## ANNUAL REPORT

## regina foodbank

2021 - 2022

FIGHTING HUNGER FEEDING HOPE

# MESSAGE FROM



#### JEFF LINNER CHAIR, BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Last year continued to be of historic uncertainty as the effects of a global pandemic persisted and interrupted the return to normalcy and connection that we all craved. Regina Food Bank continues to rise to the challenge and anticipate and adapt to extraordinary levels of demand. Systems and process are evolved and adopted in alignment to our strategic priorities to get food to people who need it, where they need it. This is all possible because of the support of our community. Your generous support through food and funds overwhelms us and your commitment to our work ensures that no one goes hungry. Our volunteers' selfless donation of their time and energy means we can continue to be neighbours feeding neighbours.

We know that more food will not be the answer to eliminating food insecurity, but supporting the needs of our community today is critical as we move forward towards systemic change. We evolve and modernise our data collection to make sure we can leverage that information to make the best decisions possible. We prioritize optimizing the way we engage with stakeholders and collaborate with like-minded organizations to create the maximum positive impact as we advocate for policy change and address root causes of food insecurity. It takes time to make meaningful and systemic change. We celebrate the successes along the way knowing that there is more work ahead.



The Board aligns decision making to our strategic plan to advance our priorities and adjusting our course as necessary. As we enter the fortieth year of Regina Food Bank's incorporation and operation, we celebrate the impact of our storied organization and continuing our vision of a city where no one faces hunger alone. While we may never be without a food bank in Regina, as we look forward we can celebrate the impacts of our work today in reducing the need for a food bank as we work collectively to fight hunger and feed hope.



### MESSAGE FROM THE CEO



The spirit of Regina is a caring one that pulls together to make sure no one in our community is left behind. It is the spirit of neighbours feeding neighbours and it has pulled our city and our food bank through challenges in the past. Perhaps no set of challenges where more bracing to our resolve than the effects of a global pandemic. A community built on connectedness whether it is cheering for the Riders at Mosaic Stadium or giving the gift of time by volunteering at the food bank the feeling of isolation brought perhaps the most significant impact of all. Despite this physical distance, we found a way to pull together to ensure this crisis did not leave a wake of lasting damage. We have been and continue to be together and our belief in the power of a caring community gives us the strength to persevere.

#### JOHN BAILEY CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

We are emerging from immediate effects of the Covid 19 pandemic, but the consequences continue to challenge us in different and new ways every day. We will continue to band together to make sure we are providing positive and lasting impact on the community we all care so deeply about.

Despite the current confluence of events, we still took time to plan our future. We continue to redefine how we partner with the community to ensure we maximize our impact without duplicating services. We are developing and strengthening partnerships with key organizations and growing our voice in advocacy. We state emphatically that no food bank wants to get bigger but we will never shy away from our responsibility to support those facing food insecurity. To this end we continue to strengthen our sustainability coupling the real world experience and an increased emphasis on data to make that whenever anyone in our city needed support we would be there. The arc of change covers a vast expanse on time and we will not see the changes needed to put a meaningful dent in food insecurity adopted overnight but global pandemic made real to many what food insecurity, however temporary, is like, this awareness of the need for domestic food security and recognition for those who work tirelessly to ensure it for others.

### IMPROVE ACCESS TO FOOD



Regina Food Bank improves access to food for people with the highest need. We are committed to decreasing barriers to access for all those facing food insecurity.



72,149 food hampers 22% increase from last year



120,378 points of service 22% increase from last year



19% increase from last year



	2021	2020	
children	47,647	38,901	39%
adults	59,719	49,438	of food bank users are children
seniors	13,012	10,595	

# SOURCE HEALTHY







**2,768,482 lbs** of healthy, quality food diverted from the landfill



#### \$7,331,899

of nutritious food collected through donations

### ACTIVATE OUR CITY



Volunteers are the heartbeat of Regina Food Bank. Every day they show up and make a difference, enabling us to deliver 120,378 points of service to our clients who live with food insecurity. Every volunteer has their own story for why they give back. Some are former food bank users, others are new Canadians learning English as a second language, and they are all neighbours feeding neighbours.







### ACTIVATE OUR CITY



Betty was a registered nurse, until a serious illness impaired her vision and forced her to retire from the profession. Her purpose in caring for others was taken from her.

"My son said to me, 'When are you going to stop feeling sorry for yourself?' so I came to Regina Food Bank and I've been here ever since."

In that moment she decided she was going to reclaim her purpose, to care for others.

So much so, that when anyone from our warehouse team tears any part of their uniform, Betty takes each garment home to mend by hand, despite only having vision in one eye. For three years, Betty has been sorting and bagging thousands of pounds of fresh produce, and training new volunteers every week.

"My favorite part is knowing what I do is helping my community and I work with some amazing people. They treat each client with dignity and respect. Having to raise four children as a single parent, I emphasize the struggles of raising a family on a low income."

### Shining the refrigerator light on Betty

#### BETTY VOLUNTEER



"Regina Food Bank provided me with a way to give back. Volunteering here is the best thing I have done for myself and for others."

