



**For Immediate Release**

## **Newark Neighbours Looks for a New Home**

*Niagara-on-the-Lake's Only Food Bank and Thrift Store Enlists the Public to Assist in Finding a New Space*

**Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON, November 16, 2021 –**

Newark Neighbours, a local food bank and thrift store, has been proudly and successfully serving Niagara-on-the-Lake residents for fifty years.

**Today, in order to continue to provide this great and much needed service, and achieve these goals, this busy and vital organization is in need of a new location.**

Operating out of 310 John Street East since 1992, Newark Neighbours has far outgrown its current space and is reaching out to key community members and stakeholders for ideas and suggestions on a potential new location and space; a space to better serve their growing needs. A requirement “wish list” has been developed including 2000+ sq. ft. in space. Ideally, the location will have ground floor accessibility and will afford privacy for food clients.

QUOTES:

**Susan Sparrow-Mace, Operations, “We are reaching out for help finding our next location. While we love our current location, we’ve far outgrown the space. We know that, with the help of our Niagara-on-the-Lake community, we will be able to find our new “perfect home”.**

**Cindy Grant, Board Chair and Manager, Food Bank, “Our volunteer teams are approaching this move with a touch of sadness, knowing that we will be leaving our home after so many years. We extend our heartfelt thanks to the management and staff at Riverbend Inn and Winery for their hospitality**

**and support over the last 30+ years. The sincere support of Peller Estates management and staff in the recent months, as we begin the planning for this move, is appreciated. We are looking forward to working with them in the coming months as our planning progresses into 2022.**

### **Newark Neighbours Background and Services**

Founders Peggy Anderson and Nikki Aiken started Newark Neighbours in 1971 and the organization was incorporated as a not-for-profit charity in 1972. In the first few months of operation, there were 20 families on the client list and that same year, over 100 families were helped during the Christmas season. Residents offered their basements to be used as collection and clearing depots and citizens began raising money to help Peggy and Nikki find a permanent home.

Newark Neighbours relocated to several locations in the first few years, including the boiler room of a factory that is now the Pillar and Post Inn. From 1980 to 1991, the organization was located at a home on the Niagara Parkway, now the Riverbend Inn & Vineyard, which was owned by Dr. Afrukteh. The home was converted into a museum and a parcel of land on the property was offered to Newark Neighbours if they could raise money for a building. With a long list of volunteers and local businesses, “The Barn” was built in late 1992, thirty years ago.

Now, fifty years since its birth, Newark Neighbours continues to operate the **only** food bank in **Niagara-on-the-Lake**, serving over 60 families (117 individuals) with essential groceries twice a month and special holiday celebration hampers three times a year.

The outstanding generosity and support of residents, groups and organizations in Niagara-on-the-Lake allows Newark Neighbours to provide these supplies throughout the year.

The Newark Neighbour thrift store sells donated clothing and footwear for women, men and children, as well as jewelry, accessories, household items, small appliances, collectibles and more. The revenue from the thrift store supports the operations of the food bank.

In addition to these services, Newark Neighbours also has a Bursary Program for eligible graduating high school students who live in Niagara-on-the-Lake; it also regularly supports the Education Foundation of Niagara (EFN) Prom Project, Niagara College Dress for Success, and the Red Roof Retreat.

### **About Newark Neighbours**

Newark Neighbours’ mission is “Serving our Community with Compassion, Care and Concern,”; our vision is “That no resident in Niagara-on-the-Lake need be hungry.” Newark Neighbours is a registered

not-for-profit organization with an elected Board of Directors and entirely volunteer staff that relies solely on donations and thrift shop sales. To donate, or to learn more about our organization, please visit [www.newarkneighbours.ca](http://www.newarkneighbours.ca)

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For more information about us or our search for our new location, please contact:

Cindy Grant, Chair Board of Directors

[Newarkneighbours1@gmail.com](mailto:Newarkneighbours1@gmail.com)

905-468-3519