



## **The Daniels Corporation and Toronto Community Housing Corporation Win World Economic Forum's Collaboration Award for Regent Park Revitalization**

Toronto, ON (November 6, 2023) - [The Daniels Corporation](#) (Daniels), together with the [Toronto Community Housing Corporation](#) (TCHC), is honoured to announce that the first three phases of the [Regent Park revitalization](#) have received the prestigious [Public-Private Collaboration Award](#) at the World Economic Forum's 2023 Urban Transformation Summit. This award acknowledges and celebrates successful private-public partnerships that establish the benchmark for excellence in urban development. It also underscores the remarkable transformation of Regent Park from a once-stigmatized social housing community into an inclusive, mixed-income, mixed-use neighbourhood as a world-leading example of cities collaborating with local communities and other stakeholders, to improve lives and create more resilient economies.

For nearly 40 years, Daniels has demonstrated its commitment to building inclusive and resilient communities that go beyond the bricks and mortar. Recognizing that complete communities are multifaceted—encompassing social, cultural, and economic infrastructures—Daniels prioritizes inclusion, resilience, equity, and community prosperity to create affordable housing, champion sustainability, and foster local economic development.

In Regent Park, Daniels embraced a "whole of community" approach to development, collaborating closely with TCHC and local residents to bring the vision for an inclusive and thriving neighbourhood to life. Today, Regent Park is a gold-standard example of urban renewal. Spanning 69 acres in Toronto's Downtown East, the Regent Park redevelopment is one of Canada's most significant and substantial transformations of its kind, reshaping not only the physical landscape but also demonstrating an unwavering commitment to building a healthy social infrastructure, social impact and community well-being.

"The Regent Park Revitalization is a powerful example of urban transformation made possible through a public-private collaboration. Over the past 17 years, in partnership with Toronto Community Housing and Regent Park residents, we have prioritized social, economic and cultural well-being, hand in hand, with physical redevelopment to create a dynamic, inclusive and thriving community," said Heela Omarkhail, Vice President of Social Impact at The Daniels Corporation. "We are immensely proud the World Economic Forum recognizes our public-private partnerships work in the first three phases of the revitalization as a model for building vibrant, complete, mixed-use, mixed-income communities, and honoured to receive this award with Toronto Community Housing. The Regent Park revitalization demonstrates that involving community voices can lead to positive change, and the partnership and collaboration amongst stakeholders not only transformed Regent Park, but also provides a blueprint for successful revitalization efforts internationally."

“Thank you to the World Economic Forum for this award that recognizes the extraordinary work of Toronto Community Housing and The Daniels Corporation,” said Tom Hunter, Interim President and CEO, Toronto Community Housing. “I’m also very grateful to the Regent Park community who supported this project with their trust and patience. Strong public-private partnership is an important ingredient in TCHC’s revitalization formula, an approach to reviving social housing stock and creating healthy, livable communities in the process. I am confident that public-private partnerships like the one that we enjoy with The Daniels Corporation will play an important role in the future of housing in Toronto. A stroll in Regent Park is testament to the success of this project and to the transformative power that can be accessed when you work with the right partners,” Hunter added.



*(L-R) Vivian Brady-Phillips, Head of Strategic Initiatives for Urban Transformation, World Economic Forum; Heela Omarkhail, Vice President of Social Impact, The Daniels Corporation; and Jeff Merritt, Head of Urban Transformation, the World Economic Forum.*

“Looking to the future of Toronto, one of our most pressing tasks is building thousands of new affordable housing units so that everyone can find a place to call home. The collaboration between The Daniels Corporation and Toronto Community Housing is a great example of what strong partnership can create, and the results are visible in Regent Park,” observed Olivia Chow, Mayor of Toronto.

What sets Regent Park's transformation apart is its grassroots foundation, which is a stark contrast to many inner-city revitalization efforts. Rather than being imposed from the top down, Regent Park evolved from the ground up, with local voices taking centre stage from the very beginning.

Daniels' 2021-2022 annual Impact Report, *Bringing Impact to Life*, shines the spotlight on Regent Park, providing a detailed account of the company's work in the Regent Park community that went beyond physical infrastructure and acted as a catalyst for social and economic change.

The Report also describes Daniels' six key building blocks for creating inclusive communities. To read The Daniels Corporation 2021-2022 Impact Report, please visit <https://danielshomes.ca/social-impact/>.

-30-

### **About The Daniels Corporation**

The Daniels Corporation ([www.danielshomes.ca](http://www.danielshomes.ca)) is one of Canada's pre-eminent builders/developers, building more than 39,000 new homes across the Greater Toronto Area for over 39 years. Daniels is the developer of TIFF Bell Lightbox in Toronto's Entertainment District and the City of the Arts community on Toronto's East Bayfront. Among its many initiatives, Daniels partnered with Toronto Community Housing to revitalize 53 of the 69-acre Regent Park community in Toronto. At the core of the revitalization is both a physical and social re-connection of this once stigmatized neighbourhood to the broader City of Toronto. Today, Regent Park is the global hub of Sustainable Development Goals and home to the World Urban Pavilion – Powered by Daniels, a collaborative initiative between the Urban Economy Forum, UN-Habitat, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation and The Daniels Corporation. Understanding that quality of life is created by much more than physical buildings, Daniel goes above and beyond to integrate building excellence with opportunities for social, cultural, and economic well-being.

### **About Toronto Community Housing**

Toronto Community Housing ([www.torontohousing.ca](http://www.torontohousing.ca)) is Canada's largest social housing provider, with more than 20 years of service to the community. Named a 2023 Greater Toronto Top Employer, TCHC is owned by the City of Toronto and provides homes for nearly 60,000 low- and moderate-income households in 106 of the city's 144 neighbourhoods. TCHC's 2,100 buildings represent a \$10-billion public asset.

**For more information or to request an interview, please contact:**

The Daniels Corporation

[media@danielscorp.com](mailto:media@danielscorp.com)

[Toronto Community Housing Corporation](http://torontohousing.ca)

P: 416-737-1352

E: [media@torontohousing.ca](mailto:media@torontohousing.ca)