



February 2021

Food Bank Resources on Website

Our new website HarvestManitoba.ca has a Harvest Manitoba Food Bank Network member portal, where we will provide various resources including grant information and so on. At the bottom of every web page, you will see the words - ADMIN LOGIN – click on them to access the page and type in this password to enter: **HarvestProud!**

Rebooking Food Bank Appointments

We have created an appointment card template for rebooking food banks. This allows you to give your clients information about their next appointment in four weeks. Visit the Harvest Manitoba Food Bank Network page on our website via the ADMIN LOGIN to access.

Free Tax Return Preparation Program

We offer this free service to eligible food bank clients with a modest income. See attached poster to promote to your clients or visit our website (harvestmanitoba.ca/need-food/need-tax-help/).

Extra Items

We are currently adding extra perishable items to some orders to move an abundance of perishable items we are receiving.

HungerCount

Every March we participate in HungerCount, a client survey of food banks across Canada facilitated by Food Banks Canada (FBC). FBC gathers the results to create a report released in fall. We gather the Winnipeg data from our client services database and the rural data is provided directly by those food bank members.

Garden Boxes

Harvest is looking to create small 'Take Home' garden boxes for individuals and/or families that would like to grow their own vegetables at home throughout the summer. All supplies and instructions would be included. Do you think your clients would utilize this? Please complete the 30 second survey:

<https://harvest.surveyparrot.com/s/Harvest-Manitoba-Take-Home-Garden-Program/-tt-2538cd>

COVID-19 Provincial Health Orders

New Provincial Health Orders were released on January 28, 2021 and they affirm the essential work of food banks in our province. Order 17 reads: *"Food banks and other charities or groups that provide or distribute food or hampers to persons in need may operate if measures are implemented to ensure that staff, volunteers and members of the public are reasonably able to maintain a separation of at least two meters from others while at their premises."*

Here are a few suggestions to keep the two-meter distance between clients and volunteers:

1. Double up tables so there is greater distance between volunteers and clients.
2. Use spray paint, chalk, cones, flags or signs to indicate where clients should stand while they wait.
3. Remind clients that food hampers are all the same, so they do not all have to come at the start time. Normally by coming later contact with others is decreased and you must wait less time in the cold.
4. Have stations spread a part where different clients can receive their food hamper.
5. Allow only one family member into your building.
6. Limit the number of people in your building at one time.

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 this message when they call or e-mail our Client Services Department for a food bank appointment:



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.

Feel free to encourage your clients to come at staggered times to avoid people waiting outside in the cold.

Food Bank Facts

In 2019-20, the Harvest Manitoba Food Network served nearly **80,000** people a month, **46% children**. Of that number, Food Banks served **46,401** people a month, **41% children**.

Keren Taylor-Hughes, CEO | 204-982-3668 | ktaylor-hughes@harvestmanitoba.ca
Reynold Friesen, Agency Manager | 204-982-3674 | rfriesen@harvestmanitoba.ca
Kelly Moore, Rural Food Bank Liaison | 204-982-3663 | kmoore@harvestmanitoba.ca
Anthony Santoro, Winnipeg Food Bank Liaison | 204-982-3663 | asantoro@harvestmanitoba.ca
Greg Schroeder, Agency Food Relations | 204-982-3663 | gschroeder@harvestmanitoba.ca
or agency.food.relations@harvestmanitoba.ca



Accueil Kateri Centre Inc., Ste-Anne

This charitable organization operates a food bank every second Wednesday distributing up to five meals for approximately 140 registered clients and families. The town population is near 2000.

The food bank coordinator, Armande Leclair said because of the COVID-19 Pandemic, they changed much of what they do to keep their volunteers and clients safe. This includes operating with less volunteers at one time to safely distance, and employing a Hamper number system, so that families can pick up their Hamper from a table outside and back to their car.

Accueil Kateri Centre was named after Kateri Tekakwitha, an Algonquin–Mohawk woman who was beatified in 1980 by Pope John Paul II, and later canonized by Pope Benedict XVI at Saint Peter's Basilica on October 21, 2012. Harvest gives a round of applause to the very wonderful volunteers and board members of the food bank in their success!

