



INSURANCE BROKERS LTD.

Since 1919

HELPING hands

giving back



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Erb and Erb Insurance Brokers Ltd. is proud to be a member of the Kitchener, Waterloo, Cambridge and Guelph communities since 1919. We believe in giving back to the community that helped make us what we are today. We contribute to United Way, have organized a Casual Friday Fund with proceeds donated to local charities and we also sponsor a variety of local sports teams.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR SNOW BIRDS

It's that time of year again, when the cold weather sends thousands of Canadians south for the warm sun and sandy beaches. But, do you know what requirements your insurance company has for your home when you're away? During the heating season, if you leave your home for an extended period of time you must either, turn off your water, have a heat alarm installed, or have a competent adult check your home, usually on a daily basis. If you don't do one of the above actions you could void water coverage when a burst pipe occurs. It is also a good idea to ensure that your home appears lived in. This can be achieved by leaving lights on timers, having someone pick up the mail, and ensuring that the walk ways are kept clear of snow.

HOME TIPS FOR THE WINTER

Keep your home fit for winter comfort by doing the Following:

- 1) Have your furnace and/or fireplace inspected to ensure they are running safely and at peak efficiency
- 2) Prepare an emergency kit for when the power is lost due to weather conditions
- 3) Keep the snow and ice from gathering on your steps and sidewalks to avoid slips and falls
- 4) Remove snow from basement window wells and from furnace and hot water heater exhaust to prevent blockage
- 5) Make sure your carbon monoxide and smoke detectors are in proper working order

To learn more about our organization visit www.erb-erb.com

TALKING ABOUT...

Erb and Erb Insurance Brokers Ltd. and Waterloo Region Record are proud to share the Helping Hands community pages. You will find people in your neighbourhood working together to build a strong community and reaching out to support people in need. We hope that you will share your charitable stories with us by sending us photos for the next edition. It is our hope that these pages will give us an opportunity to shine the spotlight on our local heroes.



"I am retired now and God gave me good health so I feel good about giving back to the community. I have fun doing what I enjoy, working with agencies, volunteers and staff at The Food Bank. We share many laughs together."

Peter Giovinazzo
Volunteer
Food Bank of Waterloo Region



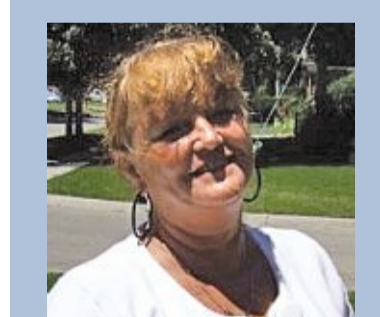
"I volunteer because I like the people I work with, the ReStore is close to my home and I can be my own boss!"

Jim Wakem
ReStore Volunteer
Habitat for Humanity
Waterloo Region



"Life is a gift. It offers us the privilege, opportunity and responsibility to give something back and by doing so I have a pleasant feeling of connectedness and the satisfaction of at least trying to make the world a better place."

Fern Greb
Volunteer
House of Friendship



"I have always found the best way to know the heart of my community is by becoming involved. The blessings are often amazing through the sacrifice of volunteering."

Caroline Parks
Community Volunteer
Soup Kitchen, Bethany
Missionary Church Breakfast
Club, KW Smokers Anonymous
to name a few.



Santa and his elves from Waterloo Region Police Services help serve dinner at Langs Farm Village Association Christmas Dinner.



Irene and her daughter Emily planting trees just west of Bannister Lake. Together with fellow volunteers they planted over 1,000 trees.

Onas Siskona (Grandmothers together) of KW sent \$29,000 to the Stephen Lewis Foundation after their annual "Good Words for Africa" Scrabble Benefit in November 2010.



Irene and her daughter Emily planting trees just west of Bannister Lake. Together with fellow volunteers they planted over 1,000 trees.



Students from Rockway Mennonite Collegiate Choir singing for volunteers at the Christmas Hampers warehouse.



Todd from Waste Management with Tahoe, a dog on his Wednesday pick up route. Todd goes the extra mile by leaving "treats" for each furry friend while he is working. In total, he surprises over 100 dogs and owners!



Scherer Chevrolet collected food for the Waterloo Regional Food Bank since the November and stored it in a truck in their show room. They also donated a percentage of dollars for every car sold to food bank as a cash contribution.

Tina, Susan, MacKenzie, Aaron, Sarah and Gerry stopped for a photo after a chilly December afternoon of handing out turkeys through House of Friendship's Turkey Drive program.



Lynn Cooper, Sandra & Kevin Gartz, Pat England, 2nd Walk to End Pain in Scottabank Toronto Waterfront Marathon. Lynn Raised over \$39,000 Towards Pennies for Pain for the Canadian Pain Coalition. Congratulation Lynn!

Veneta Anand from Waterloo is the founder of STIMMA (Short Term International Medical Missions Abroad). She has been travelling since 2006 to various destinations to help with the clinic set up and the distribution of medication.



Families enjoying dinner and activities at the Langs Farm Village Association Community Christmas Dinner.

KPMG volunteers sorting food at the Food Bank of Waterloo Region.



Local motivational speaker Deb Loyd celebrates Random Act of Kindness Day by holding the "I Love Your Smile" event at Waterloo Public Square.



Herta Park from Kitchener, directing an assembly in South Africa. She spent a year volunteering and teaching with the Stephen Leacock Foundation.



Volunteers of all ages from Erb Street Mennonite Church getting into the spirit of the season while packing food items for Christmas hampers.



Girls from 16th Waterloo Pathfinders (Girl Guides of Canada) building picnic benches for Habitat for Humanity, one of Guiding's many service projects.

Mosaic Counselling and Family Services' Spirit of Giving program provides Christmas gifts for client families in need at Christmas. Mary Smits, Grace Collins, Chris Meyer, Annette Collins, Mark Erb, and Rodica Plescan are some of the many volunteers.



Lauren, age 7 and Victoria, age 8 lend a hand with their families at the RBC Gates Wealth Management Food for a Day Fundraiser.

A volunteer at RBC Gates Wealth Management Food for the Day Fundraiser for the Food Bank of Waterloo Region. RBC employees and family members volunteered for the day at the food bank, raising more than \$15,000 for the community.

Look for the next Erb and Erb "Helping Hands" feature February 26th!
Deadline for photo submissions: February 22nd.

SEND US YOUR PHOTOS! We are looking for everyday moments in the charitable community! Submit your photo and a brief caption to communitypages@therecord.com Please put HELPING HANDS in the subject line of your email.

In addition to our Helping Hands community page, we also feature a monthly community page for moments in the sports community, arts community and local business.