



EDMONTON'S  
FOODBANK

2017  
ANNUAL REPORT

# MESSAGE FROM BOARD CHAIR & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

2016 was a whirlwind of a year! In addition to the downturn in the economy and serving more people in need, Edmonton's Food Bank deployed food and other services within hours of the Fort McMurray evacuation. As we entered 2017, we believed the worst of the economic downturn was over and we would be helping fewer people. How wrong this prediction was! The numbers continued to increase.

In response to this unprecedented demand on our services, we launched Beyond Food (Learning Lab). Beyond Food exists because of the leadership and co-operation of community partners: Boyle Street Community Services, The Learning Centre, Edmonton Mennonite Centre for Newcomers, Bissell Centre, BGS Enterprises, the City of Edmonton and Canadian Mental Health Association. Services at Beyond Food include free safety tickets such as construction & first aid, resume development, job interview practice, budgeting support and one-on-one support. While Edmonton's Food Bank continues to do an excellent job with food programs, these organizations are able to provide core services to help people towards independence. By offering programs like Beyond Food in partnership with such community groups the Food Bank is helping to find solutions to the problem of hunger.

Although the hustle and bustle of 2017 is now a memory, we would be remiss if we did not recognize the amazing contribution made by our volunteers and staff to help us feed hungry Edmontonians. We are proud to share that in 2017, our volunteers contributed 85,126 hours to the organization. Our volunteers and staff make it possible to coordinate over 2,200 annual fundraising events, collect, sort, repackage and redistribute approximately 4 million kilograms of food per year, provide nearly 500,000 meals and snacks every month through affiliated agencies, including 59 schools, and serve over 22,000 people each month through our hamper programs. We are grateful for the generosity of our supporters, for without your kindness we would not be able to assist those who rely on our services.

Presented by the Board of Directors, Edmonton's Food Bank proudly unveiled our new list of values which govern the manner in which we interact with each other, stakeholders and the greater community. Our values are the things that we believe are important in the way that we operate. These values are: Service, Commitment, Responsiveness, Innovation, Integrity and Fairness.

At Edmonton's Food Bank, we look forward to meeting the challenges that 2018 will bring. While uncertainty exists surrounding the economy, the job market, cost of living, food expenses and other factors, we are confident in our ability to support our neighbors in need. It is because of your support through food, funds and friendship that we are able to take on the challenge.

Thank you for your continued support!

Marjorie Bencz, CM  
Executive Director

Doug Hughes  
Board Chair



# EDMONTON'S FOOD BANK

The Edmonton Gleaners Association, more commonly known as Edmonton's Food Bank, was incorporated in 1981 and was the first Food Bank in Canada. Edmonton's Food Bank primarily operates as a central warehouse distributing food to over 250 agencies, churches, schools, and food depots throughout the city to support their programs. Thanks to this consolidated effort, we ensure that food donations go directly to those who need it the most. Since September 2014, Edmonton's Food Bank has seen a remarkable increase in need within our community. Our hamper program recipients have risen to over 22,000 people per month and our meal and snack programs have increased to nearly 500,000 meals and snacks each month. Over 40% of our clients are children under the age of 18. As the city changes, so do we. In our 35 years of operation, Edmonton's Food Bank has evolved into a very efficient and very passionate group dedicated to eliminating the hunger problem in our city.

## ► 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.



## MAIN WAREHOUSE

Edmonton's Food Bank was a hub of activity in 2017. Through the efforts of our valued volunteers and staff, it was a powerhouse of collecting, sorting, repackaging, and redistributing. More than 4 million kilograms (8,818,490 lbs) of food with a value of approximately \$22,175,000 has come and gone through our doors. It is important to keep in mind that approximately 60%-80% of the food that we distribute is gleaned from the Retail Food Program and Food Industry Partners.

Food donations go to one of our multiple programs to support our community and ensure food is equitably distributed. Our programs are designed to meet the needs of the general community as well as unique groups, such as, pork free, diabetic and celiac friendly. Additionally, we glean perishable and non-perishable foods from various types of food establishments in the community.

### ► Hamper Programs

Established in 1985 as a means to increase the accessibility of services for our clients, our hampers are distributed at an ever-increasing number of food depots throughout Edmonton. Assembled in our warehouse, a hamper is a box of food that consists of perishable and non-perishable food products, the majority of which are gleaned from the food industry. Each hamper is assembled according to the number of individuals it is intended to feed (i.e. the number of adults, children, and infants in the household). Clients may request accommodation for special dietary needs (i.e. celiac, diabetic, vegetarian, etc.) or request additional resources such as pet food, school snack items, and toiletries, when available.

### ► Agency Partnerships

We are fortunate to work with many agencies and other non-profit organizations to provide meals and snacks in our community. These services include breakfast and meal programs, based on our partners' capabilities and the needs of their clients. Each month, we work with our partners to distribute nearly 500,000 meals and snacks. This collaborative effort to reduce hunger in our community is inspiring and appreciated.

### ► School Snack Programs

Edmonton's Food Bank provided 59 schools with approximately 32,266 nutritious snacks per week as part of our School Snack Program in 2017. Edmonton's Food Bank is committed to providing a variety of healthy snack items for children. We target-purchase snacks that are found on Alberta Health Services' single serving list in accordance with the Alberta Nutrition Guidelines for Children and Youth, such as low sodium and no sugar added choices.



## The Retail Food Program

# GLEANNING

Many are not aware that Edmonton's Food Bank began as a gleaning operation collecting surplus food from Edmonton's food industry for people in need.

This food is considered surplus (or waste) for a variety of reasons including packaging changes, damaged exterior packaging, and over shipment or overstocking by the store. Today gleaning is captured in our Retail Food Program and it remains a vital part of our services with approximately 80% of the food we distribute coming from the food industry. By including both non-perishable and perishable foods (including fresh fruit, vegetables, dairy products, and bread) this program helps us provide a greater variety of food to more people while reducing the impact of unnecessary waste in our landfill.

Edmonton's Food Bank is partnered with several corporate retail food donors, including: Safeway, Sobeys, IGA, Save On Foods, Co-op, Sysco, Walmart, MacDonald's Consolidated, Superstore, No Frills, Blush Lane Organic, Organic Box, The Grocery People, Planet Organic, London Drugs, Edmonton Potato Growers, Little Potato Company, Saputo, Spectrum, VersaCold, Wallace and Carey, TCL Supply Chain Inc., Excel Logistics, J&S Food Service, Agro/Lucerne, Trans-X, and Stericycle.

## How We Build

# FOOD HAMPERS



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



► Items added next vary depending on available food products that have been donated or gleaned from the food industry, including fresh produce, yogurt, cereals, baked goods, etc.



► Edmonton's Food Bank often receives donated food in bulk quantities. Food Bank volunteers repackage these items into individual or family sized portions, which are then added to the hampers.



► Included in every hamper are fresh eggs. Edmonton's Food Bank purchases these eggs in bulk and volunteers repackage them by the dozen into donated egg cartons. The egg bill for 2017 was a staggering \$228,974 for 106,560 dozen eggs.

Keeping Our Perishables Cool

## WALK-IN COOLER & FREEZER

With the increased need for our services, additional cooler and freezer storage is essential. A new 13 foot cooler and modifications to refurbish an old cooler into a freezer began December 2015 and by mid-January 2016, both were fully operational. Special thanks to the Edmonton Community Foundation and the Stollery Charitable Foundation for helping us complete this monumental addition to our services.



