

# EDMONTON'S FOODBANK



## 2015 ANNUAL REPORT



## Mission

To be stewards in the collection of surplus and donated food for the effective distribution, free of charge to people in need in our community, while seeking solutions to the causes of hunger.



## Vision

The Edmonton Gleaners Association envisions a community where all citizens have access to an adequate and nutritious supply of food.



## Mantra

As an affiliated member of Food Banks Canada, we are committed to the mantra:  
Relieving hunger today.  
Preventing hunger tomorrow.



## Board Message



Greetings to all our friends, partners, and supporters. 2015 has been a year of change, uncertainty, and concern on so many fronts in the Edmonton area. Due to the harsh economic reality currently gripping our city, our resources are continually being pushed closer and closer to their limit. In December 2015, we served 19,012 clients with that number increasing to 19,533 in January 2016 through our hamper programs. In short, Food Bank use has increased a staggering 32% in the last 14 months, with increases expected to continue in the months ahead.

Despite being stretched in every way imaginable, Edmonton's Food Bank has adapted and risen to the challenge. This is a testament to excellent planning; dedicated staff and volunteers; and our community's commitment to supporting each other. Volunteers gave more than 68,000 hours of their time to collect and sort food; build hampers; and/or act as an ambassador of the organization. Thank you for this commitment.

Unfortunately, it is with a heavy heart that we say goodbye to a dear friend and volunteer. On December 22, 2015, Cheryl Nattrass passed away after a long battle with cancer. Cheryl served on our Board of Directors for four years and was instrumental in the Food Bank receiving accreditation by Imagine Canada. Cheryl was a truly passionate, loving, and amazing person helping those in need – she is dearly missed. We were, also, saddened to learn that our beloved friend and long time volunteer, Ernie Melin suffered a stroke in November 2015. Unfortunately, due to severe complications from this stroke, Ernie is no longer able to volunteer with us. Ernie volunteered with Edmonton's Food Bank for over 20 years and he could be counted on to do everything from driving our vehicles to supervising and supporting other volunteers. Ernie is thoughtful and steadfast in his loyalty and support of Edmonton's Food Bank. He is missed each and every day.

It is important to remember that Edmonton's Food Bank is not alone in the fight against hunger. We are fortunate to be part of an amazing, supportive, and empowering network. A network, rich in character and overflowing with kindness. Every time you lend your support to the Food Bank, you become part of this network. On behalf of Edmonton's Food Bank and our neighbours in need, thank you for your help in these interesting and challenging times.

With appreciation,

David Benjestorf, Board Chair



Dear Friends,

On January 16, 1981, the Edmonton Gleaners Association, more commonly known as Edmonton's Food Bank, received its official charter of incorporation and represented the inception of Canada's first official food bank. It is with mixed feelings that Edmonton's Food Bank acknowledges our 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary as an organization serving people in need. We wish to recognize the truly outstanding contributions that have been made by volunteers, staff, donors, and other supporters over the years. Thank you!

In 2014, the Board of Directors approved five new strategic directions within its strategic plan to guide the work of the organization, in our commitment to addressing the systemic causes of hunger, through to 2020. In conjunction with our Strategic Plan and with the help of Deloitte's *Advising the Community Together* pro-bono initiative, we surveyed 402 of our clients, in the spring of 2015, to learn more about them, their needs, and how we can best assist them in the future. Our goal, moving forward, is to work more closely with other organizations to ensure food security approaches are collaborative and targeted towards increasing our clients' food literacy and their capacity to secure and use alternative food programs. We will be the bridge for our clients to access these organizations and opportunities. While the highlights of our client survey are included within this report, a complete copy is available to download, for free, from our website by clicking *About* and then *Publications*.

Food has an amazing ability to bring people together and in 2015, Edmonton's Food Bank was invited to celebrate the 2015 Fall Harvest with Amiskwaciy Academy. To my astonishment, I was recognized in a Blanket Ceremony. Receiving this gift has left me humbled and grateful. It is a pleasure to work alongside our Indigenous friends in the effort to reduce hunger in our community. I accepted this honour on behalf of all those who make our work possible.

This Annual Report serves as a glimpse of the last year and demonstrates the generosity of our community for those in need. Again, thank you for helping us through the challenging year that was 2015.



Marjorie Bencz, CM  
Executive Director



## Client's Stories

Jack is a single dad whose son, Evan, has special needs that require significant financial support. Jack lost his well-paying job in the energy industry. Since then he has been on Employment Insurance while he looks for work. Jack will soon run out of EI benefits and may lose his home and his vehicle. Jack, fearing bankruptcy and desperate, didn't know which way to turn when he decided to call Edmonton's Food Bank. Jack received a food hamper and information on other community resources that may be able to help his family. Jack's story was common among Food Bank clients in 2015.



Mary was excited to share with us her good news when she last came into Edmonton's Food Bank. After months of unemployment and struggling with food resources, she had started a new job at a local grocery store. The Food Bank had assisted Mary a few times during those months, but Mary knew this would be the last food hamper she would need – next week she would be getting paid! Mary had found out about a store hiring while waiting at Alberta Works for help with her job search. She'd gone directly to the store, had an interview, and got hired the same day. Mary is glad Edmonton's Food Bank was there to help when she needed it. She now plans on giving back by volunteering her time and donating a few dollars whenever she can.



*Anyone interested in volunteering is encouraged to sign up online at [edmontonsfoodbank.com](http://edmontonsfoodbank.com) or call 780.425.2133. We offer volunteer opportunities to groups, teams, working people, retirees, students, and families, during the week as well as three evenings a week and Saturdays.*



# IFSSA

Established in 1992, **Islamic Family and Social Services Association (IFSSA)** is the first and only social service agency in Edmonton dedicated to providing a holistic approach to community well-being that is open to all and deeply rooted in the Islamic tradition. IFSSA runs programs in many areas including addressing food security, domestic violence, emergency financial relief, youth programming, refugee sponsorship, and settlement.

