



**HarvestManitoba.ca**

**Harvest COVID-19 Vaccination Policy Now In Effect:  
Re-opening warehouse to volunteers, community groups and  
corporations, essential to feeding Manitobans**

November 3, 2021 – WINNIPEG, MB

Harvest Manitoba announced that all persons who are 12 years of age and older are required to provide proof of full COVID-19 vaccination and government-issued photo identification when entering the premises. The policy was adopted on October 25, 2021.

Harvest provides an essential service in our community. The policy is being implemented to continue its practice of implementing the highest possible health and safety standards to prevent the spread of COVID-19 within the community and to facilitate the recruitment and retention of volunteers critical to operations.

“Ensuring the health and safety of our employees and everyone who enters our premises, is our top priority and we take this very seriously at Harvest,” Harvest CEO Vince Barletta said. “The medical evidence has overwhelmingly demonstrated vaccines are a safe and effective way to prevent transmission of COVID-19.”

Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in the Spring of 2020, Harvest has taken several steps to protect employees, volunteers, clients, and our community through initiatives such as indoor masking, use of hand sanitizer, enhanced cleaning in our facilities, and daily screenings for employees and volunteers. Until further notice, all existing COVID-19 prevention measures will remain in place.

Harvest relies on about 200,000 volunteer hours every year to sort and pack hampers to feed hungry Manitobans. Last year when the need for food was at its peak, Harvest experienced a severe volunteer shortage and almost had to close its doors for the first time in history.

“The next two months are typically our busiest,” said Barletta. “We would like to invite Manitobans, community groups and businesses back into our warehouse so we can increase capacity and feed as many hungry families, children and struggling adults as possible.”

Harvest encourages its employees, volunteers, clients, and all Manitobans to take advantage of COVID-19 vaccines, which have been widely distributed and are available throughout the province at clinics, pharmacies, and doctor’s offices.

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## **About Harvest Manitoba**

Harvest (formerly Winnipeg Harvest) is a charitable organization dedicated to nourishing our communities and our sense of community. We believe that by working together we can achieve a future where no Manitoban goes hungry. We collect 11 million pounds of food every year, which is sorted and packed largely by volunteers into Harvest Hampers and distributed to Manitobans through our Community Food Network of more than 325 food banks and agencies in Winnipeg, rural, northern and First Nations communities. Right now, we feed 80,000 Manitobans every month, 46% children. Our Food Distribution Centre, which includes our Emergency Food Support Assistance Line and Warehouse, is in our Winnipeg headquarters. To learn more and donate, please visit: [HarvestManitoba.ca](http://HarvestManitoba.ca)

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