Walmart Foundation & Food Banks Canada

## NEW TRUCK

Thanks to the Walmart Foundation, Walmart Canada, Food Banks Canada and our anonymous donors for the newest addition to our fleet: a 1-ton refrigerated truck to support our gleaning program (Retail Food Program).



## BRAD SHAW AND FAMILY

donated over \$10 million to Alberta Charities

In December of 2015, Brad Shaw, CEO of Shaw Communications, and his family announced substantial personal donations to six Alberta Charities. The Shaw family's 10 year commitment to donate \$300,000 annually to Edmonton's Food Bank increased our ability to purchase child-focused and healthy foods.

*"We understand that the current circumstances facing our communities are particularly difficult, and my family and I will be committing a total of \$10 million to causes and organizations that make a difference to the health of our province", Mr. Shaw said. This business leader and philanthropist said, "My family and I are honoured to support the good work of our province's charities."*

## JIM SHAW, FORMER CEO

of Shaw Communications

Given our relationship with the Shaw Family, it is important that we acknowledge the passing of Jim Shaw. Jim Shaw joined the company his father founded, Shaw Communications, as a cable installer and eventually became CEO, helping grow the company's revenue from \$646 million to \$3.7 billion during his tenure. During his time with the company, he was involved in launching its foray into the internet, digital cable and its purchase of 11 radio stations and seven TV channels from Rogers. He was also known for his philanthropic work across Canada.

We have been well supported by the Shaw Family and are truly saddened by Jim's passing. We would like to extend our sincere condolences to Jim's family, friends and to everyone at Shaw.

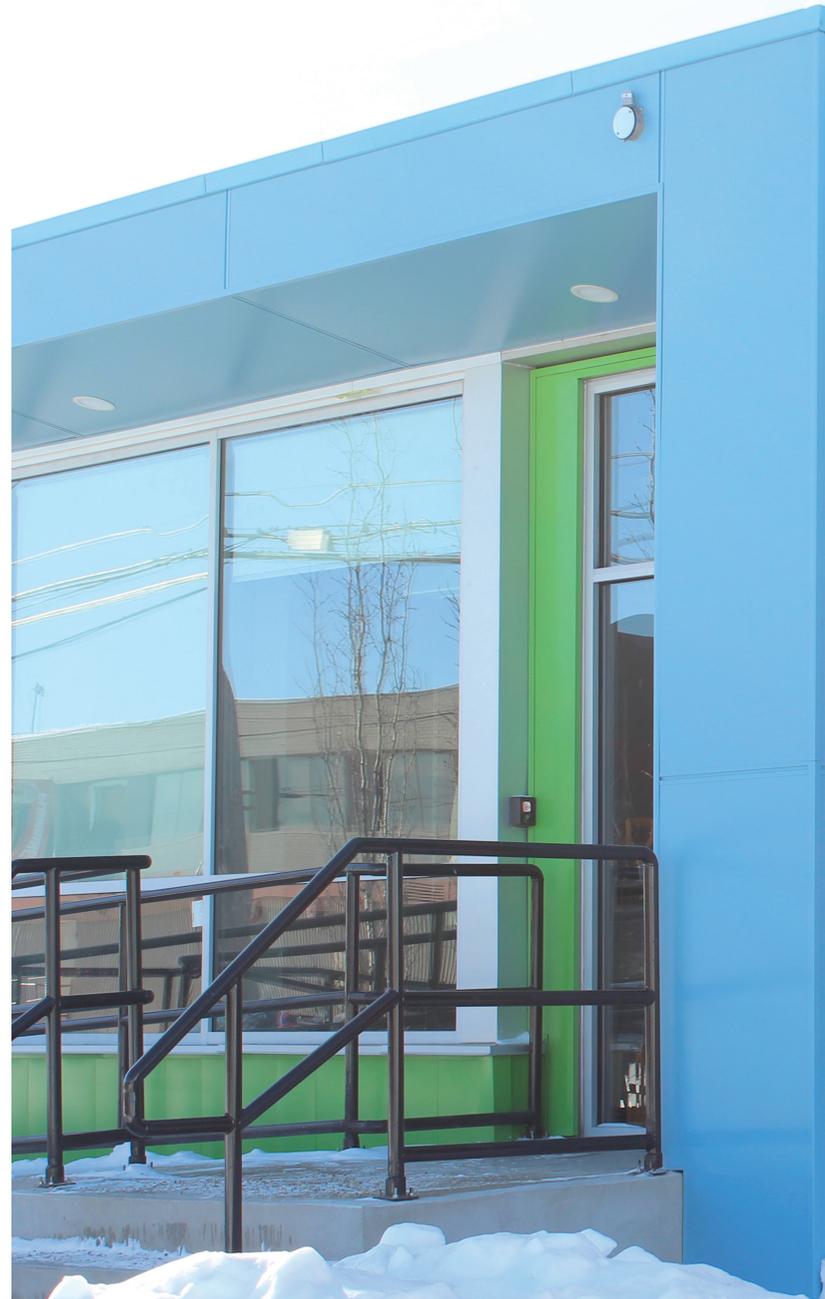


## THE ANNEX

With a staggering 64.4% increase in the use of our services since 2013, Edmonton's Food Bank found we were quickly running out of space. The Annex played a key role in enabling Edmonton's Food Bank to grow to meet the pressing demands on our services. Purchased in 2014, Edmonton's Food Bank Annex is located two doors south of our main warehouse. When Dean Hengel of Hockey Edmonton remarked that calling the new space "Warehouse 2" didn't properly describe the beautifully renovated building, and that it was more of an "Annex" of the main Food Bank, the name stuck.

Our pride in the Annex begins with the design of the exterior which was completed by Landscape Architect, Ryan Doram. The green space, mulch flower beds, native grasses and trees that surround the building contribute to the welcoming environment of the Annex.

Initially the building was used as dry food storage, but renovations completed with the help of HIBCO Construction evolved the Annex into the beautiful office and meeting space it is today. The Annex is a space that hosts Food Bank volunteer orientations, operates a Saturday food depot and provides office space for WECAN Food Basket Society. In the Annex a variety of classes and workshops are available through a new program rightly named "Beyond Food". Also, our Resource Development and Client Services departments call the space home and non-profits, schools and other organizations are encouraged to hold meetings, information sessions, and seminars in what is truly a community centre.



A new program that goes

## BEYOND FOOD

Beyond Food is a new community partnership initiated by Edmonton's Food Bank that brings together the strengths of five community agencies and the City of Edmonton to offer a range of services that are helping Edmontonians survive the economic downturn.

Beyond Food opened its doors mid-November 2017 at Edmonton's Food Bank Annex building at 11434 – 120 Street. Available services include resume preparation, job interview practice, job search assistance and help securing safety tickets.

The partners include Boyle Street Community Services, Bissell Centre, Canadian Mental Health Association, City of Edmonton, Edmonton Mennonite Centre for Newcomers and The Learning Centre.

In addition to employment readiness services, Beyond Food offers English and Math upgrading, budgeting advice, personal counselling and information about affordable housing.

Since its opening, about 80 community members have used the free service. The program works on a drop-in basis and is available without an appointment, Monday to Friday from 9 am to 4 pm.

Says Marjorie Bencz, "There is more work for us to do to connect with city employers and expand our staffing resources, but we have had a good start and look forward to addressing the unmet needs of the people we serve."