For many years IFSSA operated its own food bank that was sensitive to Muslim dietary needs, such as restrictions around pork, gelatin, and meat. Many government assisted refugees need to access this service upon landing due to severe financial pressure. Demand for this service grew until the agency could no longer manage on its own. In 2015, IFSSA approached Edmonton's Food Bank for a partnership.

Edmonton's Food Bank works closely with IFSSA, as we do with many groups, to ensure their access to nutritious and culturally appropriate foods. While uncommon in many Canadian diets, pulses (legumes, chickpeas, and lentils) serve as a staple in the diets of many IFSSA clients. Each of IFSSA's hampers primarily include an average of 10 kg of dried pulses. However, donations of large amounts of pulses rarely come into Edmonton's Food Bank. In November 2015, this prompted an IFSSA volunteer to start cold calling Alberta pulse producers in hopes of soliciting a donation. Chris Chivilo, head of W.A. Grain & Pulse Solutions in Innisfail donated 2.939 tonnes of chickpeas - enough to supply families with chickpeas for 4 months!

This partnership not only allows IFSSA to remain operational but it also affords IFSSA the resources and time to support newly landed refugees while continuing to address systemic issues faced by long-term clients. Edmonton's Food Bank is pleased to work together with IFSSA providing services in the community.



# DECSA

**Distinctive Employment Counselling Services of Alberta (DECSA)** brings positive change to our community by helping individuals to overcome barriers and reach their full potential through skill building, acceptance, and empowerment. Many of the individuals accessing DECSA's services face challenges in areas such as mental health, employment, or sexual exploitation. All are seeking the resources and opportunities to build their skills and improve their lives.

*Transitions* is one of DECSA's programs supporting individuals who have past or present involvement with sexual exploitation. Transitions participants seek the skills required to move into a more mainstream and healthy lifestyle. One component of this program is the *Basic Shelf* workshop.

*Basic Shelf* is a 12-week workshop that assists participants with learning the skills to shop for and cook healthy meals within a limited budget. Once completed, participants receive a *Basic Shelf* Cookbook, which includes recipes used throughout the program, a certificate of completion, and a \$250 shopping trip for individuals to purchase the basic cooking supplies they need. This program gives participants a feeling of accomplishment, self-worth, and belonging, which sets participants up for success moving forward.

*Basic Shelf* was developed for individuals on limited budgets, in the 1990's, by the Health Department of the City of York. The recipes used are simple, nutritious, tasty, and quick. Participants learn that healthy cooking on a budget does not require any expensive equipment or any special cooking skills. In Edmonton, *Basic Shelf* is a collaboration between local agencies, such as DECSA, Edmonton's Food Bank, and Alberta Health Services.

DECSA's partnership with Edmonton's Food Bank is vital as the Food Bank provides the resources needed to do this workshop with DECSA's *Transitions* clients. DECSA, also, works closely with Edmonton's Food Bank by referring their clients in need of food assistance and by accessing the Food Bank's resources for other programs and special events throughout the year.

*“It's not our disabilities, but our abilities that count.” - Chris Burke*





## Our Programs

### School Snack Program

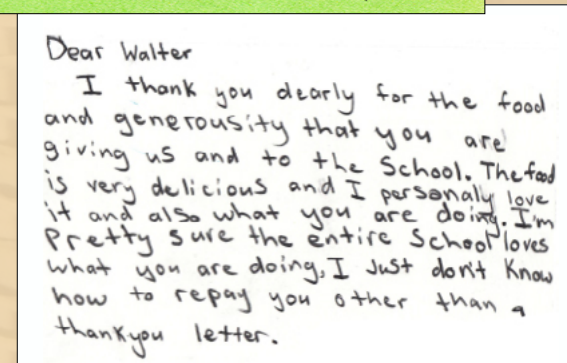
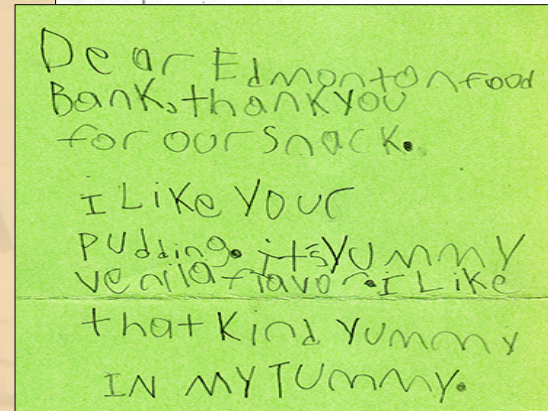
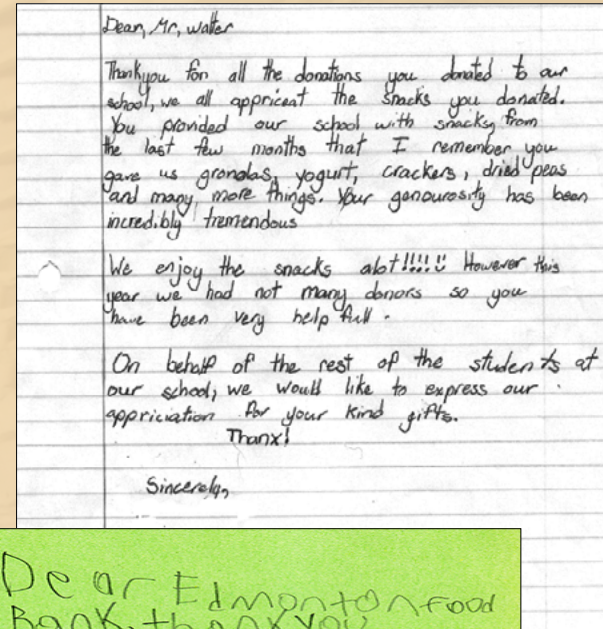
Edmonton's Food Bank provides 37 schools with a variety of nutritious snack items for approximately 166,100 snacks per week as a part of our *School Snack Program*. Edmonton's Food Bank is committed to providing healthy snack items for children. We target-purchase snacks that are found on Alberta Health Services' single serving list in accordance with Alberta Nutrition Guidelines for Children and Youth (ANGCY).

