW THIS YEAR
BRANDY MELVILLE
KIEHL'S
WHITE HOUSE | BLACK MARKET
BOSE

This holiday, Upper Canada has everything you need and everything they want — including the Upper Canada Mall Gift card.

NEWMARKET

OXFORD

WATER IS FAMILY

Every winter my wife and I look forward to family tobogganing day with our six children and 14 grandchildren. We love seeing them race through the snow and then enjoying hot chocolate. Every year, they are amazed how well we can still keep up.

Jim Duncan

Father, Husband, Skeleton Racer

Share your water memories
www.york.ca/wateris

York Region

f t in

Keeping our water safe