



NEW HOMES & CONDOS

SUNDAY, JANUARY 3, 2016

Giving back through design

As a designer, I truly believe in the power of design.

The magic that transpires when I transform a room is truly rewarding not only because of the positive changes that were made to enhance the space but also the emotion and feeling I am

able to evoke in people after they see the finished product.

Design truly effects how we live and feel. It is beyond the furniture, pillows and layout — it is about the look on their faces, the tears of joy and amazement — this is the rewarding part of my work and makes me want to con-

tinuously do more.

It is not only their home we've changed but their life and life style, and how it improves how they feel every day.

That very feeling and happiness is what inspired us to want to share it with others that truly needed a boost in their life, and so I started the "Give Back Through Design" initiative.

Every year, Royal Interior Design Ltd. selects a few families who can benefit from a boost of happiness in their life due to lack of financial resources. This may include a struggling single parent, senior retirees, brand new immigrants, or families struck with illness or a tragic event in their life.

Royal Interior Design donates its full design services from conceptualization to full implementation and realization.

In many cases when-ever budget permits, we may even provide full funding for the projects. Sometimes it doesn't take much to go a very long way.

Our last donation was to a family of five refugees now living in a small condo that had immigrated from extremely difficult and life threatening circumstances in their country.

Heart breaking stories — it makes us realize how fortunate and lucky we are to live in such an amazing country with all the daily abundance we have and enjoy.

Our hearts went out to this family, although we wish

we could have done more. They were so grateful and thankful and tears of happiness were shed in amazement with how we were able to transform their little apartment into a cozy, functional and inviting home. That is why we do what we do, that feeling and gift is priceless!

Our dream would be to help a lot more families. Unfortunately, we alone can only sustain and sponsor a select few per year. In order to do more, we would love to receive more support from community groups or to form partnerships with firms interested in assisting families in their local community.

In 2015, our goal was to service a minimum of 10 families in the GTA. Together this initiative can continue to grow stronger and help even more families in 2016.

Everyone is welcome to help! Currently, when we design a home, some of our clients will donate older furniture is donated to the program.

Any furniture company, accessories retailer, or anyone wanting to give monetary donations towards the program are welcome to contact our office at www.royalinteriordesign.ca

— **Catherine Lucie-Horber** is principal of **Royal Interior Designs Ltd.**, which provides decorating, staging and renovation services for the residential market in GTA. Visit her at www.royalinteriordesign.ca.



The power of design to improve a home and how a person feels is the motivation behind "Give Back Through Design," an initiative started by Catherine-Lucie Horber.



Design truly affects how we live and feel, it's not just about the furniture, pillows and layout.



The dream of "Give Back Through Design" is to help families and provide a boost of happiness to their lives.



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WHAT'S COMING SOON THIS NEW YEAR FROM MATTAMY HOMES

(SEE BACK COVER)