• • • • •  
• **Thank you to the Edmonton Oilers Community** •  
• **Foundation who gave \$5,000 to our** •  
• **School Snack Program.** •  
• • • • •

### Meal & Snack Programs

We are fortunate to work with many agencies and other non-profit organizations to provide *meals and snacks* in the community. These services include breakfast programs, school snacks, and meals, which depend on our partners' capabilities and the needs of their clients. Each month, we work with our partners to distribute close to 500,000 meals and snacks. This contribution to reducing hunger in our community is amazing and is appreciated. Thank you!

• • • • •  
• ***"Thank you for all the snacks so we would*** •  
• ***not starve! Love."* - Grade 2 student** •  
• • • • •



## Our Programs

### Second Helping Program

Our *Second Helping* food recovery program is an opportunity for companies with large banquet facilities such as the Shaw Conference Centre, Northlands, and the Westin Hotel to donate prepared but not plated food to organizations that are serving meals to those in need. These donations are frozen and picked up by Edmonton's Food Bank and then made available to agencies providing meal and snack programs.



### Hamper Program

A *hamper* is a pre-packaged box of food that consists of perishable and non-perishable food products, the majority of which is gleaned from the food industry. The hamper is assembled based on the number of individuals it is intended to feed, including the number of adults, children, and infants in the household. Clients may request accommodation for special dietary needs (e.g. celiac, diabetic, or vegetarian) and/or request additional resources such as pet food, school snack items, and toiletries depending on availability. This program was established in 1985 and is provided free of charge to our clients. Dedicated volunteers help build these hampers, which are shipped out to various community depots in geographical areas more conveniently accessible to our clients.



### Alberta Hunters Who Care

Started in 1996, *Alberta Hunters Who Care* asks hunters to share their harvest of white tailed deer, mule deer, elk or moose with Edmonton's Food Bank. The generosity of these hunters allows us to distribute wild meat as an ingredient to our agencies, which provide meals in soup kitchens and shelters. Alberta Health rigorously monitors the program, donors, and recipient organizations who must meet specific requirements.





## Our Warehouse

In 2015, Edmonton's Food Bank received a *Communities Initiatives Program* operating grant. The \$40,000 Alberta Government grant was used to offset five warehouse staff of the ten positions. We are grateful for these funds, which help ensure food is transported to/ from the organization to where it is needed most. In 2015, more than 3.5 million kilograms were moved, which has a monetary value of \$19,500,000.



- **Edmonton's Food Bank is a recognized teaching facility for Concordia University's Environmental Health Program. Future Health inspectors tour our warehouse and operations to learn how a food organization should operate.**

*Food Banks Canada* is the national charitable organization representing and supporting the food bank community across Canada. Food donated by national food industry partners through the *National Food Sharing System* is distributed to local food banks. Food Banks Canada also organizes the national *Retail Food Program*, partnering with retailers to allow food banks to collect surplus food. This food is considered surplus for various reasons including packaging changes, overstock, damaged exterior packaging, seasonal, or branding changes. The Retail Food Program helps Edmonton's Food Bank distribute more food and helps provide a greater variety for clients.

Food Banks  
Canada



All day there is food coming in and food going out. In addition to bringing donated and gleaned food to our warehouse and shipping hampers out to our depots, the 3.5 million kilograms need to be weighed and moved to various stations in the process. The warehouse equipment is put to the test on a daily basis. Forklifts, pallet jacks, freezers, coolers, and air curtains are all needed to keep things running smoothly.

## How We Build Food Hampers



Every hamper starts out with basic, staple, non-perishable food items such as pasta, soup, beans, canned fruit, and vegetables.

1



Items added next can vary depending on what has been gleaned from the food industry and is available at that particular time. Often we have fresh produce, yogurt, cereals, and baked goods.

2



Most produce is received in bulk quantities. Food Bank volunteers repackage these items into individual or family sized portions for the hampers.

3



Included in every hamper are fresh eggs. The Food Bank purchases these eggs and volunteers repackage them into donated egg cartons. The egg bill for 2015 was a staggering \$152,940, representing 74,940 dozen eggs.

4

The majority of all food hampers are built at the Food Bank warehouse. Food is shipped in bulk or in the pre-made hampers to a community depot. Clients are directed to pick up their food from a depot in their neighbourhood.

Existing clients can place their hamper requests Online\* or by calling Client Services at 780.425.4190 (Monday to Friday between 8:30 to 4:00 pm.)

\* Specific questions are asked to help this process





# Beyond Food

## Client Survey

Some of the results



About 29% are under 30 years old; 48% between 31-50 years old; and 23% over 50 years old.



88 % of Food Bank clients are Canadian citizens; a further 12% are here on a work visa, have landed immigrant status or are refugees.



More than half of the Food Bank clients surveyed have an annual household income of less than \$25,000. More than half of their income is used to keep a roof over their head.



20% of adults reported that they or one of their family members did not eat for 2-5 days during the month before the survey.



42% of Food Bank clients surveyed have attended university, college or trades school.



Only 17% of Food Bank clients surveyed live in subsidized housing.



47% run out of money by the second week of the month; about 70% have no funds by week 3.



70% of survey respondents report that they are not connected to any other support service organizations.



