

# TORONTO HOME RESILIENCE PROGRAM



**Prepared for:**

Clean Air Partnership: Resilient Homes and Buildings

**Prepared by:**

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**INTACT CENTRE**  
ON CLIMATE ADAPTATION

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1. Introducing the Intact Centre on Climate Adaptation
2. Overview of the Home Flood Protection Program
3. Overview of the Toronto Home Resilience Program
4. Overview of the Home Flood Risk Assessment Training
5. Get Additional Information or Share your Stories!

# About the Intact Centre on Climate Adaptation

**INTACT CENTRE**  
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- A nationally applied research centre headquartered at the University of Waterloo
- Launched in 2015 with a gift from Intact Financial Corporation\*

The Intact Centre has two Goals:

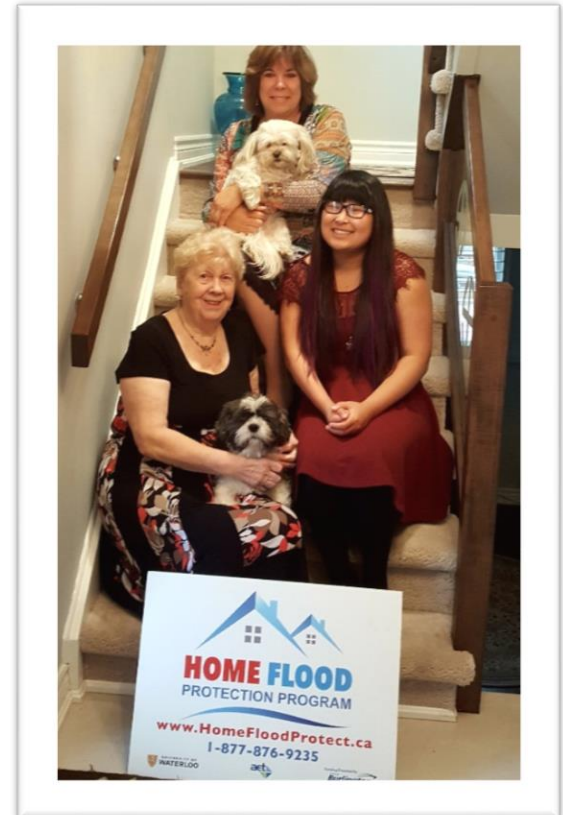
1. To change the national conversation about climate change to include climate adaptation
2. To help homeowners, communities and businesses to identify and reduce risks associated with climate change and extreme weather events



University of Waterloo Campus

**\*The Intact Centre operates independently of all funders and does not benefit from the sale of any products or services.**

- A comprehensive flood-risk reduction education program
- Program Goals:
  1. To help homeowners reduce their risk of basement flooding and minimize damage if flooding occurs;
  2. Rollout a nation-wide flood-risk reduction education program that provides Canadians with the practical resources they need to reduce their risk of basement flooding.
- The program benefits homeowners by providing:
  - Free online self-help resources; and
  - An on-site flood risk evaluation, known as the 'Home Flood Protection Assessment'



Carol Solis and family participated in an Assessment in 2017 at their new house after experiencing two sewer back-up floods in Burlington in 2014



# Home Flood Protection Program

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- Developed by the Intact Centre on Climate Adaptation at the University of Waterloo
- Delivered by the award-winning environmental consultants at AET Group Inc.
- Assessment delivery in Burlington, Ontario and surrounding areas in 2017-2018
- Assessment delivery in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan in 2018
- Confidential Home Flood Protection Study allows for continuous improvement of report and resources



Assessor engaging a homeowner in a problem-solving conversation

# Home Flood Protection Program

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- Assessment value of \$400
- Funding support makes assessments available to the public for \$0, \$95 or \$125

## Funding Support Provided By:



# About the Assessment Process

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- 1-1.5 hour onsite assessment
- UW trained Assessor from Environmental Consulting firm AET Group accompanied by client
- Standardized visual assessment of 50 points of potential water entry into the home, scoring of maintenance practices
- Problem-solving discussion about cost-effective ways to reduce risk



Assessor guides homeowner through detailed assessment

# About the Assessment Report

- Visual assessment of physical features and reported maintenance practices (**good**, **medium**, **poor/ needs further investigation**)  
Identifies top-ranked actions to:
  - Reduce infiltration, sewer backup and overland flood risks;
  - Manage indoor humidity to reduce risk of mold and mildew growth;
  - Understand risks as they relate to insurance coverage.
  - Reduce risk of water damage to structure and contents;
  - Access relevant local subsidies



Assessor completing visual assessment of sump pit and pump



## After Participating Homeowners Will Understand:

- What are the main flood risks at my home
- What are my priorities for action to reduce risk
  - What requires further investigation
  - What are the practical and cost-effective actions I can take myself to reduce risk
  - What actions require assistance from qualified contractors
- What resources are available to me to take action (including local subsidies)
- Who are the qualified contractors in my area who can help with specialized home flood protection project
- What main questions I need to ask my insurance provider to ensure that I am adequately covered in the event of a flood.



# Program Matures: Toronto Home Resilience Program

## Toronto Home Resilience Program

- Builds on the strengths of the Home Flood Protection Assessment by adding Toronto-focused emergency preparedness, local contractor and subsidy information resources for homeowners
- Collects emergency preparedness information from homeowners to help inform Toronto's future emergency preparedness efforts



Toronto Island, 2017

# Program Evolution: Toronto Home Resilience Program

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- Launching in **June 2018**
- 200 Assessments for Toronto residents by October 2018
- Fully detached, semi-detached and townhomes
- \$95 per home to participate
- First come first served

## Program Support Provided By:



# Program Heads Off to College: Home Flood Risk Assessment Training

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## Home Flood Risk Assessment Training

- Adaptation of the Home Flood Protection Assessor Training Program and Assessment Tool for use at colleges
- Partnership with Seneca and Fleming Colleges
- 2 part course that will train and accredit Home Flood Risk Assessors in Canada

### Part 1: 40 hours

- September 2018- in class at Seneca College, Toronto
- January 2019- Available nationally through OnLearn

### Part 2: 20 hours

- Attend 1 day onsite training and complete 2 supervised assessments - location TBD

## Program Support Provided By:



**Seneca**





# Get Additional Information and Share Your Story!

[www.homefloodprotect.ca](http://www.homefloodprotect.ca)

- Additional program information
- Wide variety of free information resources for homeowners

-Or-

- Reach out to us and share your story!

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Burlington homeowner Margaret Banks shares her Flood Protection Story with others