

DECEMBER 2022



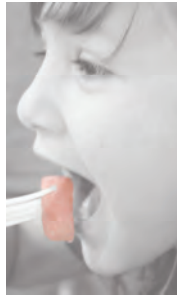
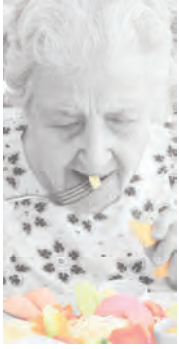
HAPPY Holidays

Thank you for shining so bright for Harvest. Your generosity makes a critical difference in the lives of Manitobans living with food insecurity and poverty - supporting more than 360 community organizations.

Warmest wishes and Happy New Year!

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT & CEO



HarvestManitoba.ca

The holiday season is always a special time of year. Here at Harvest, our warehouse is full each day with staff and volunteers working to fill our orders and meet client needs. The return of our warehouse training programs, following a pause during the pandemic, has added eight new faces to the team during this busy time of year. More importantly, re-establishing important programs like employment training helps us to stay in touch with food bank clients and allows us to offer more than just hampers – but to also offer hope. That hope is needed now more than ever as the number of people turning to food banks grows steadily. Over 15,000 households across Manitoba were served through our hamper program last month, sadly another record. This level of need in the community also makes it official that Harvest is now serving twice as many households today as we were in 2019. Thanks to the hard work of our staff and volunteers along with the generosity of our donors, we are making this happen. Thank you to the thousands of Manitobans who have been a part of that story this year.

This December, we have also released the second installment of our Harvest Voices Report. The 2022 report surveyed nearly 400 food bank clients from around the province to learn more about the circumstances that are driving people to food banks. The report, combined with our own client data, outlines some key findings. Most striking of these is that in some ways the face of food bank clients has changed in the past year as inflation has driven people to seek support in record numbers. One quarter of food bank clients are now people with jobs – a 50% increase in this demographic from just a year earlier. The number of single parent and two parent families with children is also rising with the number of two parent families using food banks increasing by 36.5% in the past year. We are also continuing to see the trend of a greater proportion of Indigenous clients, the number standing now at over 41%. As striking as these numbers are, the stories from our clients, the Harvest Voices, are even more compelling. Words from people who live with hunger and poverty every day. People like Rob, a regular Harvest volunteer who has been forced into permanent disability and left unable to work in his 50's after a stroke coupled with a failed kidney transplant. Rob is able to make ends meet in part by the support that he receives from Harvest food banks, but he is giving back where he can as well through his regular volunteer work in our warehouse. You can find the entire report that has been developed by our Director of Network, Advocacy & Education, Meaghan Erbus and her team at: [Harvest Voices 2022 - Harvest Manitoba](#) 

As the year 2022 draws to a close, I again want to thank all of our donors of funds, food and time for all they have done for Harvest this year. Thanks to the unparalleled generosity of our community we have been able to meet the challenge of unprecedented food demand this year. If you have not yet made your year-end gift, please consider supporting Harvest this holiday season in whatever way you can: [Donate Now](#) . If you have already lent your support to Harvest, thank you for your support and let's keep working together in 2023 to build a healthier future for all where no Manitoban goes hungry.

Happy Holidays,

Vince Barletta, President and CEO



Holiday Radiothons

Our amazing call centre volunteers for the CBC Make the Season Kind Radiothon! Barry Pederson, Harvest Board Member, Taylor, Harvest Volunteer, Philip Poon, Harvest Board Chair and Kim, Harvest volunteer.

CJNU 93.7 Nostalgia Radio



Pictured: Roger York "RY Crisp," Bev Smith and Jim Tomko.

For the month of December our friends from CJNU 93.7 Nostalgia Radio set up their studio, and broadcast live, from Harvest Manitoba. They also host Harvest staff, clients, and volunteers for informative interviews - and song requests! - in the studio daily. Having a daily presence on CJNU Nostalgia Radio goes a long way in helping to get the word out to current and prospective donors to support Harvest Manitoba this holiday season!



CBC Manitoba Made the Season Kind raising \$364,550!

If ever there was an example of how an organization can use their skills and abilities for the greater good — look no further than CBC Manitoba and their 'Make the Season Kind' campaign. For one day, Friday, December 2, they created nothing less than an inspirational day of community.