A significant proportion of respondents indicate they would value access to the following programs at the Food Bank: money management, finding affordable housing, enhancing shopping, cooking skills and employment readiness.



29% of survey respondents have employment income; 36.1% receive income from Alberta Works; 13.2% are on AISH and 8.2% receive Canada Pension Plan. The balance receive student loans (2.2%); employment insurance benefits (7.4%) and other sources of income (4%).



43% indicate that they would not require the Food Bank if their income increased by up to \$500 per month.



The average household includes 3.6 individuals; usually with 2 children.

Feel free to download a complete copy of the survey from [edmontonsfoodbank.com/about/gleanings-newsletter](http://edmontonsfoodbank.com/about/gleanings-newsletter)  
Edmonton's Food Bank is pleased to have had the guidance and support of Deloitte in completing Beyond Food.



# Clients: Increasing Numbers – Who are they?

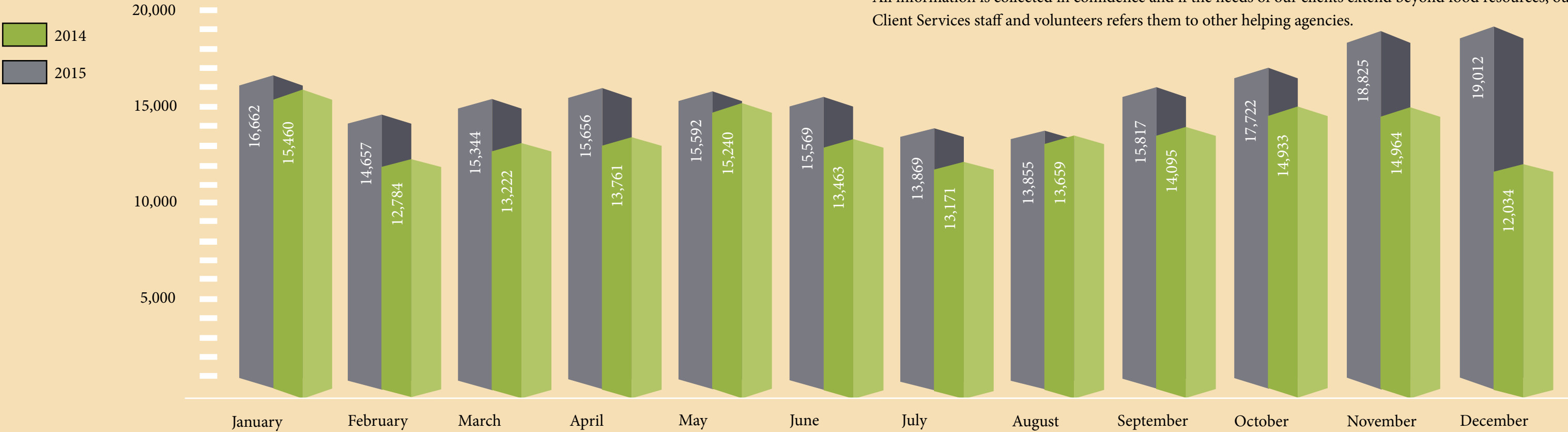
Edmonton’s Food Bank operates as a short-term solution for individuals and families facing food insecurity. Our services are able to span the city and reach those in need thanks to the 230 agencies, churches, and food depots who work with us to distribute the food. Edmonton’s Food Bank is currently providing food resources to help approximately 20,000 clients each month through the hamper programs. Understandably, the increased need for food is pushing us to our operational limits evidenced, in part, by our busy phone lines.

Our Client Services department is our first point of contact with our clients. Client Services staff and volunteers lend an understanding ear to all our clients who connect with us. Clients find themselves in need of our services due to a variety, and often compounding, assortment of life stressors leading to food insecurity. Staff and volunteers offer our clients a non-judgmental and empathic voice as they acquire all of the necessary information required to set them up with a food hamper.

- The following information is pertinent in order to setup each client at one of the 40 food depots across the city, closest to their place of residence:
- An address (if they have one)
  - First name, last name, and the date of birth for all individuals needing assistance at the same residence
  - A piece of ID (e.g. government ID, school ID, utility bill, etc.)
  - Household’s source of income
  - Household’s access to kitchen facilities (e.g. stove, microwave, etc.)
  - Any special dietary health requirements (e.g. allergies, celiac, diabetic, pregnant, etc.)

- Our clients come from all walks of life and may even be your next door neighbour. Example profiles of our clients include:
- Seniors who are on fixed incomes
  - Working families
  - Individuals on disability
  - Students, homeless, children under 18, which represents 40% of our clients

All information is collected in confidence and if the needs of our clients extend beyond food resources, our Client Services staff and volunteers refers them to other helping agencies.





## Volunteer Ambassadors

**Emmanuel Tchounga** started to volunteer at the Food Bank in June 2015 and has continued to come in every morning since. Originally from Cameroon, Emmanuel decided to volunteer with us to stay busy, to be active, and to meet people from his new town. He also likes to practice his English with his peers and he has made a lot of progress. Emmanuel says he does not plan to stop his volunteering anytime soon because he enjoys being able to do various tasks, surrounded by great people.



*“ I volunteer two half days a week answering the phones and two half days a week building food hampers. I’m retired and feel that I can help. The variety in volunteering is awesome and the exercise is a bonus.” - Jan*



**Mike Brisseau** is a lieutenant commander in the Royal Canadian Navy and is stationed at the Edmonton Garrison. He started volunteering for the Food Bank in August 2014, shortly after moving to Edmonton. He makes a point of volunteering in every community he lives. Mike comes in twice a week on the evenings and on Saturdays. He is so committed and knowledgeable that he sometimes gets recruited to train new volunteers in tasks. He is impressed by the variety of friendly people that come to volunteer at the Food Bank wanting to give back and be part of the solution to ending hunger in our city.

