



HARVEST

Manitoba Food Bank
Network Bulletin



November 2020

New Brand Unveiling

On Tuesday, November 24, 2020, you are invited to the online unveiling of our new brand, hosted by Harvest CEO, Keren Taylor-Hughes. The YouTube event will include speakers from four partner food banks across the province, as well as the release of our new video 'Feel the Stars' underpinned by the song produced by Manitoba's Keith and Renee. The YouTube link to follow via email. Stay tuned.

Date: Tuesday, November 24, 2020
Time: Two showings – 10:00 a.m. & 7 p.m.

***Recognize your Star Volunteers asap**

Make the season kind and shine a light on someone special. CBC Manitoba is recognizing volunteers who donate time in our food banks and agencies throughout the month of December for their positive contributions to our community. Highlight a volunteer who deserves the spotlight. It only takes a minute. Nominate them online or contact Reynold for a form. Deadline November 30, 2020: <https://forms.gle/eUC9anzQARip4ejm8>

Sharing kindness on the air

Tune in on Friday, December 4, 2020 for CBC Manitoba's Make the Season Kind broadcast in support of Winnipeg Harvest. Join our CBC hosts Marcy Markusa, Marjorie Dowhos, Janet Stewart and John Sauder for a full day of music and storytelling on CBC Radio One, 89.3 FM/990 AM and CBC TV.

Food and Equipment Grant

Manitoba food banks and partner agencies will be able to apply for a Harvest Food and Equipment Grant. Contact Reynold if you have not received the application or have questions.

Masks Mandatory at all Harvest Food Banks

For the health and safety of all food bankers and volunteers, we are asking all food banks in our network to follow all provincial health guidelines including the use of masks in indoor spaces. Harvest can provide up to 5 masks for volunteers and staff. Contact Reynold if you need some.

Agency Pickup - New Procedures

1. If you are showing any COVID-19 symptoms, do not come to Harvest. Use the online screening tool to determine next steps: <https://sharedhealthmb.ca/covid19/screening-tool/>
2. Buzz the intercom by door 6 BEFORE you enter the building.
3. Only ONE person per agency will be able to enter the warehouse for pick-ups. Others must wait outside. Harvest volunteers and staff can provide loading assistance.
4. Wear a mask on entry.
6. **All guests must now complete a COVID-19 form.**
7. **All guests must not wander through the warehouse without a volunteer and staff.**
8. Wash/sanitize your hands-on entry.

Cold Weather Precautions

With the indoor COVID restrictions and cold weather upon us clients will receive the message below when they call or email us for a food bank appointment. Encourage your clients to come at staggered times to avoid people waiting outside in the cold.



REMINDER:

Please remember to wear a mask when you attend your food bank appointment. With cold weather upon us and limits to people indoors, remember to ask your food bank how long they are open so you do not have to show up right at the start time. Food is pre-packaged so all people receive the same amount of food whether they are the first or last. Expect to wait outside and wear appropriate clothing.

Training

Non-violent Crisis Intervention (NCI) is available to Harvest Manitoba Food Network staff and volunteers free of charge. They are determining training dates for 2021, if interested or have questions contact Anthony.

Are you closing over the Holiday Season?

If you are closing your food bank this Holiday season, please remind clients of your closure and encourage them to contact our Food Support Line to book an appointment at another food bank.

- In Winnipeg:

Phone: (204) 982-3660

Email: appointments@winnipeg Harvest.org

- Outside Winnipeg:

Phone: (1-800) 970-5559

Email: kellym@winnipeg Harvest.org



Thank you, our Harvest Stars!

We are grateful for your service and for serving Manitobans who need food support in your communities, especially during this pandemic. Stay safe and well!

Keren Taylor-Hughes, CEO | 204-982-3668 | keren@winnipeg Harvest.org

Reynold Friesen, Agency Manager | 204-982-3674 | reynold@winnipeg Harvest.org

Kelly Moore, Rural Food Bank Liaison | 204-982-3663 | kellym@winnipeg Harvest.org

Anthony Santoro, Winnipeg Food Bank Liaison | 204-982-3663 | anthony@winnipeg Harvest.org

Greg Schroeder, Agency Food Relations | 204-982-3663 | agencyfood@winnipeg Harvest.org



HARVEST STAR

The Boissevain Food Pantry was founded by the Ministerial Association back in 1995. Since then, it has grown exponentially and gained over 20 volunteers to distribute food every other Wednesday and Friday.



The small town of Boissevain is located approximately 260 kilometers south-west of Winnipeg. It is notable for its proximity to the International Peace Garden, about a 20-minute drive south on the cusp of both the Manitoba and North Dakota borders.

The Boissevain Food Pantry Chair, Donna Fraser has been a part of the food bank for over 3 years. And even during these uncertain times she still has managed to keep the food bank running with a few slight changes.

"We've asked clients to stay in their cars and we will bring their hamper to them," she mentioned. "In the winter we will deliver to those in town that can't drive to the food bank."

They have also seen an influx of donations in the past three months and it continues to grow. Their generous community has been donating funds and high-ticket items like meat and dairy throughout the Pandemic.

"We've really been blown away with all the donations that have been coming in," says Fraser. "I've seen more donations now than we have in a long time. We feel very blessed."

Since the local high school's yearly spring food drive was cancelled due to the Pandemic, the Youth in Philanthropy (Y.I.P) group donated \$2000.00 from a grant they received earlier in the month. It was enough money that they could even purchase a new freezer.

Boissevain is one of many food banks throughout Manitoba that have felt the generosity and kindness from its donors and community. Harvest congratulates Boissevain on its triumph and success during these unsure times.

