



BUILDINGS



Riverwood House

PROJECT PROFILE

WESTLAND BUILDS AND RESTORES HOMES FOR THE HOMELESS

Winnipeg's at-risk population in the St. Boniface and Elmwood neighbourhoods will have a place to call home thanks to Westland Construction and industry partners.

After a fire swept through Morberg House, a 12-bed high-support, congregate living residence for men overcoming homelessness, addiction and mental health challenges, Westland Construction assisted with the architectural and structural component of the large-scale renovation.

According to Marion Willis, Founder and Executive Director of St. Boniface Street Links Inc. (SBSL), the 2017 fire caused upwards of \$200,000 in renovations – funds that the House, a grassroots non-profit didn't have.

When word got out that Morberg House would be shut down if it wasn't brought up to code, Brad Mason, President, DMS Industrial Constructors, stepped up to tackle the project and solicited support from other industry organizations, including Westland Construction. "If not for DMS, Westland and those they brought to the Morberg House project, the City would have closed us down."

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Morberg House

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The House has become a sleeping giant in the wake of the meth epidemic in the province. Residents receive their own individualized case plan, are linked to a family physician and psychiatrist and are provided with appropriate supports that aid in their recovery process. There is no date for discharge; instead, when they are ready, men move into one of SBSL's sober living suites in the community.



Marion Willis, Mayor Brian Bowman, Brad Mason, and Peter Grose

The Morberg House model is working. In fact, Willis reveals that they're measuring a 66 per cent success rate and have transformed the lives of over 150 formerly street-involved individuals since 2016.

Having served St. Boniface, Westland is moving north east to lend their expertise to Winnipeg's Elmwood neighbourhood. The construction company has been selected as the construction manager for Riverwood House, a new housing initiative from Winnipeg Supportive Housing Inc. and Riverwood Church Community.

According to Peter Hargraves, Principal for Sputnik Architecture and prime consultant on the project, Riverwood House will provide supportive and safe housing for Winnipeg's at-risk population in

Elmwood, who, due to addictions, poverty or other complicated circumstances, are experiencing instability in housing.

"This project will play an important role in the lives of the people that will call Riverwood House their home during their journey to recovery," Hargraves says.

The project features 40 self-contained studio suites 225 to 350 square feet in size, with open concept, and shared spaces for programming and peer-support. Residents will also have access to a fourth-floor solarium, large outdoor patio and private courtyard and greenspace.

In addition to providing construction management services for this valuable project, Westland is pleased to be a major contributor to the build, donating \$50,000 to the upfront costs of project construction and a yearly financial commitment of \$5,000 for the first five years of operation.

Like Morberg House, Riverwood House anticipates the successful transition of its participants into stable independent housing and becoming contributors to the community.



Construction is slated to begin in 2019 with the doors of Riverwood House opening in 2020. 🏠

CELEBRATING OVER 40 YEARS; CELEBRATING THE FUTURE

DID YOU KNOW?

SOME OF THE CHARITIES THAT WESTLAND HAS SUPPORTED IN THE LAST YEAR!

Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada - MITT Women in Trades - True North Youth Foundation - BC Cancer Foundation - Inwood Sports Club - Alzheimer Society of Manitoba - Plan International Canada - Manitoba Women in Construction - United Way - Winnipeg Construction Association - CancerCare Manitoba - Prostate Cancer Fight Foundation - Grace Hospital Foundation - Roseau River Park Improvement - St. Boniface Hospital Foundation - Kidney Foundation - World Vision - Diabetes Research - Riverview Health Centre Foundation - Ronald McDonald House "Red Shoe Crew Walk" - Siloam Mission - Winnipeg Humane Society - Habitat for Humanity - Macdonald Atom Female Hockey Team - Mechanical Contractors Association of Manitoba Scholarships - St. Charles Catholic School - Knights of Columbus, "Dine in the Dark" CNIB - Pembina Trails School Division - Wildfire AAA Ringette - Winnipeg Harvest - Kidsport Manitoba - William Lyburn Curling Team - Ronald McDonald House "Fore the House"



Westland staff riding the big bike downtown in support of the Heart & Stroke Foundation of Canada



Peter Grose presenting our donation in support of MITT - Women in Trades



THOUGHTS FROM WESTLAND'S CEO



Peter Grose

As a construction company, we're in the business of making important contributions to our communities and city by way of building

projects. But our work goes beyond constructing infrastructure. At Westland Construction, we also make a difference by contributing to worthwhile causes – in our community and beyond.

For years Westland has been supporting a full slate of charitable organizations – well known aid agencies like Ronald McDonald House, Alzheimer Society of Manitoba and Plan International, as well as smaller one-time donations for various fundraisers, events and benefits. We do our best

to give back by way of sponsorship or donations.

Westland Construction's Annual Golf Tournament is another way we support various societies in our province. Due to the tremendous generosity of all involved, at our 2018 tournament we were able to raise significant funds for KidSport, Heart & Stroke and for bursaries supporting women in trades-related programs at Manitoba Institute for Trades & Technology.

Perhaps the best way we can give back is by way of construction -- doing what we do best. Recently, we've had the opportunity to lend our people and building expertise to various worthy projects.