*“I have been dealt a good hand and wish to give back.” - Mike*

**People from all walks of life volunteer with us. Volunteers are the lifeblood of our work. Without their incredible contribution of over 68,000 hours in 2015 in the warehouse, clients services, and special events, it would be impossible to meet the needs of those facing food insecurity.**

*Edmonton’s Food Bank is unable to achieve our mission without the help of our fantastic volunteers who give us their time, energy and friendship. Thank you.*

## The Huron Carole Gala

Christmas music and storytelling; *An evening with Tom Jackson*

**\$65,384.86**

was raised at this fabulous event!

The majority of our events, including the Huron Carole Gala, would not be possible without the tireless efforts of our dedicated volunteers. The Huron Carole Gala was orchestrated by our volunteer committee who handled all the details, including securing the location, the caterers, and the speakers. We are, continually, humbled by, and eternally grateful for, each and every volunteer who has donated us their time, energy, and kindness. Thank you!

### Frankincense \$10,000

- Muttart Foundation
- Lloyd Sadd Insurance Brokers
- Stollery Foundation

### Myrrh \$5,000

- Investors Group

### Local Foodie \$2,500

- Telus

### Food Bank Friend

**\$1,000**

- Bruce Cameron & Sigrid Hundleby
- Christenson Group of Companies
- All-Lock Rescue

### Special Thanks to:

- Evolution Presentation Technologies
- CORUS Entertainment
- CTV & Stacey Brotzel
- Ramada Hotel

**Co-Chairs:** Gene Zwozdesky & Marjorie Bencz

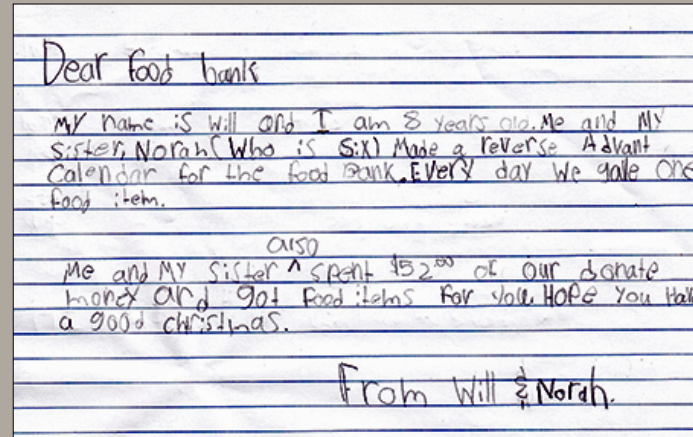
**Committee Members:** John Chomiak, Mike Nickel & Janet Riopel



## 2015 Reverse Advent Calendars

A few donors decided to take a twist on tradition. Instead of chocolates, donors made gifts of food to Edmonton's Food Bank throughout the advent.

"Rather than just throwing 24 cans of beans into my food bank reverse advent calendar, I wanted to use the opportunity to raise awareness of the diverse most-needed items at food banks." @etownitsmeagain



## Safeway Battery Donation

In 2015, Safeway Donated 28 boxes of new batteries. These batteries came in all shapes, sizes, volts, and watts and were made available to all our partners for their operations. Thank you for this unique gift, Safeway!



## Citadel Theatre A Christmas Carol

Most communities only show A Christmas Carol for a few seasons and then put it on hold when interest dies down. Not in Edmonton! For 15 years, A Christmas Carol has been donating funds to Edmonton's Food Bank. Thank you to all patrons and staff who donate and to cast members, including James MacDonald, as Scrooge, who stand outside after the show to "ask". An astounding \$84,193 and 217 kg of food was donated. Thank you!



## 20<sup>th</sup> Annual CBC Turkey Drive



A staple food and fundraiser that also stands the test of time. The CBC Turkey Drive raised a resounding \$615,570 during its 20<sup>th</sup> year. Well done!



## Midas Edmonton

Midas Edmonton was the winner of the Midas International Drive Out Hunger photo contest. This photo contest involved a donation to the local food bank of the winning team, representing Midas International's dedication to fighting hunger in their communities. As a result, Edmonton's Food Bank was the real winner, walking away with an amazing \$6,301 USD donation!



Midas Edmonton will donate \$1 for every oil change.



The following are some highlights of our Special Events in 2015. Due to space limitations, we are unable to list all the great events and supporters who assisted us over the year. Please accept our deepest appreciation to all our Hunger Heroes we are unable to mention.



Triovest Tenant BBQ  
\$3,020.25



Londonderry Mall & Save On Foods  
\$5,000



CTV Pies in the Face  
\$2,221 & 475 kg



18 Wheels of Christmas  
\$10,000 & 41,092 kg



TD Canada Trust Whyte Avenue  
\$5,500



Can Man Dan

Southgate Safeway  
\$3,030 & 10,417 kg

Heritage Safeway  
\$544.50 & 2,859 kg

Southbrook Sobeys  
\$7,351 & 5,890 kg

Online donations  
\$3,790

Food and fundraising events are essential components of support for Edmonton's Food Bank. Over 2,200 special events and food drives are organized each year.

Business leader Brad Shaw and family has committed \$300,000 per year for the next ten years!

In December, Brad Shaw, CEO of Shaw Communications, and his family announced a substantial personal donation to Edmonton's Food Bank to help with our food purchases. "My family and I understand that the current circumstances facing our communities are particularly difficult, and we are pleased to support the work of causes and organizations that make a difference to the health of our province," Mr. Shaw said.

Thank you to Brad Shaw and family for their timely and generous support of our food programs!



Give 30

It's amazing what can happen from a Tweet! In its third year, Give 30 raised awareness and \$44,859.23 for Edmonton's Food Bank. Give 30 asks Muslims to donate \$1 a day during Ramadan to help relieve hunger. Local support includes Al Rashid Mosque; the Muslim Students' Organization; Aumer Assaf; Sherilyn Strickland; Norm Assiff & family; and many more.