Canadian Pride

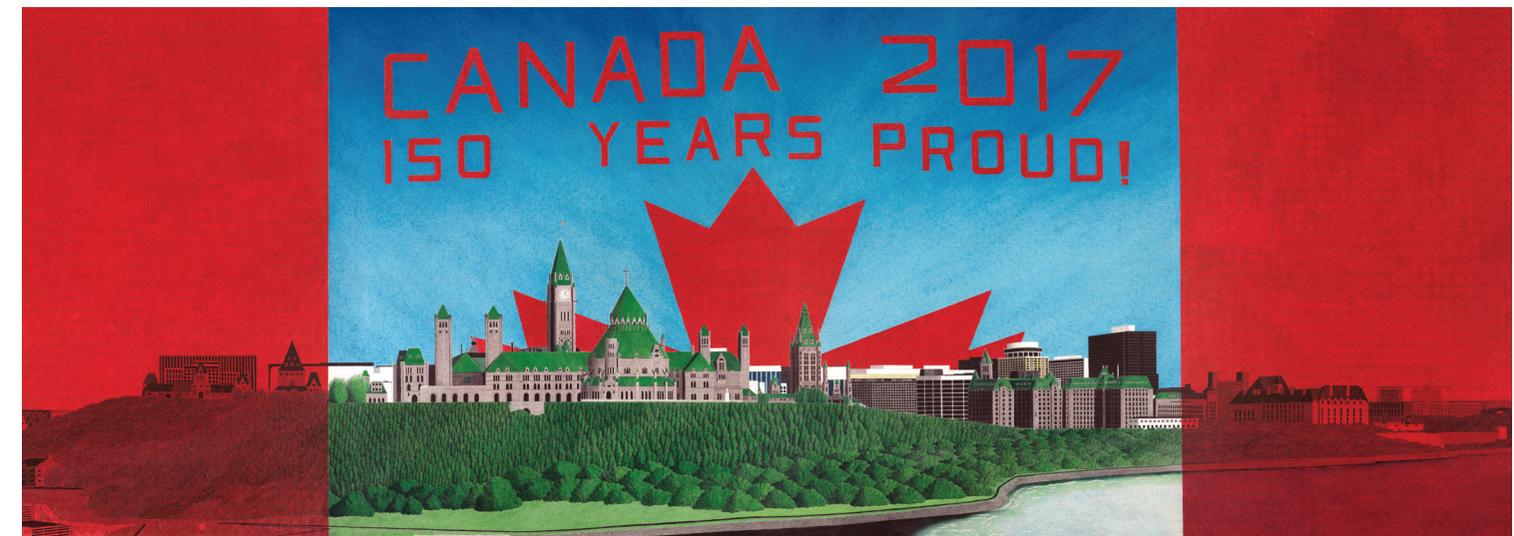
## TED FLOWER

Raised west of Edmonton in rural Alberta, Ted Flower started creating art with ballpoint pens at the age of 12. As money was scarce, Mr. Flower was unable to access any formal training to develop his unique interest and skill. However, despite lacking formal training, Ted diligently refined his skill, setting aside whatever time he could spare to work on his art. Ted Flower's "Canadian Pride" will create a lasting legacy of the artist's role in celebrating Canada's 150<sup>th</sup> birthday. It is through his determination and passion that Edmontonians and people from all around the world get to take in the incredible piece.

Mr. Flower generously donated the sale and any reproductions of "Canadian Pride" to Edmonton's Food Bank to help in their effort to ensure that individuals and families have access to nutritious and appropriate food in an atmosphere of dignity and respect.

"Canadian Pride" took Mr. Flower five-and-a-half years to complete (3,712 hours), using 115 ballpoint pens. It was on display in the Edmonton, Calgary and Ottawa Airports in 2017 and was returned to hang at the Edmonton International Airport by the international baggage carousels (January 2018).

Special thanks to Her Honour, the Honourable Lois E. Mitchell, CM, AOE, LLD; Tom Ruth, President and CEO, Edmonton International Airport and the amazing E.I.A. staff; Len Rhodes, President and CEO, Edmonton Eskimos; Karen White, Director, Corporate Communications, Purolator; and Dave Mowat of ATB Financial.





These are the people we help

## CLIENT STORIES

In 2017, Edmonton's Food Bank helped 64,080 people through our hamper programs. Edmonton's Food Bank is here to help during a particularly difficult month or for a longer time frame. It's important to remember that these people in need are our neighbours, elders, classmates, co-workers and children. Because of the generous support from our community, we are able to help our neighbours in need.

A week before Christmas an elderly woman contacted Edmonton's Food Bank. She was concerned that someone had fraudulently used her name to access the Food Bank and feared that she would be denied food when she needed it most. The volunteer assisting her ensured her that she would be getting a food hamper. During the intake process, the volunteer mentioned that the woman would also receive a ham and a few other festive trimmings for Christmas. After a pause, it was apparent that the woman had started to cry. She was so grateful for the festive hamper and the added treats helped make her Christmas a bit brighter.

Deborah is a single woman in Edmonton who lost her job early in 2017. She had enough money from EI to pay her rent, utilities, and transportation; however, little was left over for groceries. Instead of choosing to forgo bus tickets to get to job interviews, she contacted Edmonton's Food Bank for help. Deborah has recently called to let us know she secured a full time job, and to say how thankful she was for the food provided to her over the past year. Thanks to donations like yours, we were able to help Deborah.

A young mother of two boys called requesting a food hamper at the beginning of December. This family had just lost their home to a fire and didn't have adequate insurance. Struggling to make ends meet, the young mother who had just lost everything, feared she wouldn't have much of a Christmas for her boys; however, with the food and small gifts our volunteers were able to find, she was able to provide something special for them. She was very grateful and repeated "Thank you" over and over. Because of your gift, this family is feeling supported and hopeful during their difficult time.

A young father of two was injured in a car accident. With a broken neck, he's been unable to work at his job as a crane operator. As a result, he had to access the Food Bank several times until insurance money arrived. Receiving a food hamper relieved a lot of this father's stress and anxiety around providing food for his children. "A little food can go a long way", he says.

When offered a turkey at Christmas, Krystan said, "That's so kind! Thank you. My kids would love a turkey! Thank you for all the hard work you put in each day helping people like my family. The holidays are a hard time for many, and you help to make it better for them. Thank you!"

"Thank you for everything! We got green beans and even though the kids did not like them, we have put them in almost everything except cereal and ice cream. We have gotten onions and tomatoes – lots of them, and froze them." Because of your donations, we were able to help Jai and her family.

Just before Christmas a young lady called the Food Bank in tears. Her husband kicked her and their three children out of the house with only the clothes on their backs. When she contacted the Food Bank, we told her to come in as soon as possible. Along with a food hamper, the Food Bank was able to provide her with several different resource numbers to contact for assistance with shelter, clothes and support. Thanks to your donations this family received some comfort during a very challenging time.

