

Area hardware store keeps hammering away



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NORTH END

The grand opening of a new “social enterprise centre” on May 24 was a huge success.

Several hundred people were excited to attend an open house and barbecue for the recently expanded Pollock’s Hardware Co-op. Guests included local MLAs **Gord Mackintosh** and **Kevin Chief** and city councillor **Ross Eadie**.

The event marked the beginning of an expanded local hardware store, celebrated the strength of partnership, and raised awareness for the healthy social and economic development taking place in the North End and Point Douglas neighbourhoods.

It all started when **Pollock’s Hardware Co-op**, BUILD (Building Urban Industries for Local Development), and Manitoba Green Retrofit (MGR), joined forces to purchase the three-storey warehouse at 765 Main St. which once housed CP Rail’s Station A and processed the mail for all of Western Canada after the 1920s.

The trio expanded the existing artist space on the third floor to accommodate 14 artists. The second floor was renovated to create a shop, board room, kitchen, and office space for the partners, as well as numerous bright and modern offices for lease.

The first floor is dedicated to Pollock’s. The new location will operate in conjunction with the co-op’s other location at 1407



Submitted photo

The staff of Pollock’s Hardware Co-op recently celebrated their expansion of with an open house and a barbecue.

Main and will stock larger items like lumber, drywall, and toilets that BUILD and other contractors need, as well as unique products not carried in chain outlets, and commonly needed repair items for homeowners in the area. Organizations such as L.I.T.E.,

CCED-NET, and the Point Douglas Residents Committee have already moved in to create a social enterprise hub.

Mike Wolchok, manager of Pollock’s, has a vision for inner-city development and local enterprise. The expansion of Pollock’s is hap-

pening slowly and naturally, but is already profitable.

Wolchok and his employees are patiently working at restoring old hardware bins and some of the original mail carts. A retro delivery van is in the works. Wolchok is also working on paperwork to make 765 Main a heritage building. Clearly, he is passionate about bringing old things to life and he and his partners are helping to bring our oldest neighbourhoods back to life.

The goal of Pollock’s expansion to the 765 Main is to bring building supplies closer to where people without vehicles can get them, to provide a “shop local” option with knowledgeable service and advice for first-time homeowners, and to keep profits in the community.

The refurbished building at 765 Main is located on the first lot north of the railway underpass and is accessible via Sutherland Avenue. Parking is available inside a fenced area.

The building will soon be more visible when business logos, sponsored by Assiniboine Credit Union, are painted on the wall facing Main. Retail hours are Monday to Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

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Point Douglas Residents Committee will be holding its annual general meeting at 10 a.m. on Sat., June 16 at **Grace Point Church**.

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Main Street Farmers’ Market will begin Fri., June 29 from 2 to 7 p.m. at Main and Euclid (Neechi Commons parking lot).

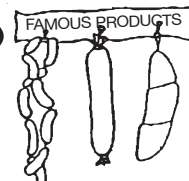
Sonya Braun is a community correspondent for the North End. You can contact her at sonyajoy@gmail.com.

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MECKLENBURGER KÜCHE KARTOFFEL PUFFER • 150 G \$2 ⁰⁹ EA	WOLSKI POPPYSEED MASS WITH DELICACIES • 900 G \$5 ⁴⁹ EA	HERITAGE LANE NATURALLY FED ROASTING CHICKENS \$2 ⁸⁹ LB	WOOD SMOKED BACON \$1 ⁰⁶ 100 G
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