

Press Release - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE September 9, 2023

Essential service for survivors of gender-based violence launches in Edmonton New moving service for survivors of abuse is recruiting volunteers

September 9, 2023 - Edmonton, Alberta- Shelter Movers

Shelter Movers is thrilled to announce its official launch in Edmonton, Alberta. Edmonton Chapter Director, Rebekah Hansen alongside CEO and Founder Marc, Hull-Jacquin, will gather with dignitaries, volunteers, community, and business partners to mark the introduction of this vital service to the region. Shelter Movers Edmonton is set to move their first families during mid September.

The expansion of Shelter Movers to its eighth chapter, serving the Edmonton Area, started earlier this summer. As part of its commitment to the community, Shelter Movers is actively working with referral partners to streamline its services. The need for our services in Edmonton is significant, and to accommodate more referrals promptly, the organization is eagerly seeking more volunteers. Local businesses, community members, corporate sponsors, individuals, municipal and provincial government and family foundations have the power to provide a safety net for those escaping abuse.

How You Can Help

To support Shelter Movers Edmonton, citizens can:

- <u>Volunteer</u>: Choose from a variety of remote work and boots on the ground volunteer positions that suit your skills and availability. Prospective volunteers looking to make a tangible difference in breaking the cycle of gender based violence are encouraged to reach out to <u>volunteer.edmonton@sheltermovers.com</u>
- <u>Donate</u>: Financial contributions aid in operations and help us reach more families in crisis. Just \$250 is enough to move a family.
- <u>Spread the Word</u>: Help us raise awareness about our services and the need for volunteers through word of mouth and engaging with Shelter Movers Edmonton on Facebook

Quick Facts

- Alberta exceeds the national annual average for female victims of homicide.
- In Edmonton, the number of sexual assaults in domestic violence cases saw a significant increase of 37.2% in 2020.
- A woman or girl is killed every 2 days in our country, most often at the hands of a family member or intimate partner.



Quotes

The Honourable Marci len, Minister for Women and Gender Equality and Youth "Shelter Movers' expansion to Edmonton and Calgary, means that families fleeing violence in these communities now have access to moving and storage services at no cost. This is such an essential service because we know that one of the most dangerous times in the life of someone experiencing domestic violence, is when they are trying to leave home. I'm truly inspired by how their incredible team, who are mostly volunteers, work day in and day out to make sure that survivors of gender-based violence can move safely and quickly. I'd like to ask Canadians to consider volunteering for Shelter Movers—to strengthen your own communities and improve the quality of life of all Canadians."

<u>Ashley Baxter, Director of Shelter Operations, WIN House</u> - "Edmonton Women Shelters LTD (WIN House) is looking forward to partnering with Shelter Movers. Recently, we had a woman who was pregnant staying with us, and she needed to organize movers. Unfortunately, she was met with multiple barriers. With Shelter Movers those barriers will be removed making the transition out of violence much easier and sustainable"

Related Links:

- Donate
- Volunteer
- Edmonton
- Facebook
- Blog New moving service for survivors of abuse is recruiting volunteers

About Shelter Movers: Shelter Movers is a national, volunteer-powered charitable organization that provides moving and storage services at no cost to individuals and families fleeing abuse. It is the only service of its kind offered in Canada. We collaborate with local businesses and community agencies to support people, primarily women and children, as they transition to a life free of violence. Founded in 2016, Shelter Movers has grown remarkably, expanding to 9 locations across Canada. To date, our team of dedicated volunteers have completed more than 6,000 moves for survivors of abuse.

For more information, please contact media@sheltermovers.com or visit our website.