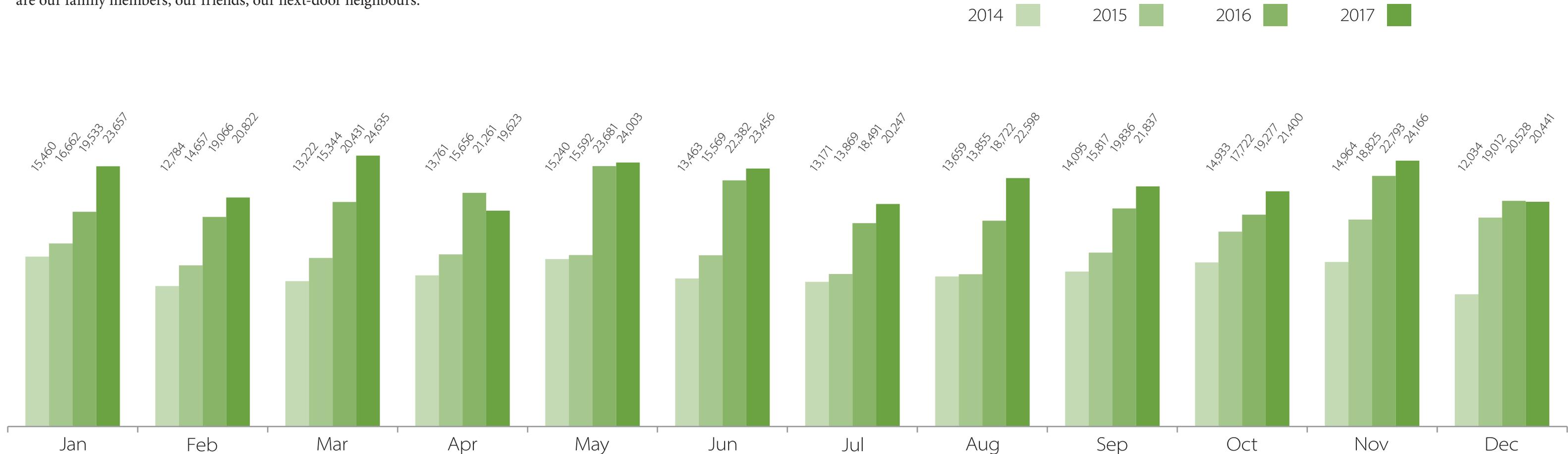
## INCREASING NUMBERS

Edmonton's Food Bank was founded, and continues to operate, as a short-term solution providing food services for individuals and families in need. Sadly, food insecurity continues to rise in our community; however, Edmonton's Food Bank has been weathering the increase since September 2014 thanks to the help of many dedicated supporters and volunteers.

Our clients come from all walks of life, such as seniors on fixed incomes, working families, individuals on disability, new Canadians, students, the homeless, and children under 18, who represent approximately 40% of our clients. These are our family members, our friends, our next-door neighbours.

## ABOUT THE GRAPH

The graph below represents a per-month, 4-year comparison of the number of people in need accessing our services. **These numbers are representative of our hamper programs only** and do not include any data from our meal and snack programs.



Thank you to all our  
**VOLUNTEERS**

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Without our volunteers, there would be no Food Bank. Volunteers make it possible for us to fulfill our mission as they collect food and monetary donations at various community events throughout the year, build hampers, sort and repack food, drive and swamp on our trucks, and take calls from people needing food. Beyond all that, volunteers are our ambassadors helping to engage the community in the work of Edmonton's Food Bank. Volunteers are the heart and soul of our organization.

Thank you to our volunteers who donated an astounding 85,126.5 hours in 2017. Their work makes Edmonton a better community for all. We are truly grateful for all you do!

Retirement from Client Services  
**JOANNE BUCHYNSKI**

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Joanne Buchynski started at Edmonton's Food Bank in February of 2003 in Administration and Client Services. Joanne is dependable, conscientious and professional. She is accurate and detailed and very self-motivated.

Over the years, Joanne welcomed and trained many volunteers in Client Services. Her role included taking calls from people needing food services, entering client information into our database, training and supporting volunteers, and updating referral information. She provided coverage when her supervisor or others were away.

Joanne retired in July 2017 and we wish her continued success on the next chapter of her life.





## Volunteer Profile

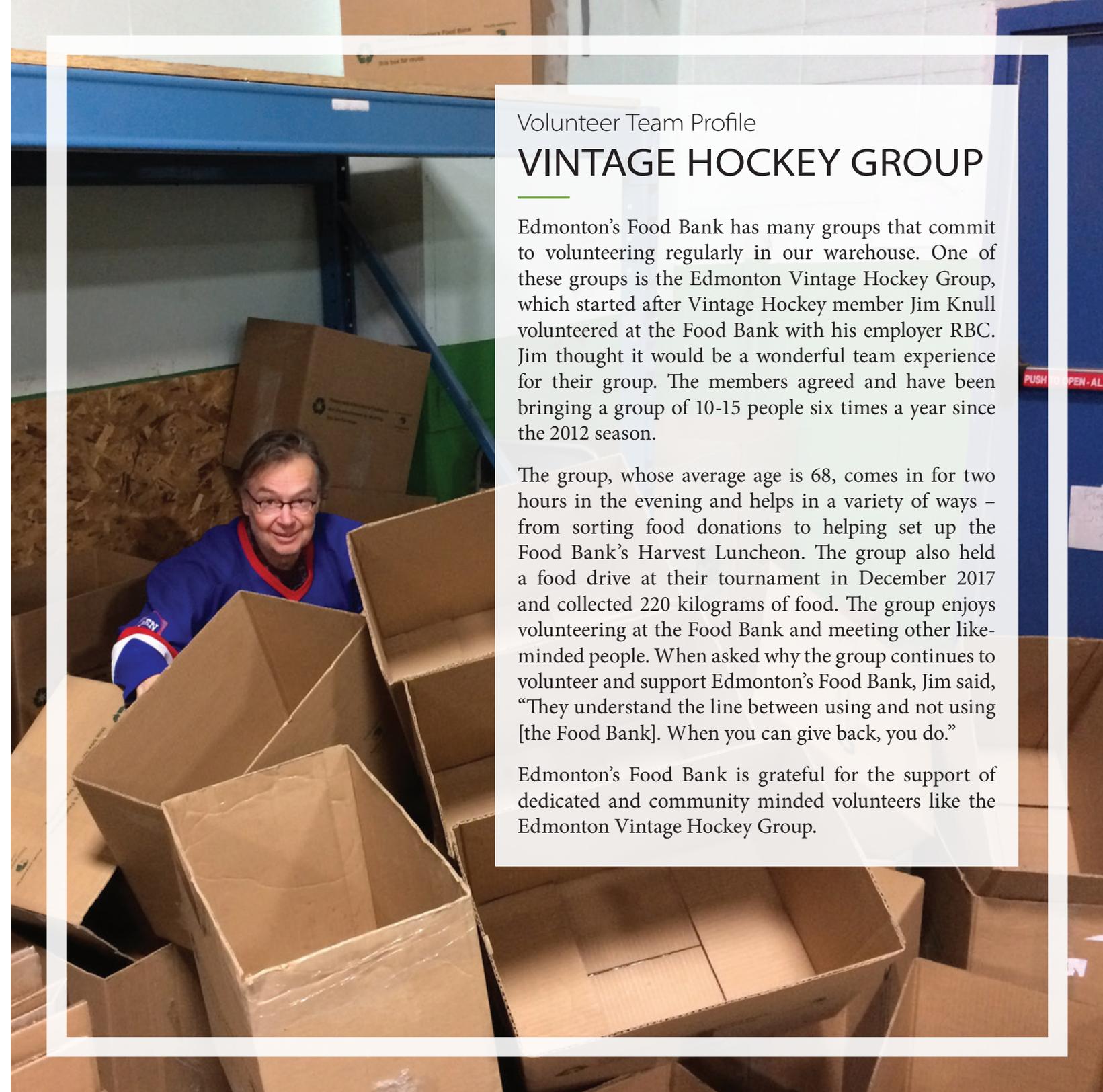
# MARGARET FRENCH

Edmonton's Food Bank is lucky to have many volunteers who see lending a hand to help those in need as integral to their lives. One such person is Margaret French, a Client Services volunteer. "It makes me feel like I'm contributing," says the retiree, of her role helping clients get food hampers.