Assiff Law Office donated \$30,030.30 towards the campaign in 2015! Thank you.







Turkeys on the Trail  
\$1,654 & 583 kg



Al Fresco Block Party  
104<sup>th</sup> Street Steering Committee  
\$15,000 & 900 kg



Alberta Pensions Services  
\$13,981.91 & 3,730 kg



AMA Shredding  
\$11,500 & 1,322 kg



Christmas Bow  
\$7,772.60 & 450 kg



Dinner Television Tree Sale with  
Home Depot and Zedi Volunteers  
\$6,465 & 65 kg



Honorary Parade Marshall  
Northlands \$2,500



K-Days  
\$505 & 597 kg



Catelli Foods Corporation  
4,896 boxes of pasta



Edmonton Symphony Orchestra  
\$16,675



EPCOR  
\$6,544.57



Girl Guides Hike for Plenty  
10,040 kg



Harvest Luncheon  
Albert's Family Restaurant &  
Safeway \$12,000



Sikh Community of Edmonton Vaisaki  
Parade & ETS Bus Drivers  
\$1,840 & 5,253 kg



Candy Cane Lane  
29,225 kg  
Surpassed 1 million pounds in 2015!



Canstruction Edmonton  
Canadian Progress Club  
Children Charitable Society  
2,062 kg



Punjabi Media Association & Sikh  
Community of Edmonton Parkash Purab  
\$40,000 & 1,200 kg



Sexy Men of Yeg Calendar  
\$18,710





Esso Giving  
\$4,000



Loblaw Extra Helping  
\$50,765.87 & 11,892 kg



Kinnikinnick Summer BBQ  
\$233 & 197 kg



Mayfield Dinner Theatre  
Toonies for Turkeys  
\$53,500



Lambda Chi Fraternity  
Food Drive  
615 kg



New Years Eve at McDougall United  
\$3,979 & 601 kg



Paramount Fine Foods  
\$10,000



Scotia Bank Terra Losa  
\$21,288 from staff & customers



Zoo Hop To It  
\$673 & 69 kg



Snow Valley Ski Club  
2015/2016 season  
3,592 kg



ETS Stuff a Bus with Save On Foods  
\$23,875.51 & 22,293 kg



Think Outside the Chocolate Box  
\$15,450



Costco 149<sup>th</sup> Street - Period Party  
100,000 menstrual products  
& 1,792 cans of soup



Stream-Flo  
\$5,000



Sherwood Park Toyota  
Pedal Power  
\$25,000



Boston Pizza Shopping Spree  
\$5,000



Grant Thornton  
\$10,000 & 450 kg



ATCO EPIC Campaign  
\$6,913.35



## Purolator Tackle Hunger Football Game

Edmonton Eskimos vs. Saskatchewan Roughriders and Edmonton's Food Bank won!

With the support of Purolator and the Edmonton Eskimos we raised \$48,998 and 10,495 kilograms of food during the annual game. Additionally, the Edmonton Eskimos contacted the Food Bank, after the game, to confirm that the Frank Flaman Foundation would, also, be donating \$10,000 to our campaign!



## Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints City Wide Door to Door

Thanks to countless volunteers, 47,312 kg of food was collected in two hours. Volunteers collected donations on door steps and loaded them into donated trailers. Instrumental to the campaign, Action Express & Hot Shot, Grimshaw Trucking L.P., Purolator, and Rosenau Transport Ltd. all lent trailer units to gather donations.

Thank you!



## Heritage Festival

The Heritage Festival is our single largest food and fundraiser of the year. In 2015, we raised 81,705 kg of food, \$59,568.75 in food tickets and \$66,308.34 in monetary donations. In addition, RBC donated \$25,000 towards our Brown Bag It! campaign.

What an amazing three days!

See you in August!



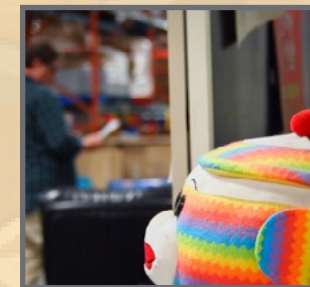
## A Message of Hope

"A week ago I was assigned to attend a day of volunteering at Edmonton's Food Bank. I was not interested in going... Just thought I will do whatever I am asked. So I decided to take action and went to help the less fortunate people. I arrived on time to find some of my peers eagerly waiting with a welcoming smile. I teamed up with a caring and gentle person who took the time to teach me what needed to be done. I encountered many different faces and was greeted with warmth and honesty. I noticed that the volunteers came from all walks of life. One helper just finished cancer treatment and was back to helping after a year of being unable to help. I'm deeply impressed with the dedication of the people willing to help out by giving their time to help people in need. I also came to realize something about myself. During the course of my life I had called the Food Bank on rare occasions. When I did get help at my lowest times, my family and I were amazed at how caring and kindhearted people can be when they open their hearts."

"This experience has changed my life... I will no longer be able to walk by a food bank box without donating, ever again. If I could not donate my free time, then I will make sure I donate to the Food Bank. Together, we can do so much more by donating our time or by donating good and healthy food to the hampers. I am asking each one of you to open your heart and make a difference this year. I know I will."

