

SEPTEMBER 2024

IMPACT INSIDER

VOLUNTEER NEWSLETTER

LET'S CONNECT



@vanfoodbank



A MESSAGE FROM THE TEAM

We want to express our sincere gratitude for your incredible support and dedication! Even though July through September can be a busy time with many people away on holiday, your commitment has been instrumental in keeping our operations running smoothly.

A special shout-out to our amazing summer event volunteers who have been working tirelessly at the Hastings Racecourse, collecting donations and selling 50/50 raffle tickets. Your efforts are truly appreciated!

CONTACT US

Volunteer Team
volunteer@foodbank.bc.ca

Thank YOU for your ongoing generosity and kindness!

POTATO PACKING EXTRAVAGANZA

In July, we were fortunate to receive an abundance of fresh, high-quality potatoes from *The Grassy Lake Potato Company*—40,000 lbs of surplus potatoes with no place to go. Thankfully, our amazing partners at *Farmlink Project* stepped in to connect us with this generous donation! 40,000 lbs is a lot of spuds! After reaching out to the community for help, volunteers and staff rallied together to pack 15 pallets, equivalent to 450 cases, which were then distributed to our clients and agencies. We couldn't have sorted and packed this many spuds without the incredible support of our volunteers.



RAISING FUNDS AND HAVING FUN: THE IMPACT OF EVENT VOLUNTEERS

Volunteering at events offers a meaningful way to engage with the community and experience local events. Thanks to Community Engagement and Event volunteers, we can spread the word about our mission and boost donations effectively.

Over 40 volunteers participated in various event shifts this summer, running activation tents, managing 50/50 raffles, coordinating coat checks, and more. Together, they raised over \$25,000 for those in need.

A heartfelt thank you to all the volunteers who supported Weissach's Coffee and Cars, Foodstock, Heppell's Ugly Produce Day, and the Hastings Racecourse – you helped create many successful events!



SUPPORTING THE COMMUNITY THROUGH THE SEASONS

As we prepare for another busy season, we continue to lean on your support. If you have 3-4 hours to spare this month, we'd greatly appreciate your help.

To help you plan ahead, we have released our distribution schedule for October through December, along with warehouse opportunities for October and November.

We need assistance in various roles, including sorting, packing nutritional packs, restocking agency coolers, and food distribution.

Sign up on MyImpact or contact us at volunteer@foodbank.bc.ca if you have any questions.

ACCEPTING NEW APPLICATIONS STARTING OCTOBER 1ST

We've got some exciting news to share! Our volunteer application portal is reopening next month, and we can't wait to welcome new faces to our amazing volunteer community. Spread the word and invite your friends and family to join the fun!

Starting October 1st, a link to apply will be available on the [GVFB website](#). The portal will remain open until all orientation spots are filled.



GVFB LATEST IMPACT (UPDATED IN JULY)



As we wrap up our last quarter, we wanted to share some key highlights:

8.9M lbs
of nutritious food
distributed



68%
of the food
distributed was

FRESH

Up to **\$ 9:1**

buying power for

FRESH PRODUCE



We support approx.

15,000

people in need

EACH MONTH

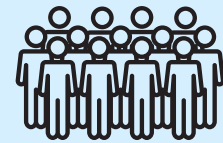


150+

Agency Partnerships

4M of food
to Agencies

lbs +
+23% INCREASE



456,000

CLIENT VISITS

+6% INCREASE

Last year, we had

50,000
VOLUNTEER
HOURS

That's 25 full
time staff!

