



# Gleanings Spring 2016



## Contact Information

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@yegfoodbank



Edmonton's Food Bank

www.edmontonsfoodbank.com



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Edmonton's Food Bank for every oil change.

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## Message from the Executive Director

### Thank you & Reflections from the Executive Director

On January 16, 2016, Edmonton's Food Bank acknowledged our 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary as the first food bank in Canada. Conceived as a temporary solution at the time, we are now considered a staple, non-governmental organization (NGO) providing services to the public. It is with mixed emotions that we are "acknowledging" this milestone. For 35 years, we have been collecting surplus and donated food, throughout the community, to help our neighbours. Our success in this recipe is YOU.



Sylvain Charlebois is a professor at the Food Institute at the University of Guelph, specializing in food distribution and policy. He states, "Food banks are miracles of the human spirit. They broker relationships between individuals who are willing to help their peers in desperate times. That in itself is a wonderful legacy." Our success is because of you, our donors, our volunteers, our supporters, and our friends who have helped us along the way.

Thank you for your commitment to help us make a positive difference in the lives of people you may never meet. You are an essential and valued part of all our work. Know that you are making a difference in our community. Again, thank you for your gifts of food, time, and money to our work. I hope you enjoy many pleasant, warm days ahead.

In friendship,

Marjorie Bencz, CM  
Executive Director

### Plant a Row, Grow a Row (PARGAR)

PARGAR is a great way to enjoy an outdoor hobby and help others at the same time. We invite local gardeners to grow an extra row of root vegetables for donation.



Due to the sensitive nature of these types of donations, we ask that you bring them to the main warehouse (11508-120 Street). Please contact the Resource Development Team at 780.425.2133 to find out donating hours. Root vegetables are best; however, any produce that can be easily handled and stored are welcome. The best items to donate for our hamper programs include: potatoes, yams, carrots, onions, tomatoes, and large eating apples. Zucchini, turnips, and beets will be shared with our collective kitchens to ensure efficient use of these amazing items.

### Business leader Brad Shaw and family announce more than \$10 million for Alberta Charities

In December, Brad Shaw, CEO of Shaw Communications, and his family announced substantial personal donations to six Alberta Charities. This business leader and philanthropist said, "My family and I understand that the current circumstances facing our communities are particularly difficult, and we are pleased to be able to support the work of causes and organizations that make a difference to the health of our province." Mr. Shaw added, "My family and I are honoured to support the good work of our province's charities." Marjorie Bencz, CM, Executive Director of Edmonton's Food Bank stated, "We have been severely challenged by the increased number of people and organizations that need food because of the economic challenges faced by Albertans. This gift will help us put food on the table for hungry people in need in 2016."

*Thank you to Brad Shaw and family, for their time and generous support!*





**A New Addition to the Family**



On November 29, 2015, we welcomed the newest addition to the Food Bank family. We couldn't have survived this last holiday season without her reliability. Thank you to the amazing donors who made this possible: Sikh Community of Edmonton, Real Canadian SuperStore (Loblaw), Food Banks Canada, and ThinkTank.

**Join Us for Upcoming Events!**

For more information visit: [edmontonsfoodbank.com/events](http://edmontonsfoodbank.com/events)

**Every Plate Full**  
May 1 to May 31



Established by Food Banks Canada, Every Plate Full will raise food and funds at a local level, stocking the shelves for the summer months. Join the movement by making a donation and encouraging others to do the same. Stay connected through our website ([edmontonsfoodbank.com](http://edmontonsfoodbank.com)) and follow us on Twitter (@yegfoodbank) and Facebook (Edmonton's Food Bank).

**Canstruction® Edmonton**  
May 8 to 18



The Canadian Progress Club presents the 2016 Canstruction®, which combines the competitive spirit of a design/build competition with a unique way to help feed hungry people. Competing teams showcase their talents by designing giant sculptures made entirely out of canned food. Bring a food donation and see the displays at Enterprise Square, 10230 Jasper Avenue. Food from the structures are donated to local food banks.

**AMA Shredding 2016**



This is your opportunity to bring up to 6 boxes of personal documents for safe, immediate destruction and to learn tips for preventing identity theft. The events run from 10am to 3pm. Come early and bring your Food Bank donation!

- April 9 – Edmonton North venue (To Be Announced)
- April 16 – Edmonton South AMA 10310 G.A. MacDonald Avenue
- April 30 – Edmonton West location at Beulah Alliance Church 17504 98a Avenue NW

**Donate Securely Online**

Edmonton's Food Bank provides year round service to those in need. We are pleased to be able to offer donors the option of donating securely online through CanadaHelps for either a one time or a monthly donation. Please visit our website at [www.edmontonsfoodbank.com](http://www.edmontonsfoodbank.com) and click on Donate Now.



**Your Legacy**

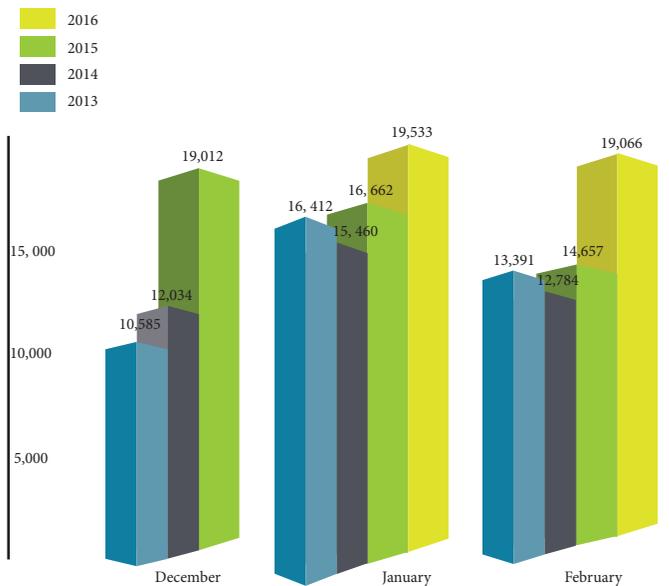
It is often difficult to make a significant gift to your favourite charity; however, there are various ways to be remembered such as arranging memorable donations supporting Edmonton's Food Bank. The reason we own our primary warehouse today is thanks to the monetary gift left to Edmonton's Food Bank by Mrs. Rice in her Will in 1994. These funds allowed us to purchase the old warehouse on 111 Street & 102 Avenue (across from Rail Town).

Early in 2016, the LawDepot approached Edmonton's Food Bank as they decided to provide an option for people to earmark gifts through their estate to help their favourite charities. We are pleased to collaborate with the LawDepot on their new initiatives and options. You can have a look for yourself at [www.lawdepot.com](http://www.lawdepot.com)

If you are considering adding Edmonton's Food Bank into your Will, please ensure you consult an independent financial advisor prior to making any decisions or changes to your existing Will. When naming the Food Bank, please use our corporate name: Edmonton Gleaners Association, along with our charitable registration number 129185310 RR0001. This will ensure funds are directed appropriately.

An endowment is another way for you to carry on your legacy, and to be remembered, and it can be established at any time. To find out more, feel free to contact Tamisan Bencz-Knight at 780.425.2133.

**Hamper Program**  
**Hamper Comparison Individuals Served**



**Beautiful letter received from a client**

*"I just wanted to send you guys a message to let you know that your organization was an amazing blessing to us. My husband has been between jobs for a couple of months now and though we work hard to keep our deep freeze full, things have been tough financially since before Christmas...and it was depleted when we contacted you. We expected just a few grocery bags of stuff (it was our first time and we didn't want to expect too much). When my husband walked in with eight bags of food, I broke into tears."*