



Greater Ottawa

**Habitat for Humanity®**

**Habitat pour l'humanité®**

La Grande Région d'Ottawa

## Annie

The single mom is originally from Pangnirtung, Nunavut, a small community of 1,400 people located on the coast of a mountainous fjord on Baffin Island. Annie moved to Ottawa after high school to pursue her secondary education at Nunavut Sivuniksavut, a unique college program serving the needs of Inuit youth across Canada where she studied Inuit history, land claims, Inuit organizations and issues, and Inuit culture and language.

Annie fell in love with Ottawa and has lived here ever since, working mainly for Inuit organizations. She is currently employed as the Engagement Coordinator for Community Foundations of Canada. Annie is also a traditional Inuit throat singer and she has performed at international events to showcase her culture. For many years, she has been teaching other Inuit women and girls to throat sing as an attempt to pass down her knowledge.



Annie's son, Hunter, is an inquisitive, funny and energetic four-year-old. He starts Junior Kindergarten this fall and he is looking forward to learning new things, running around in the gym, recess and making new friends. Hunter also loves monster trucks, insects, riding his bike and reading funny stories. When he grows up, he wants to be a fire fighter, fly helicopters and have his own cement truck.

As an Inuk woman living outside of Nunavut, Annie is passionate about preserving her cultural lifestyle and passing it on to her son. She does this by teaching Hunter to speak Inuktitut, ensuring that traditional foods are eaten regularly and making sure they both have access to resources that promote their language and culture.

Annie learned about Habitat for Humanity Greater Ottawa (Habitat GO) after seeing a presentation made to an Inuit organization. As a single mom on one income, she did not think that her dream of becoming a homeowner would ever be possible.

When Annie applied for Habitat GO's Homeownership Program, she was renting a room, which she shared with her son. She couldn't believe it when she found out that she was approved.

"I would like to thank Habitat GO for giving me the chance to purchase a beautiful home for myself and Hunter," says Annie. "Hunter is excited about having his own bedroom, which he plans to paint blue, and having sleepovers with his friends and relatives."