In the weeks leading up to December 2, their producers, directors, reporters and other team members worked with our CREW to interview and innovate around the people who need Harvest, and those who make Harvest happen. For 12 hours on Friday, through every show they put forth the kind of people and stories that everyone can relate to. They fit the flow of each show with pieces that were personal, informative and connective. And, based on the record amount of donations they brought in, they were also inspiring.

Thank you to everyone for tuning in, listening and giving!

Evanov Hope for the Holidays Raises over \$30,000 in 12-hour Radiothon

ENERGY 106, HOT 100.5, and 92.7 FM CKJS teamed up this holiday season to make sure everyone in Manitoba can have a holiday celebration. On Friday, December 9, they broadcasted Hope for the Holidays live from 6:00am – 6:00pm.

Through food and cash donations, they helped prepare Harvest Hampers to help feed a record 90,000 Manitobans – hungry children, hardworking families and struggling adults this season.

"The need at Harvest has increased by 40% since this time last year. This is a time of great need, and we are so grateful. This campaign has raised \$30,000 to date, plus hundreds of pounds of food for Harvest. Thank you to Evanov and all your listeners who tuned in and donated," said Vince Barletta, President and CEO of Harvest Manitoba.

With a network of more than 360 food banks and agencies across the province, Harvest has become the fourth largest food distributor of its kind in Canada. It collects twelve million pounds of food each year.



HARVEST VOICES 2022

Now in its second year, Harvest Voices 2022 was released on December 1st. The voices of this report are that of Harvest clients – the respondents of a large-scale survey conducted and compiled by Director of Network, Advocacy & Education, Meaghan Erbus and her team of Harvest staff and volunteers. The survey consisted of sixty-seven questions on demographics, education, income, health and wellness, food insecurity, and inflation.

"This report gives us a picture of who our clients are, the challenges they face every day, and the help they need," said Meaghan Erbus. "It's just one snapshot of the real-world impact of food insecurity and poverty in our province, and we've found that 24% of the clients we now serve are employed. The report also has several eye-opening personal stories that should inspire us to work for a future where no Manitoban goes hungry."

Throughout the report respondents have shared their experiences of the difficult choices they are forced to make everyday. Many speaking to loss of employment, food prices, life changes, and health being significant challenges they face daily.

Today a quarter of food bank users are people with jobs, 50% more than just one year ago. An ever-growing number of food bank users are Indigenous, now over 40% of Harvest clients, and this number is set to increase due to rates of poverty, particularly child poverty much higher than the general population. We are also seeing a record number of children using food banks in Manitoba – 15,330 every month who are in both single parent and dual parent households.

The Harvest Voices 2022 report is now available for download from the Harvest website at: [Harvest Voices 2022 - Harvest Manitoba](#)

The following are the key findings from this year's report:

Food bank usage in Winnipeg has doubled since 2019.

40%

Since last year's Harvest Voices report, demand for food at Harvest has increased by 41%.

69.2%

of respondents were predominantly female (69.2%), and an average of 45.9 years of age.

15,330

the number of children that Harvest Manitoba served in the month of October.

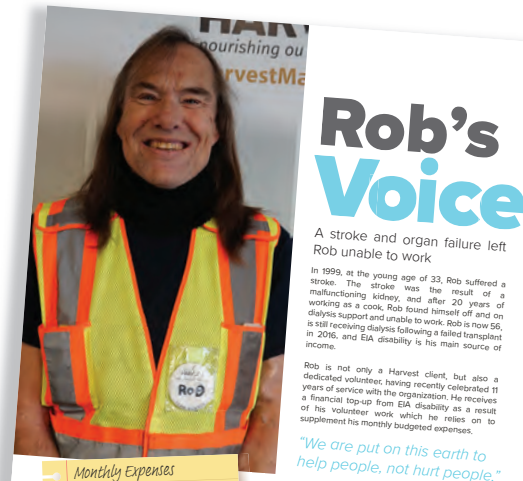
47%

proportion of respondents with children has increased 47% in the past year.

50%

There was an 50% increase in the number of clients with jobs accessing food banks (16% to 24%)

Food bank usage in Winnipeg has doubled since 2019.



Monthly Expenses

| | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| Rent | \$220.00 |
| Phone/Cable | \$120.00 |
| Hydro | \$30.00 |
| Food | \$120.00 |
| Laundry/Care | \$10.00 |
| Bus Pass | \$106.00 |
| Personal Expenses | \$120.00 |
| Total Monthly Expenses | \$1,363.00 |
| Monthly Income | \$1,363.00 |



Linda is very grateful for the help she received from Harvest Manitoba. She says, "I am still looking for an accounting job. Without Harvest, I wouldn't be able to get the food that I need for my family. Harvest Manitoba makes it simple and easy to sign-up. They do a great job."