### 66

My son said to me, 'When are you going to stop feeling sorry for yourself?' so I came to Regina Food Bank and I've been here ever since. Volunteering here is the best thing I have done for myself and for others.

### INNOVATE DELIVERY

Addressing and decreasing barriers to access food, programs and supports by adapting how we do our work.



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#### **DONORS & COMMUNITY INVESTMENT PARTNERS**

Access Communications Alliance Pipeline Limited Partnership Angus Roger Stabner Angus Stabner Ann & Roger Phillips Foundation Avena Foods Avena Foods Barry Lee Bennett Dunlop Ford Brandt Tractor Ltd. CanMar Foods Chandler Oils Ltd. Chicken Farmers Of Saskatchewan Chisholm Thomson Family Foundation Clifton Engineering Group Inc. Colin McAllister **Conexus** Credit Union Consumers' Co-operative Refineries Limited **Custom Agricultural Intelligence** Incorporated Darla Slonetzky Dilawri Group of Companies Dr. Susan Petryk Drake Meats Enbridae **Enterprise Holdings Foundation** Estate Of Glenn Lemchuk Estate of Linda Hall Evraz Inc. Farm Credit Canada FreshCo Fries Tallman Lumber **Garrett Schous** Gary Drummond Glenda Knutson Harvard Developments Inc. Health Sciences Association Of Saskatchewan

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Regina Food Bank is committed to creating a culture of support that deepens the engagement of our current donors and broadens our appeal to new supporters

### MOSAIC MILLION MEAL CHALLENGE

You answered our rallying call to join the Mosaic Million Meal Challenge and you helped us raise 1.35 million meals in food and funds to feed our neighbours.

Donors, schools, workplaces, grocery stores, and small businesses championed our fundraising goal, and for the second year in a row, we passed the one million meal goal thanks to you!

The Mosaic Company helps the world grow the food it needs, and that starts with feeding our local community. They matched your donations with a \$50,000 investment, contributing 150,000 meals to this total.



FOR THE REGINA FOOD BANK

#### VITERRA FARMERS FEEDING FAMILIES

We announced a major partnership that is transforming how we feed our community. Viterra North America Farmers Feeding Families is a multi-year investment in food security and food nutrition valued at over \$1 million dollars.

The initiative sees partners across the agriculture value chain collaborate to fight hunger. Viterra is purchasing pulses from Saskatchewan farmers. The pulses are bagged by CanMar Foods, and distributed by Regina Food Bank, allowing children and adults who depend on us more nutritious and inclusive food choices.

Over 200,000 locally grown and bagged pulses will be added to Regina Food Banks' food choices, and shared with 50 community based organizations. A new fleet of vehicles allows us to delivery these pulses, and food cooked in the Conexus Commercial Kitchen to families in our community

Viterra has long and proud history of working closely with farmers to help feed the world and our relationship continues to help feed our neighbours.

We share our heartful gratitude for Conexus Credit Union, CanMar Foods, Bennett Dunlop Ford, and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, who have all rallied around us to help deliver Viterra Farmers Feeding Families.





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### DILAWRI HAMPERS OF HOPE

A new \$100,000 investment from Dilawri Group of Companies funded over 2,500 Dilawri Hampers of Hope. These hampers filled pantries & fridges over the holiday season enriching the holiday experience for thousands of our neighbors.





#### FRONT DOOR FOOD DRIVE

We introduced the Front Door Food Drive, with our friends, Casino Regina. You opened your cupboards and pantries to donate nutritious, nonperishable food items, and we collected 9,350 meals from 365 front doors! Casino Regina matched every ten Ib food donation, up to \$10,000, raising the total to 39,350 meals!





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### COMMUNITY LAGER

The community filled our cups. Pile O' Bones Brewing Company, Leopold's Tavern, and Victoria's Tavern banded together to help feed our neighbours and raised 80,282 meals.

We introduced the Community Lager, a limited edition beer, brewed by Pile O' Bones. Proceeds from can and keg sales supported Regina Food Bank and our neighbours in the Queen city and communities across Southern Saskatchewan.



### SHOW N' SHINE

When passionate people get together what they can accomplish is truly amazing. Thousands of people & hundreds of classic car enthusiasts gathered at the fourteenth annual Access Communications Labour Day Show N' Shine, in support of Regina Food Bank to raise \$41,236! Thank you to our partner Access Communications, and presenting sponsor CAA Saskatchewan for investing in our community

#### **TEAM**

Kabita Acharya Jenn Marchi John Bailey Chelsea McDonald Rebeca Casas Jamie Nielson David Froh Chantel Obey Kim Baker Tarryn Pratt Austin Coleman Emily Reaume Melissa Fiacco Ilse Sinnett Chad Forrest Megan Sinnett Darcy Fraser Andrea Soby Biniam Haile Stephanie Wenger Jered Kirkland Wondwosen Wmariam Vanessa Malave

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Jeff Linner Chair Sophie Perreault Past-Chair Shauna Flaman Vice-Chair Aziz Aboudheir Director Ryan Babey Director Kaytlyn Barber Director Jacques DeCorby Director Josh Fink **Director** Sean Kosier Director John Lax Director Kris Parker **Director** Carole Sauer Director Jada Yee Director

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