Margaret began volunteering with the Food Bank three years ago and now spends two to four hours each weekday looking after online hamper orders. The Food Bank now gets between 30 and 50 online hamper orders each weekday. Margaret goes through about 40 requests per shift, checking to make sure client information matches our records, matching clients with a hamper depot in their neighbourhood and sending out an offer to have a hamper ready for them to pick up. She is a dedicated volunteer who sees volunteering as a wonderful way to spend her time during retirement. "It gives me structure," she says, adding with a laugh, "I always said I'd get a job at Timmies for the coffee but they have coffee here."

Margaret says the fact that she is still volunteering with the Food Bank is a testament to the staff who she finds very supportive. It is something she has not experienced as a volunteer with some other organizations. When she comes in to the Food Bank she is treated like one of the staff, joking and laughing along with her colleagues. When asked what she would tell people about volunteering for the Food Bank she says, "There are so many areas to volunteer in and it feels good."

Edmonton's Food Bank is lucky to have volunteers like Margaret who see helping others as an important and fulfilling way to spend their time.



## Volunteer Team Profile

# VINTAGE HOCKEY GROUP

Edmonton's Food Bank has many groups that commit to volunteering regularly in our warehouse. One of these groups is the Edmonton Vintage Hockey Group, which started after Vintage Hockey member Jim Knull volunteered at the Food Bank with his employer RBC. Jim thought it would be a wonderful team experience for their group. The members agreed and have been bringing a group of 10-15 people six times a year since the 2012 season.

The group, whose average age is 68, comes in for two hours in the evening and helps in a variety of ways – from sorting food donations to helping set up the Food Bank's Harvest Luncheon. The group also held a food drive at their tournament in December 2017 and collected 220 kilograms of food. The group enjoys volunteering at the Food Bank and meeting other like-minded people. When asked why the group continues to volunteer and support Edmonton's Food Bank, Jim said, "They understand the line between using and not using [the Food Bank]. When you can give back, you do."

Edmonton's Food Bank is grateful for the support of dedicated and community minded volunteers like the Edmonton Vintage Hockey Group.



## We jump for joy over our SPECIAL EVENTS

On the following pages are some of the community events and food drives that supported Edmonton's Food Bank in 2017. Every year, the Food Bank benefits from the generosity of countless individuals who organize events and food drives to help those in need in our city.

Around Edmonton groups of people gather throughout the year to find ways to help their neighbours in need. These individuals include children donating money or collecting food at their birthday party, office workers challenging their coworkers to fill an office with food, and business owners who find creative ways to raise funds. The Food Bank has always benefitted from the grass roots support of individuals, groups and companies looking to make life better for their neighbours in need. The generous spirit of these Edmontonians shines through with their donations of time, skill, food and funds.

To the organizers and participants of all the events held to benefit our work, the Food Bank says thank you!

© Stan Mah

## Here are highlights of SPECIAL EVENTS

Due to space limitations, we are unable to list all the great events and supporters who assisted us over the year. We would like to express our deepest appreciation to all the Hunger Heroes we are unable to mention.



### Red Hat Co-operative GROWERS GIVE BACK

In 2017 southern Alberta's Red Hat Co-operative supported food banks in a big way by developing the "Growers Give Back Pack". Across western Canada for each pack sold at Sobeys, Safeway and IGA one was donated to the local food bank. The packs were filled with tomatoes, bell peppers and cucumbers, all grown in the 180 acres of greenhouses belonging to Co-operative members. By the end of the campaign Edmonton's Food Bank received 113,399 kilograms of fresh Alberta grown produce.



### Holiday Giving CBC TURKEY DRIVE

The CBC Turkey Drive has helped Edmonton's Food Bank make the holiday season hunger free for thousands in our community since 1995. Thanks to the generous donations of CBC listeners, the 2017 CBC Turkey Drive raised \$556,199. We were able to supply agencies with over 2050 turkeys and ingredients to provide over 19,300 people with festive meals. Additionally, we are able to add turkeys or hams to hampers for individuals and families over the holiday season. The continued success of this event is owed to the year-round efforts of the amazing group of volunteers who help with promotions and share stories of the impact that a donated turkey has – stories of hope.



## SERVUS HERITAGE FESTIVAL

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Edmonton is a city brimming with cultural diversity, as it is home to people from all around the world. Every August, Edmontonians gather in William Hawrelak Park over the three-day-long Heritage Festival weekend to celebrate this diversity, indulging in all the fascinating aromas, tastes, and sounds that the Servus Heritage Festival has to offer.

Each year as we celebrate this diversity, Edmonton's Food Bank is humbled by the continual outpouring of compassion by the community, irrespective of race or ethnicity. Hunger does not discriminate and thankfully neither does the willingness of so many wonderful Edmontonians and visitors to feed those in need.

Thanks to the generosity of our countless volunteers and donors, an amazing 60,844 kilograms of food, \$37,000 in unused food tickets, and \$62,838 in monetary donations were raised during the 2017 Servus Heritage Festival.

Says Marjorie Bencz, "Servus Credit Union are dedicated and active supporters of Edmonton's Food Bank assisting us behind the scenes with our promotional needs, in addition, to supporting us on the front lines at the Festival with their volunteers."



## PUNJABI MEDIA & SIKH COMMUNITY

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Whether it is for Parkash Purb or Vaisakhi, the Sikh community and Punjabi media in Edmonton never forget about Edmonton's Food Bank and helping those who are struggling.

Sharing with those in need is a key aspect of Sikhism. Sikhs believe that nobody should go to bed hungry and that each and every person on earth should be fed. Our local Punjabi media annually participates in the Food Bank radio-a-thon and continues to share ways to help.

On December 17, 2017, the Sikh community and Punjabi media of Edmonton were introduced by MLA Rod Loyola and recognized at the Legislature.

Thank you to Gurdwara Millwoods, Gurdwara Siri Guru Singh Sabha, Siri Guru Nank Sikh Gurdwara, Nanaksar Gurdwara, Vaisakhi Nagar Kirtan Committee, Radio Desh Punjab, Radio South Asia, and Radio Sursangam.



## CAPITAL POWER PRESENTS THE MAGICAL CHRISTMAS MUSIC GALA

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Edmonton's Food Bank was proud to host the Magical Christmas Music Gala presented by Capital Power, featuring Tom Jackson and his "Christmas 150 Show". The show, performed in the spirit of the Huron Carole, was inspired by Canada on her 150<sup>th</sup> Birthday. The evening was uplifting, with guests enjoying stories of joy and promise along with friendly conversation and laughter.

Special thanks to Gene Zwozdesky, Brian Vaasjo and John Chomiak for their efforts to make the sold out event a success. It is because of the open hearts and generous nature of our many friends and sponsors that the event raised \$94,021.41 for Edmonton's Food Bank. Join us December 11, 2018 to enjoy the 2018 Magical Christmas Music Gala.



## BIRDS OF A FEATHER

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In gratitude to Edmonton's Food Bank for providing meals and snacks to their students, this collaborative, travelling art project began with sketches based on the traditional Lenape legend "Rainbow Crow", created by kindergarten students at Florence Hallock School. From there the art arrived at Grade 4 classes at Lago Lindo School and Major-General Griesbach School where students added underpaintings and details using watercolours.

The art pieces then traveled to Grade 8 and 9 classes at Dickinsfield Jr. High School where block painting in acrylic was added. The final destination for each painting was Art class at Queen Elizabeth High School. These students added shading, texture and dimension, while Language Arts students contributed poetry in several different languages. The students published a book featuring these truly collaborative pieces of art and raised \$1,266.20 in support of Edmonton's Food Bank.