Last year, Westland partnered with other industry organizations to renovate and refurbish Morberg House, a 12-bed transitional residence for men overcoming homelessness, addiction and mental health challenges. Currently, we are providing complimentary construction management services for the renovations at Mary, Mother of the Church, including assisting the church in finalizing the

design, and tendering and managing the project. And moving forward, we will be working alongside Sputnik Architecture as the Construction Manager on Riverwood House, a supportive/community housing complex for Elmwood's at-risk population.

I firmly believe that we should wake up every day and make our world better. Whether it is a small incremental improvement or working to improve something more substantial, it all counts; it is what is right, and it is what we were meant to do while on this earth!

Whether it's the giving of our time via volunteering or leadership or giving of our resources either in small increments or large donations, I encourage you to be aware of the opportunities and give generously. 🙌

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INDUSTRY INSIGHTS

ALZHEIMER SOCIETY: CONNECTING WITH CAREGIVERS

When Jaimie Hutlet's dad was diagnosed with dementia at the age of 59, he went from leading a vibrant, active life, to entering into an early retirement, losing his driver's license, getting lost when out for a walk and not recognizing immediate family.

"My dad, Hubert, was a vehicle salesman for over 25 years," details Hutlet. "He knew something was wrong when he couldn't remember clients' names when he greeted them. These same clients were local community citizens who he had known all his life."

Fortunately for Hutlet and her partner Darryl Berard, Vice President of Westland Construction, the Alzheimer Society of Manitoba provided necessary supports to navigate this new terrain.

"Our mission is to alleviate the impact of dementia. We try to make lives better when someone has dementia, whether it is a person with dementia or a caregiver, by providing support services, education and by linking them to community support," explains Wendy Schettler, Chief Executive Officer of the Alzheimer Society of Manitoba. "Because dementia is progressive, people need different information and supports at different times."

For Hutlet, the connection to the Alzheimer Society was crucial in having them walk alongside her family during a difficult time.

"The Alzheimer Society local coordinator Karen Lambert (since retired) put the family on the right track," details Hutlet. "She had family meetings and encouraged us to attend counselling and support groups. The family attends telehealth conferences, monthly meetings and the annual Care-4-U Conference."

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Wendy Schettler
Chief Executive Officer
Alzheimer Society of
Manitoba



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For a charitable organization like the Alzheimer Society of Manitoba, fundraising is key. According to Schettler, the Alzheimer Society receives only 15 per cent of their funding from government. The remaining portion of their budget – 85 per cent – is raised by the charity.

Westland Construction has been supporting the Alzheimer Society since 2007 by way of charitable donation, gala sponsorship and volunteer time. Westland's President and CEO, Peter Grose, served on the Alzheimer Society Gala Committee from 2013 – 2018.

"When organizations like Westland support us, it makes a huge difference, not just through their donations, but also by volunteering to help us raise money through events and such," Schettler says. "Because of people like Peter Grose and organizations like Westland, we are able to do the work we do – supporting families impacted by dementia." 📄

WESTLAND PERSONALITY

PETER GROSE



Peter Grose is Westland Construction's President and CEO. But that's just one of his many titles. He is also known as Chair of the Winnipeg Construction Association; is a knight for the Knights of Columbus; goes by "Coach Pete" for a couple hockey and baseball teams; and can also be called husband and dad, perhaps his most important monikers of all. He and his wife, Carla, have two children – Sydney, 11, and Tanner, 9. "It seems that since they were born, life outside of work has revolved around them, whether it is changing our country home and cabin to facilitate a quality childhood, doing chores alongside them to try to instill a positive work ethic, playing with them or coaching their sports teams," explains Pete, who grew up on his family's cattle farm before moving to Winnipeg and starting as a general labourer with Westland in 1989.

Pete doesn't just contribute to his family and community. He's also busy giving back to the construction industry. His role as WCA Chair has him advocating on issues with the Province of Manitoba and the City of Winnipeg

and advancing the association's goals. "My involvement allows me to not only have a finger on the pulse of the industry, but to have input into significant priorities for the association and the construction industry," details Grose, who has sat on the WCA Board of Directors since 2010.

Pete's involvement in giving back, and his innate humble nature, make him a strong and sensitive leader for the staff at Westland. He believes it's important to take care of the company first, then give back to the community. "When we talk about the evolution of our giving, we first of all have to grow our business to the point of sustainability. Then we take care of our staff, and then from there we can create a definitive track record of support," Pete adds. "We can do so many good things if we just pay attention to when those opportunities come around."

This year marks some significant milestones, 30 years since Pete joined Westland and 40 years in business for Westland Construction. Over the years, Pete has filled many roles at Westland, from working on sites, while completing degrees in sociology, criminology and accounting, to managing & estimating projects, to taking over the company almost 20 years ago. "It's hard to believe that 30 years has gone by since I started with Westland," comments Pete. "I look forward to continuing to provide a great place for our staff to work and helping to improve the community, city and country we live in!" 📄

CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

KAIZEN KORNER

Kaizen Korner recognizes recent professional achievements of Westland staff

- CCA National Gold Seal Certification Program
Walter Dyck - GSC Construction Superintendent
- Carpentry Apprenticeship Program
Simon Jones completed Level 2
Kris Horvat completed Level 3
Kyle Peters received his journeyman ticket
- Westland management and site representatives attended the annual Construction Leadership Network Conference in Tampa, Florida.
- Peter Grose completed Lean for the Office & Leadership Enabling Lean Courses

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