*Food Bank Volunteer*

*"Think of giving not as a duty but as a privilege." - John D. Rockefeller Jr.*





## Partnering Agencies

### Aboriginal Organizations

Aboriginal Learning\*  
Aboriginal Student Services  
Aboriginal Youth & Family Well-Being  
Education Society (AYFWES)  
Amiskwaciy Academy  
Ben Calf Robe Society  
Bent Arrow Traditional Healing Society  
Canadian Native Friendship Centre  
Edmonton Aboriginal Seniors Centre  
Edmonton Native Healing Centre Society  
Métis Child and Family Services Society  
NAIT Aboriginal Student Centre  
Native Counselling Services of Alberta  
Native Seniors Centre  
Niginan Housing Ventures\*  
Red Road Healing Society  
Sacred Heart Church of the First Peoples  
Sampson Cree Nation Urban Resource  
Centre  
Sun & Moon Aboriginal Artisans Society  
Trade Winds To Success Training Society  
Urban Native Ministries (UNMan)

### Addiction and Recovery

Alberta Health Services  
Edmonton Dream Centre  
Edmonton Drug Treatment Restoration  
George Spady Centre  
Our House Addictions Recovery  
Recovery Acres

### Bereavement/Counselling Support

Alberta Health Services: Mental Health  
Living Positive  
Catholic Social Services: FASD  
Forensic Assessment & Community Services  
HIV Network of Edmonton Society  
Jewish Family Services  
Pilgrims Hospice Society  
Salvation Army  
The Family Centre  
The Support Network  
YWCA

### Children and Youth Services

Abbotsfield Youth Project  
ABC Head Start  
Aboriginal Student Services  
Big Brothers Big Sisters Boys & Girls Club  
Bosco Homes  
Calder School  
E4C  
Eastglen High School

Edmonton and District Family Support  
Elves Child Development Centre  
Family Centre  
Health for Two  
Hillcrest School  
Homesteader Community Centre  
John Barnett School\*  
KARA Family Resource Centre  
Kate Chegwin Junior High School  
Kids on Track  
Kid Sport Alberta  
Kindred House  
LaSalle A Safe Place for Women & their  
Children  
Lawton Junior High School  
McCauley Community Afterschool Care  
Association  
McMan Youth, Family and Community  
Services Association  
Mill Woods Family Resource Centre Society  
Mother Teresa School  
Northeast Teen Centre  
Norwood Child and Family Resource Centre  
Old Strathcona Youth Society  
Partners for Kids and Youth (PFKY)  
Sakaw School  
Shiloh Youth Ranch  
Spruce Avenue School  
St. Anne School  
St. Benedict School  
St. Joseph School  
St. Maria Goretti  
St. Nicholas School  
St. Teresa School  
Terra Association  
Tipaskan Elementary School  
Westlawn Junior High School  
Westmount School\*  
Youth Criminal Defense  
Youth Empowerment & Support Services  
Youth Unlimited\*  
YOUCAN  
YMCA Youth Transition Program (YTP)

### Emergency Shelters

Boyle McCauley Health Centre (BMHC)  
Downtown YMCA Housing  
Elizabeth House  
George Spady Centre  
Herb Jamieson Centre  
Hope Mission  
Inner City Youth Housing  
Today Family Violence Centre  
Urban Manor Housing Society

WIN House  
Women's Emergency Accommodation  
Centre (WEAC)  
Youth Empowerment & Support Services  
YMCA Transitional Housing

### Employment Assistance

Adaptabilities\*  
Bissell Employment Centre  
DECSA (Distinctive Employment  
Counselling Services of Alberta)  
EmployAbilities  
Metro Continuing Education  
On Site Placement Services Association  
Trade Winds To Success Training Society

### Family Violence

A Safe Place  
Changing Together: A Centre for Immigrant  
Women  
Crossroads Outreach  
DECSA (Distinctive Employment  
Counselling Services of Alberta)  
Edmonton John Howard Society  
Hope Mission  
Living Hope Christian Fellowship  
Lurana Shelter  
WIN House  
Women Moving Forward



### Food Depots and Hamper Programs

All Saints Lutheran  
Anawim Place  
Bannerman Drop-In Centre  
Bethel Christian Reformed Community  
Church  
Bible Pentecostal Church  
Boyle Street Community Services Co-op  
Boyle Street's North Star Apartments  
Bread Run Garneau  
Bread Run Millwoods  
Calder Seniors Drop-In Society  
Callingwood School  
Canavua  
Candora Society  
Centre d'accueil et d'établissement du  
Nord de l'Alberta  
Chalmers United Church\*  
City of Edmonton Community Services  
Collective Kitchens  
Community Options  
Creating Hope Society  
Crystal Kids Youth Centre  
Dayspring Presbyterian Church  
Edmonton Emergency Relief Services  
Society  
Edmonton's Food Bank Warehouse Two\*  
Elizabeth Fry Society of Edmonton  
Emmaus Lutheran Church  
First Church of the Nazarene  
First Presbyterian Church  
Fort Road Victory Church  
Freedom Centre Church (Clareview)  
Fusion Canada  
HAART House  
Holy Spirit Lutheran Church  
Holy Trinity Canadian Orthodox Church  
Holyrood Mennonite Centre  
Hosanna Lutheran Church  
iHuman Youth Society  
Inglewood Christian Reformed Church  
Inner City Pastoral Ministry  
Jasper Place Baptist Church  
Jasper Place Health and Wellness  
MacEwan University  
Maranatha Christian Reformed Church  
Marian Centre  
McClure United Church  
McDougall House Association  
Millwoods Pentecostal Assembly  
Millwoods United Church  
Mustard Seed Street Church  
NAIT Students Association (NAITSA)