In addition to the increased pressures of inflation and economic uncertainty, Harvest Manitoba has a new group of clients requiring its services. Ukrainian refugees have settled in Manitoba since the war began in February.

These newcomers do not have the resources and supports to buy everything that they need to restart their lives in Manitoba. Harvest Manitoba nutritious foods, and comfort to this new group of clients.

Faced with the loss of their homes and every facet of their lives being overturned, Harvest hampers provide nourishment to these clients.

Natalia is one of those clients. She came to Winnipeg with her five-year-old son in August. They were forced to flee their country with only two suitcases, leaving their homeland, family, and friends behind. She is incredibly thankful to the organizations that have provided them with a new home, a sense of community, and healthy food.

"Harvest Manitoba helps us a lot," shared Natalia. "I am still looking for a job. Without Harvest, I wouldn't be able to get the food that I need for my family. Harvest Manitoba makes it simple and easy to sign-up. They do a great job."

In addition to supporting these newcomers with food, Harvest Manitoba has brought some of these clients onto its team and welcomed them into our training programs.

Natalia's Voice

"I am still looking for an accounting job. Without Harvest, I wouldn't be able to get the food that I need for my family. Harvest Manitoba makes it simple and easy to sign-up. They do a great job."



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2022



2023

LOADING...

Three New Year's Resolutions that help you and others

1

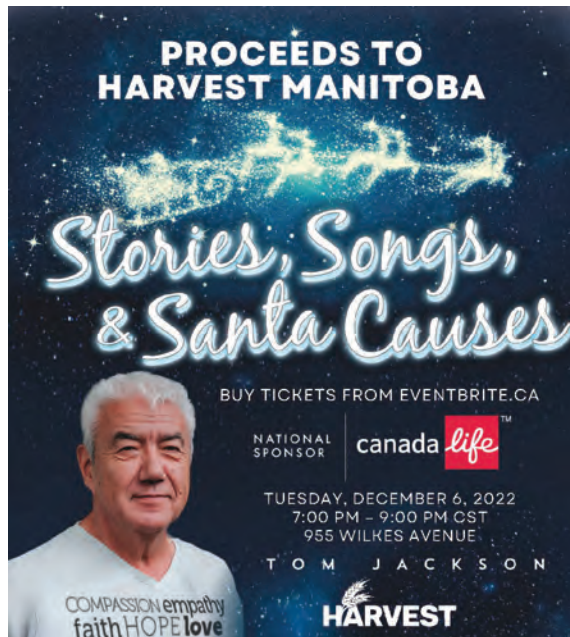
Sign up to volunteer. Harvest, our food banks and agency partners rely on our fantastic volunteers.. Sign up for a shift a month and make a real impact.

2

Broaden your Perspective. Follow us on social media and stay up to date on all things Harvest! We can be found on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and LinkedIn.

3

Make a commitment to give monthly. We rely on steady support and every \$ you donate can provide food support for your neighbours. Your gift will help Harvest feed families in our community.



Tom Jackson Stories, Songs and Santa Causes

"We'd like to give a huge thank you to everyone who supported Harvest Manitoba December 6th evening at the Tom Jackson performance! We raised a grand total of \$15,000.

It was an evening of original music, sing-along tunes, and signature Christmas music from master storyteller, Tom Jackson; BC Country Music Association hall-of-fame producer, Tom McKillip; and award-winning producer /multi-instrumentalist John MacArthur Ellis!

Not unlike The Huron Carole, where raising funds and awareness for Harvest Manitoba and family service agencies became a multi-decade institution, this year, audiences got to enjoy some of Tom's in-person charm and first-hand commitment to those in need. Everyone involved can consider themselves part of the solution to saving lives.

Your support is deeply appreciated during these trying times and means everything to the Manitobans that we serve."



Shut out Hunger!

Manitoba Moose along with Red River Co-op want to Shut out Hunger. From December 8th to December 30th donate at any of the 5 Red River Co-op locations in support of Harvest Manitoba. On Friday, December 30th bring a "Tin for the Bin," or cash donation to the Manitoba Moose game against the Abbotsford Canucks. Harvest will be on-site at the Canada Life Centre on December 30th to accept your donations.



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HARVEST
nourishing our communities