## Sherwood Park Toyota PEDAL POWER

Sherwood Park Toyota helped raise 225,000 meals through their 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Pedal Power event. 54 bike riders took part in a 24 hour relay raising \$75,000. Thanks to the two Food Bank teams, donors and moral boosters. Special thanks to Spinunity and Park Paving for their support with riders and matching funds.



## Help End Summer Hunger EVERY PLATE FULL

Food banks across Canada come together to participate in Every Plate Full. The goal is to fill the plates of every hungry Canadian over the summer months. This national campaign unites Canadians to make a difference and help end summer hunger.



## Snow Valley FOOD BANK FRIDAYS

Since 2009, the Snow Valley Ski Club has hosted Food Bank Fridays. This event invites Edmontonians to donate non-perishable food and then hit the slopes from 3 pm to 9 pm for just \$10. In 2017, Food Bank Friday skiers and snowboarders helped raise 4,244 kilograms of food for Edmonton's Food Bank.



## Citadel Theatre A CHRISTMAS CAROL

For 17 years, A Christmas Carol has been collecting on behalf of Edmonton's Food Bank by "asking" their patrons outside after the show. An astounding \$69,637.94 and 52 kilograms of food was donated with the continued support of Capital Power matching \$20,000.



## GIVE 30

Everyone, regardless of faith, can donate to the Give 30 Campaign during Ramadan. Some tally up their lunch and coffee money saved during the month. Others, if not fasting, bring brown bag lunches and give the money saved through this. In 2017, \$36,246 was raised through Edmontonians and Assiff Law Office.



## SCOTCH CLUB

The Scotch Club Yeg's Second Annual #DRAMS4FAMS brought together 80 charity minded individuals in May 2017. The scotch tasting evening was a resounding success, raising \$15,225, to help Edmonton's Food Bank provide food resources for families and children.



## HARVEST LUNCHEON

Our annual fundraising luncheon included a casual meal, live auction, can lottery and Ian O'Donnell of the Downtown Business Association as our guest speaker. Guests had an opportunity to chat with staff, volunteers and fellow supporters in a fun and informal lunch setting that raised an impressive \$14,316.



## AMA

AMA and their members support Edmonton's Food Bank with three different events throughout the year, including Spring's Shred-It!, the Edmonton School Safety Patrol Appreciation party, and the Fill-Our-Fleet campaign. Over 4,000 kilograms of food and \$28,000 was raised in 2017!



Knights of Columbus  
\$2,000 & 114 kg



Assiff Law Office  
Part of Give 30  
\$30,030.30



Firma Foreign Exchange Corporation  
\$3,827.75 & 579 kg



Christmas Bow  
Blues on Whyte  
\$5,755.75 & 395 kg



Rosenau's  
18 Wheels of Christmas  
\$16,744 & 3,751 kg



Canadian Progress Club:  
Canstruction Edmonton  
5,473 kg



Can Man Dan Campouts  
\$5,478.35 & 17,702 kg



Sobeys and Safeway  
Can Man Dan  
\$53,937



Candy Cane Lane  
19,981 kg



Ledcor Group  
\$13,542.40 & 156 kg



Edmonton Valley Zoo  
\$2,846.80 & 250 kg



Enterprise Holdings Foundation  
\$25,000



Fountain Tire Yellowhead  
1,034 kg



Edo Japan  
\$13,186.67 & 623 kg



Turkeys on the Trail  
\$5,291 & 1,128 kg



Mani Bagga & Associates  
600 Hamper Starters  
1,500 kg



Grant Thornton LLP  
\$15,000



Mayfield Dinner Theatre  
Toonies for Turkeys  
\$26,427.70



City TV & Home Depot Tree Sale  
\$4,830 & 35 kg



The Little Potato Company  
148,751 kg



Edmonton Potato Growers  
10,081 kg



Alberta Milk  
\$4,084.99



Enbridge  
\$55,262



A&J Driving School  
\$500 & 893 kg



Ahmadiyya Muslim Jamaat  
\$1,000 & 530 kg



Kal Tire  
\$5,000



ETS Stuff a Bus  
\$19,098 & 29,823 kg



LDS City Wide Door to Door  
100,312 kg



Walmart  
Fight Hunger. Spark Change.  
\$56,646 & 2,629 kg



Stream-Flo  
\$5,000



Sikh Community of Edmonton:  
Vaisakhi Parade & ETS Bus Drivers  
\$870 & 975 kg



Guru Nanak Dev Ji Day  
\$31,799



The Grocery People  
\$4,500



Edmonton Symphony Orchestra  
\$31,235.86



Paramount Fine Foods  
\$10,000



Smiles Dental Group  
Halloween Candy Buy Back  
\$5,367



Loblaws National Food Drives  
\$80,796.57 & 13,073 kg



McDougall New Year's Eve  
\$3,977 & 295 kg



Hike for Plenty  
\$4,021 & 7,817 kg



BLISS BAKED GOODS  
"Fresh Baked Fun for Everyone"



# THANK YOU

for the support that we receive from our volunteers, partners, and donors.



Investors Group  
\$8,060 & 1,966 kg



Pick-n-Pull Edmonton  
\$10,530.46



Purolator Tackle Hunger  
\$57,855 & 64,022 kg



Edmonton Chinese Lions Club  
100 Tins for 100 Years  
\$3,275



Morrison Homes BBQ  
\$5,610 & 1,949 kg



Alberta's Canola Growers  
1,188 bottles of canola oil



Food Depot Highlight

## FREEDOM CENTRE

“A place where the community gives back to itself,” is how Pam Beaver describes the food hamper depot at Freedom Centre Church. Every Wednesday morning 10-20 volunteers from the community gather to create a welcoming place for Food Bank clients to pick up their food resources. They have been doing so for over 17 years.

For Pam, who is a church member and the depot Director, it is a family affair with her father, son, daughter and now grandson all helping at the depot. Most of the other volunteers, however, are not church members but members of the Kennedale Community that is home to Freedom Centre. All those involved share the desire to help others in their community through difficult times. “We make ourselves available to encourage people,” says Pastor Merril Radford of the Freedom Centre.

The community also provides a clothing bank of donated items for those in need as well as a weekly Bread, Veggie and Grocery basket for those who come for food but have not arranged for a Food Bank hamper. At Christmas Edmonton’s Food Bank supplies food for the community Christmas Banquet that has been an annual celebration for 16 years. Everyone is welcome at the banquet, no matter their culture or religion. The Freedom Centre and the depot is a gathering place for the community and a place to visit with friends even when not in need of food resources.

The Freedom Centre is one of 48 depots throughout Edmonton, where community groups support their neighbours in need by volunteering a place for them to pick up their food hampers close to home.



## HAMPER PROGRAMS AND FOOD DEPOTS

As Edmonton’s Food Bank weathers the increase in need in our community, we have added more food depots to help ensure our clients have access to food throughout Edmonton. We grew to 85 food depots in 2017. Each depot is instrumental in our ability to provide food to the many individuals and families in need in Edmonton. Below is a list of our partners who make this possible each week through their provision of space and volunteers.