## Partnering Agencies

Northeast Christian Fellowship\*  
PAR Foundation  
Pleasantview Church  
Pride Centre of Edmonton  
Project Adult Literacy Society (PALS)  
Prostitution Awareness & Action  
Foundation Edmonton (PAAFE)  
Red Road Healing Society  
Riverbend Lutheran Church  
Robertson Wesley United Church  
Rock Lutheran Inner-City Society  
Sacred Heart Church of the First Peoples  
St. Andrews Food Program  
St. Angela's Food Pantry  
St. Anthony's Parish  
St. Anthony's Ukrainian Orthodox Church  
St. Francis of Assisi Parish  
St. Herman's Orthodox Church  
St. John the Evangelist Parish  
St. John's Anglican Church Refugee  
Committee  
St. Joseph's High School\*  
St. Luke's Anglican Church  
St. Mary's Anglican Church  
St. Theresa's Roman Catholic Parish  
Salvation Army Castledowns  
Southminster-Steinhauer United Church  
The Grit Program  
The Neighbour Centre  
Trinity Lutheran Church  
Uncles and Aunts at Large Society  
Unitarian Church of Edmonton (UCOE)  
United Pentecostal Spanish Church Of The  
Name Of Jesus in Edmonton  
Urban Manor Housing Society  
WECAN Food Basket Society of Alberta  
West Edmonton Baptist Church  
Westlawn Junior High School  
YMCA Bill Rees

### Meal Programs

Amity House  
Bissell Centre  
Bernadette N. Swan Social Care  
Foundation (BNSSCF)  
Boyle Street Community Services Co-op  
Building Hope\*  
Candora Society of Edmonton  
Crystal Kids Youth Centre  
Edmonton Fathers House  
Emmaus Lutheran Church  
Hope Mission  
Inner City Pastoral Ministry

Jasper Place Health and Wellness  
(JPHAW)  
Living Hope Christian Fellowship  
Networks Activity Centre Society  
Red Road Healing Society  
Robertson Wesley United Church  
St. Faith's Anglican Church  
St. Gabriel Catholic School  
Salvation Army  
Unity Centre of Northeast Edmonton

### Newcomer/Immigrants Services

Action for Healthy Communities  
Africa Centre\*  
Catholic Social Services: Immigration  
Services  
Changing Together: A Centre for  
Immigrant Women  
Edmonton Immigrant Services  
Association (EISA)  
Edmonton Mennonite Centre for  
Newcomers (EMCN)  
Islamic Family & Social Services  
Multicultural Health Brokers  
United Pentecostal Church Spanish

### Seniors

Greater Edmonton Foundation Housing  
for Seniors  
Native Seniors Centre  
Operation Friendship Seniors Society  
Seniors Association of Greater Edmonton  
(SAGE)  
Seniors Outreach Network Society

*\*We would like to welcome these new  
Closed Hamper Agencies, Bulk Surplus  
Snack Agencies, and Depots who joined us  
in 2015!*





# 2015 Board of Directors

Edmonton’s Food Bank’s Board of Directors is a governance board. They are responsible for setting policies and providing oversight and leadership to Edmonton’s Food Bank.

**David I. Benjestorf, Chair**  
Legal Counsel and General Manager  
The Alldritt Group, Alberta

**Donald Langford, Director**  
Executive Director  
Metis Child and Family Services Society

**Sandra Neis, Vice-Chair**  
Manager, Strategic Workforce Planning  
Government of Alberta, Corporate Human  
Resource Department

**Jack Little, Director**  
Retired Businessman

**Kelvin Smith, Treasurer**  
Accountant  
Kelvin Smith Professional Corporation

**Jan Musani, Director**  
Property Manager  
Jaffer Properties Inc.

**Doug Hughes, Secretary**  
Partner  
Bishop & McKenzie LLP

**Jamie Post, Director**  
Communications and Membership Coordinator  
Alberta Disability Workers Association

**Pedro Carriel, Director**  
Director of Finance & Operations  
Art Gallery of Alberta

**Aisha Oboh, Director**  
Registered Social Worker  
Region 6 Child Youth and Family Services

**Sandeep Dhir, Director**  
Partner  
Field LLP

**Bob Story, Director**  
Senior Project Manager  
BOLD Development

**Megan Koper, Director**  
Corporate Counsel  
Almita Piling



On December 22, 2015, Board member and Food Bank Friend, Cheryl Nattrass passed away. It was Cheryl’s passion and commitment to governance that lead Edmonton’s Food Bank through the process of being accredited by Imagine Canada. Cheryl was loved by all who had the pleasure of meeting her. Her smile, kindness, and exceptional skills are missed by all!

**Executive Director** - Marjorie Bencz, CM

**Director of Operations** - Mark Doram

**Info/Agency Services Coordinator** - Walter Dong  
**Volunteer Coordinator** - Sonia Singh  
**Food Hub Coordinator** - Judy Yawney  
**New Programs Initiatives** - David Berger

**Administration Team**  
Suedelle Baudais  
Melanie Brule  
Zelda Quinney  
Lorne Serink  
Mindy Tang

**Manager of Strategic Relationships & Partnerships**  
Tamisan Bencz-Knight  
**Resource Development Team**  
Sarah Côté  
Doug Hunter  
Susan Padget  
Sarah Rebryna

**Client Services Supervisor** - Tracey Gilchrist  
**Client Services Team**  
Joanne Buchynski  
Laurel Compagnon  
Richard Levenick  
Cathy Steeves

“Choose a job you love, and you will never  
have to work a day in your life.” Confucius

**Hamperline Coordinator** - Vince Sinatynski  
**Hamperline Team**  
Joaquin Kenyon  
Ron Locke  
Karen Mitchell

**Warehouse Coordinator** - Noli Canete  
**Shipper/Receiver** - Randy Niederhaus  
**Warehouse Team**  
John Akut Aweit  
Norman Coons  
Kurt Devolder  
Ronjay Ferrer  
Samuel Gebremedhin  
Moses Loboka  
Trevor McDonald  
David Pert  
Dan Quist  
El Cecelio Rivera  
Jose Velasquez



Thanks to our donors Real Canadian Superstore (Loblaw), Food Banks Canada, Sikh Community of Edmonton, and ThinkTank for the amazing new truck!





Let's Connect!

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