



### **CFN Townhall:**

On May 4th Harvest Manitoba hosted its first townhall in our new Community Room. The event was offered in-person and online. We had over 50 people in attendance. We wanted to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your continued commitment and for being flexible and adaptable through COVID and snowstorms! We appreciate you. If you missed the slides, they will be posted in the CFN portal on our website.

### **Food Bank Resources on Website:**

Our new website [www.harvestmanitoba.ca](http://www.harvestmanitoba.ca) has a portal for food bank resources. At the bottom of every web page there is a link to **ADMIN LOGIN**. Click on the link and type in the password: **HarvestProud!**

### **Grants:**

Thank you to everyone that participated in this past Food and Equipment Grant. We were able to distribute over \$250,000 in 2022! Please continue to send in your Impact Reports. We would love to hear how this grant has impacted your community.

### **Return to Bulk:**

When COVID first hit, Harvest had to change our distribution model to pre-packaged hampers. After 3 years and reevaluating our internal systems, we have decided to move back to bulk. This process will be executed in 2 stages so we could serve our clients better:

- 1. Bulk Produce** - We have been piloting bulk produce distribution with several food banks and the project has been a success. As of July 4th, 2022 all produce will be distributed to Food Banks in bulk. Harvest can supply bags and boxes to help facilitate packing if needed. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to Meaghan Erbus (contact information below.)
- 2. Bulk Non-perishables** - We plan to begin the pilot for returning to bulk non-perishables in Fall 2022. If you think your Food Bank may be ready to make this transition, please contact Meaghan Erbus (contact information below) and we will add you to a list. Harvest Manitoba hopes to return to full bulk delivery starting January 2023.

### **Wpg Ave Food Bank:**

In April Harvest opened it's Winnipeg Avenue Food Bank to folks in the community. The food bank runs every second Thursday and is a rebooking food bank. We operate as a shopping model with our food bank order coming in bulk. We currently have 20 clients. If you are interested in seeing how our food bank runs, please reach out to Meaghan Erbus or Deb Swereda.

## Hunger Count Survey:

If haven't filled out your Hunger Count Survey, its not too late. Please send in your information as soon as possible.

## Harvest Voices Survey:

The Harvest Manitoba Advocacy team will start surveying community members for the 2022 Harvest Voices Report in June.

More information to come.

## Garden and Growing:

Every year Harvest receives large donations of seedlings. We will send out an email letting you know how you can access these as well as other garden supports.

## Food Bank Stats:



As of March 2022  
Harvest has served  
13,994 households



Over 35,000 people  
have accessed our  
food banks

# 87,973

supported each month by  
our community Food Network

## Harvest Manitoba Food Network Member Spotlight May 30, 2022



## Harvest Stars Opaskwayak Cree Nation

With the generous help of Food Banks Canada (FBC), Harvest Manitoba granted \$50,000 to 10 Indigenous agencies in northern Manitoba for the purchasing of food and supplies.

One of the nations that received the grant was Opaskwayak Cree Nation, about a 6-hour drive north close to The Pas. Cynthia Young, the Volunteer Supervisor for the Opaskwayak Cree Nation gave out 150 hampers with the grant money. She and her hard-working group of volunteers handed out all the hampers in under 60 minutes!

"The food was needed at this time for our people... We shopped all last week to get as much as we could. The members were grateful for the food and came when needed," says Young. "My team... they go above and beyond; I appreciate their help and for them stepping up when I need it."

While challenges with household food security (moderate or severe) differ between provinces and territories, the impact in the North is known to be predominantly worse.. Many factors including the geographical remoteness of the community, shipping costs of food, or the legacy of colonial policies. Statistics Canada shows that food security challenges were highest among households in Nunavut at 49.4% (with about 25.8% experiencing moderate difficulties and 23.7% severe).

This grant supports Indigenous food security organizations in implementing the infrastructure needed to improve and expand their existing services into underserved northern communities. It is Harvest's hope to expand this partnership with our indigenous partners in the North to better serve the province as a whole.

Harvest is so proud to be partnering with our Indigenous agencies to build food security initiatives that will provide the ongoing support, partnerships and systems for those in need.



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