- Alberta Health Services: Collective Kitchens
- Anawim Place
- Bannerman Drop-In Centre
- Bethel Christian Reformed Community Church
- Bible Pentecostal Church
- Boyle McCauley Health Centre: HAART House
- Boyle Street Community Services Co-op
- Boyle Street Community Services Co-op: North Star Apartments
- Boys & Girls Clubs Big Brothers Big Sisters Edmonton & Area: Tweddle
- Boys & Girls Clubs Big Brother Big Sisters Edmonton & Area: Westend
- Calder Seniors Drop-In Society
- **Campus Food Bank: University of Alberta**
- Canadian Volunteers United in Action (CANAVUA)
- Centre to End All Sexual Exploitation (CEASE)
- Centre d'accueil et d'établissement du Nord de l'Alberta (CAE)
- Chalmers United Church
- City of Edmonton
- Community of Christ Canada West Mission
- Community Options:
  - A Society for Children and Families
- Creating Hope Society
- Crystal Kids Youth Centre
- Dayspring Presbyterian Church
- Edmonton Emergency Relief Services Society (EERSS)
- Edmonton Native Healing Society
- Edmonton Police Service
- Edmonton's Food Bank Annex
- Elizabeth Fry Society
- Emmaus Lutheran Church
- First Church of the Nazarene
- First Presbyterian Church
- Fort Road Victory Church
- Freedom Centre Church (Clareview)
- Holy Spirit Lutheran Church
- Holyrood Mennonite Church
- Hosanna Lutheran Church
- iHuman Youth Society
- Inglewood Christian Reform Church
- Islamic Family and Social Services Association (IFSSA)
- Jasper Place Wellness Centre (Formerly Jasper Place Health & Wellness)
- **Lamont Food Bank**
- MacEwan University
- Maranatha Christian Reformed Church
- Marian Centre
- McClure United Church
- Mill Woods Pentecostal Assembly
- Mill Woods United Church
- Millbourne Community Life Centre
- Mountain of Victory International Ministries
- NAIT Students Association (NAITSA)
- Norquest College
- North Edmonton Seniors Association
- Northeast Christian Fellowship (Edmonton)
- Project Adult Literacy (PALS)
- Rhema Chapel:
  - The Redeemed Christian Church of God
- Robertson Wesley United Church
- Rock Lutheran Inner-City Society
- Sacred Heart Church of the First Peoples
- Southminster-Steinhauer United Church
- St Anthony's Catholic Church
- St Anthony's Ukrainian Orthodox Parish
- St Francis of Assisi Hall
- St Herman of Alaska Orthodox Sabor
- St John the Evangelist Catholic Parish
- St John's Anglican Church Refugee Committee
- St Joseph High School
- St Luke's Anglican Church
- St Mary's Anglican Church
- **St Matthias Anglican Church**
- **St Michael's and All Angels**
- St Teresa's Roman Catholic Parish
- The Candora Society of Edmonton
- The Grit Program
- The McDougall House Association
- The Mustard Seed
- The Red Road Healing Society
- The Salvation Army: Canon Ridge
- The Salvation Army: Castledowns
- The Salvation Army: Downtown
- Trinity Lutheran Church
- Uncles & Aunts at Large Society
- Unitarian Church of Edmonton (UCOE)
- United Pentecostal Spanish Church of the Name of Jesus in Edmonton
- WECAN Co-op
- West Edmonton Baptist Church
- YMCA Bill Rees

\*New agencies bolded

# PARTNER AGENCIES

Edmonton’s Food Bank works collaboratively with over 250 organizations. These agencies receive food from our warehouse to assist their clients. Through these organizations, Edmonton’s Food Bank provides food for nearly 500,000 meals and snacks, including programs at 59 schools. Approximately 40% of our clients are children under the age of 18.

## ABORIGINAL ORGANIZATIONS

- **Aboriginal Headstart**
- Aboriginal Student Services Centre – U of A
- Aboriginal Youth & Family Well-Being & Education Society (AYFWES)
- Amiskwacyi Academy
- Ben Calf Robe Society
- Bent Arrow Traditional Healing Society
- Canadian Native Friendship Centre
- Creating Hope Society
- Edmonton Aboriginal Seniors Centre
- Edmonton Native Healing Society
- Edmonton Urban Native Ministry (UNMan)
- Indigenous Learning Services (Formerly Aboriginal Learning Services)
- Métis Child and Family Services Society
- NAIT Encana Aboriginal Student Centre
- Native Counselling Services of Alberta
- Niginan Housing Ventures: Ambrose Place
- Sacred Heart Church of the First Peoples
- Samson Cree Nation Urban Resource Office
- The Red Road Healing Society
- Trade Winds to Success Training Society

## ADDICTION AND RECOVERY

- Adeara Recovery Centre (Formerly Edmonton Dream Centre)
- Alberta Health Services: Mental Health
- Edmonton Drug Treatment Court Service (EDTCS)
- George Spady Society
- **Henwood Treatment Centre**
- **McCullough Centre**
- The McDougall House Association
- Our House Addiction Recovery Centre
- Recovery Acres Society

## COUNSELLING SUPPORT

- Alberta Health Services: Forensic Assessment & Community Services
- Alberta Health Services: Home Care
- Alberta Health Services: Mental Health
- Autism Society of Edmonton Area
- Canadian Mental Health Association Edmonton

- Catholic Social Services
- HIV Edmonton (HIV Network of Edmonton)
- Inner City Health and Wellness at Royal Alexander Hospital
- Jewish Family Services
- Networks Activity Centre
- Pilgrims Hospice Society
- Schizophrenia Society of Alberta Edmonton Branch
- The Family Centre
- The Salvation Army

## CHILDREN AND YOUTH SERVICES

- ABC Head Start
- **Aboriginal Headstart**
- Aboriginal Student Services
- Action for Healthy Communities
- Alberta Health Services: Health for Two
- **Austin O’Brien High School**
- Boyle McCauley Health Centre: Kindred House
- Boyle Street Education Centre
- Boys & Girls Clubs Big Brothers Big Sisters of Edmonton & Area
- Brightwood Ranch: Hope Mission
- Britannia School
- Calder School
- Callingwood School
- Cardinal Collins High School Academic Centre
- **Discover Canada Kids Camp**
- E4C: Early Head Start
- E4C: School Lunch and Summer Snack Program
  - Abbott School
  - Balwin School
  - Belmead School
  - Belvedere School
  - Brightview Elementary School
  - Delton School
  - Inglewood School
  - Ivor Dent School
  - John A McDougall School
  - Mary Butterworth Junior High School
  - Norwood School
  - Prince Charles School
  - Princeton School

- St Alphonsus School
- St Bernadette School
- St Catherine School
- St Elizabeth Seton School
- St Francis of Assisi School
- St Gerard School
- St Jerome School
- Sherwood School
- Spruce Avenue School
- Thorndcliffe School

- Eastglen School
- Elves Special Needs Society
- Evansdale School
- Family Futures Resource Network (Formerly Millwoods Family Resource Centre Society Association)
- **Father Michael Mireau Catholic School**
- **Fresh Start Westmount**
- Highlands School
- Hope Mission
- Inner City Youth Development Association
- **Intercultural Child and Family Centre**
- Jasper Place Wellness Centre (Formerly Jasper Place Health & Wellness)
- John Barnett School
- KARA Family Resource Centre
- Kids on Track
- Lauderdale School
- McArthur School
- McCauley Community After School Care Association
- McMan Youth Family and Community Services Association
- Mee-Yah-Noh School
- **Metis Child and Family Services Society: Attendance Centre Schools**
- Multicultural Health Brokers Cooperative
- Norwood Child & Family Resource Centre
- Old Strathcona Youth Society
- Our Lady of Peace School
- Our Lady of the Prairies School
- Parkview School
- Partners for Kids and Youth (PFKY)
- Queen Elizabeth High School

