

GRAND ROUNDS

New store in downtown Renfrew aims to support RVH

We've all heard the phrase, "one man's trash is another man's treasure" and that's exactly the premise that store owner Dana Visneskie is building his business on.

The new store has been accepting and sorting through donations of 'gently used' items—furniture, clothing, dishware, etc.—since late November.

"There's so much stuff that people have that goes to the landfill," says Visneskie. "People in the Renfrew community are excited and wanting to help, and the more people that are involved, the more successful it will be," he adds about his latest thrift store venture.

Located in the former Korner Hutch building at 176 Raglan Street South, this is his second location. Visneskie had investigated the business model while

working in Leduc, Alberta, and opened his first Ottawa Valley Thrift Store in Arnprior in December 2015.

A major part of his vision for the store in Renfrew is to support Renfrew Victoria Hospital, in particular the oncology department, so a portion of the proceeds after expenses will be directed to the RVH Foundation.

"We want to do that as much as we can—the end goal is to make a difference," he shares, "It's something I've always wanted to do."

Respect with regards to what is dropped off will help with achieving the goal by ensuring that precious resources are not wasted taking loads to the landfill site. "We're hoping they'll bring good quality items," says Visneskie.

Pick-up and delivery of furniture and large items can be arranged by calling 613-601-4695. "We'll do all the heavy lifting," says Visneskie. Drop-offs are accepted at the store during business hours.

"We are excited to welcome this new business to our community and really appreciate the commitment to support RVH. We wish Dana and his team great success," says RVH Foundation Executive Director Patti Dillabough.



All hands were on deck at the new Ottawa Valley Thrift Store in downtown Renfrew. Dana Visneskie, owner (back), staff and volunteers sorted and organized quality used items in the days leading up to the store opening the first week of December.