- Sakaw School
- Shiloh Youth Ranch
- Sifton School
- **Sinkunia Community Development Organization: Action for Healthy Communities**
- St Benedict Elementary School
- **St Elizabeth Elementary Catholic School**
- St Francis School
- St Leo School
- St Maria Goretti School
- St Nicholas Junior High School
- **St Pius Elementary School**
- St Teresa of Calcutta School
- **St Thomas More Junior High School**
- St. Joseph High School
- Terra Association
- The Family Centre
- The Grit Program
- Tipaskan Elementary School
- Unlimited Potential Community Services (Formerly Bosco Homes)
- **West 6 Schools**
- Westlawn Junior High School
- Westmount School
- YMCA Youth Transition Program (YTP)
- YOUCAN
- Youth Criminal Defense
- Youth Empowerment & Support Services (YESS)
- Youth Unlimited

## EMERGENCY SHELTERS

- Boyle McCauley Health Centre: HARRT House
- Boyle McCauley Health Centre: Kindred House
- Edmonton John Howard Society
- Elizabeth House: E4C
- George Spady Society: Shelter and Detox
- **George Spady: Christopher’s Place**
- Herb Jamieson Centre
- Hope Mission
- Inner City Youth Housing
- Martyshuk Housing: Dwayne’s Housing
- Native Counselling Services: Cunningham Place
- Today Family Violence Centre
- Urban Manor Housing Society
- Women’s Emergency Accommodation Centre (WEAC)
- Youth Empowerment & Support Services (YESS)

## EMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE

- Alberta Job Corps
- Bissell Employment Centre
- Boyle Street Community Services Co-op

- Distinctive Employment Counselling Services of Alberta (DECSA)
- EmployAbilities
- Goodwill Industries of Alberta
- Metro Continuing Education
- On Site Placement (OSP)
- Trade Winds to Success Training Society
- Women Moving Forward

## FAMILY VIOLENCE

- Catholic Social Services: LaSalle Shelter
- Changing Together: A Centre for Immigrant Women
- Crossroads Outreach
- Distinctive Employment Counselling Services of Alberta (DECSA)
- Edmonton John Howard Society
- Elizabeth Fry Society
- Living Hope Christian Fellowship
- Lurana Shelter Society
- Strathcona Shelter Society: A Safe Place
- WIN House

## MEAL PROGRAMS

- Bissell Centre
  - Moonlight Bay Summer Camp
  - Community Meals
  - Child Care
  - Community Centre
- Bernadette N Swan Social Care Foundation (BNSSCF)
- Boyle Street Community Services Co-op
  - Drop-In
  - Youth Unit
  - Street Outreach
  - HER Program
  - Health for Two
  - Inner City Recreation and Wellness
  - Streetworks
  - Family Program
  - Mental Health Unit

- Building Hope
- Bread Run: Gameau
- Bread Run: Mill Woods
- **C5- Northeast Community Hub**
- The Candora Society of Edmonton
- Crystal Kids Youth Centre
- Dickensfield Amity House
- Edmonton Father’s House
- Edmonton Native Healing Society
- Fort Road Victory Church
- Hope Mission

- House of Refuge
- Jasper Place Wellness Centre
- KARA Family Support Centre
- Living Hope Christian Fellowship
- Networks Activity Centre Society
- The Red Road Healing Society
- **Refuge Mission House**
- St Faith’s Anglican Church
- The Salvation Army Resource Centre
- The Neighbour Centre: Mustard Seed Church
- Thrive

## NEWCOMERS AND IMMIGRANTS

- Action for Healthy Communities
- Africa Centre
- **C5- Northeast Community Hub**
- Catholic Social Services: Immigration Services
- Changing Together: A Centre for Immigrant Women
- Edmonton Immigrant Services Association (EISA)
- Edmonton Mennonite Centre for Newcomers
- Islamic Family and Social Services Association (IFSSA)
- Multicultural Health Brokers Cooperative (MCHB)
- United Pentecostal Spanish Church of the Name of Jesus in Edmonton

## SENIORS

- Alberta Health Services: Home Care
- Bernadette N Swan Social Care Foundation (BNSSCF)
- Calder Seniors Drop-In Society
- Greater Edmonton Foundation Housing for Seniors
- Edmonton Aboriginal Seniors Centre
- North Edmonton Seniors Association
- Operation Friendship Seniors Society (OFSS)
- Seniors Association of Greater Edmonton (SAGE)
- Seniors Outreach Network Society

## PETS AND ANIMALS

- Inner City Recreation Pet Food Bank: Boyle Street Community Services Co-op
- Edmonton Humane Society
- **Edmonton Valley Zoo**
- Farm Animal Rescue
- **Infinite Woofs**
- **John Janzen Centre**
- Little Cats Lost
- Wild North Rehabilitation Society

\* **New agencies bolded**

## 2017 - 2018 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Edmonton 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.

**Doug Hughes, Chair**

*Partner*

Bishop & McKenzie LLP

**Jamie Post, Vice Chair**

*Communications Consultant*

**Jack Tsoi, Treasurer**

*Vice President Finance*

CompuVision

**Megan Koper, Secretary**

*Lawyer*

WillWise

**Pedro Carriel, Director**

*Deputy Director, Head of Finance & Administration*

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**Ray Dallaire, Director**

*Retired Businessman*

**Bev Hills, Director**

*Senior Manager*

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**Michele Kirchner, Director**

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**Donald Langford, Director**

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*Property Manager*

Jaffer Properties Inc.

**Shawn Parchoma, Director**

*Corporate Strategic Policy Analyst*

Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission

**Tom Thackeray, Director**

*Designated Officer*

Public Interest Disclosure Office

**David I. Benjestorf, Director Emeritus & Past Chair**

*Legal Counsel and General Manager*

The Alldritt Group, Alberta

**Sandeep Dhir, Director**

*Partner*

Field LLP

## EDMONTON'S FOOD BANK STAFF

As of December 29, 2017

**Executive Director**

Marjorie Bencz, CM

**Director of Operations**

Mark Doram

**Info/Agency Services Coordinator**

Walter Dong

**Volunteer Coordinator**

Sonia Singh

**Team Supervisor**

Arthur Warman

**Food Hub Coordinator**

Judy Yawney

**Administration Team**

Suedelle Baudais

Melanie Brule

Zelda Quinney

Mindy Tang

**Manager of Strategic Relationships & Partnerships**

Tamisan Bencz-Knight

**Special Events & Communications Coordinator**

Samantha Potkins

**Resource Development & Communications Team**

Annie Dietrich

Roberta Hill

Doug Hunter

Stephanie Levy

Susan Padget

Ken Sellar

**Client Services Coordinator**

Tracey Gilchrist

**Client Services Team**

Terrilynn Calahaison

Brittany Coxe

Jo-Ann Dewald

Teresa Rossmann

**Hamperline Coordinator**

Vince Sinatynski

**Hamperline Team**

Joaquin Kenyon

Karen Mitchell

Nicholas Mondry

Gilles Tremblay

**Shipper/Receiver**

Ronjay (RJ) Ferrer

Brad Reid

Kurt Schreiner

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Ahmad Al Shrmayn

John Akut Aweit

Bruce Binder

Bailey Cain

Norman Coons

Kevin Desharnais

Igmacio Gomez Valdes

Claude Lefebvre

Moses Loboka

Prem Prakash

Dan Quist

Sarah Rebryna

David Reggimenti

Marno Sekora

Jose Velasquez

Oscar Zarza



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