

2024 Achievements

Lake Country Food Bank



Message from the Executive Director

The past year has brought tremendous change and progress. Wow, what a year it has been! I am deeply grateful to all our volunteers, employees, donors, partners, the District of Lake Country, and contractors. It is your unwavering support that has made our achievements possible.

I believe we are now in an excellent position to meet the ever-growing needs of our community and expand our Helping Through Sharing Network. I am deeply grateful to the many individuals who have contributed to our success. Every time I reflect on the overwhelming support we have received; I am moved beyond words. Thanks to this generosity, we have been able to provide food to those in need and achieve truly remarkable milestones.

Hamper Service in 2024

- 268 households in Lake Country received monthly custom hampers
- 3213 Monthly Hampers were custom built for clients
- 237 emergency supplementary hampers were pulled
- 5056 unique adults, and 2204 children In Lake Country
- 691 hamper deliveries were provided to clients in Lake Country
- 17549 individuals served through our Helping Through Sharing Network
- The Helping Through Sharing Network has grown to 40 organizations including the Splatsin, OKIB, and Métis

Food Bank Renovations Improved Food Distribution and Hamper Service



Inspiration & Concept Development:

- 20 Food Bank volunteers visited the Kamloops Food Bank to observe their process for delivering food hampers to over 200 people daily.
- Kamloops had recently adapted its system to meet growing needs, inspiring our own approach.
- Special thanks to Bernadette (CEO Kamloops FB) for her guidance.

Renovations & Setup:

- Measurements were taken, areas marked, cabinets ordered, and demolition completed.
- Volunteers worked tirelessly to remove shelves and prepare the space.
- Renovations were completed in just 10 days with no interruption to food services.

Facility Improvements:

- New flooring and counter installation created an efficient system for higher volume and better client choice.
- Volunteers embraced the new concept, and client feedback was overwhelmingly positive.
- New upright freezers and refrigeration units were installed to enhance food storage.

Funding & Support:

- Food Banks Canada Capacity Boost Grant: \$41,417.00
- Tolko: Donated premium underlay, saving thousands of dollars.
- Beem (Interior Savings): Donated \$15,000 for refrigeration and freezers.

Food Recovery Development Helping Through Sharing Network

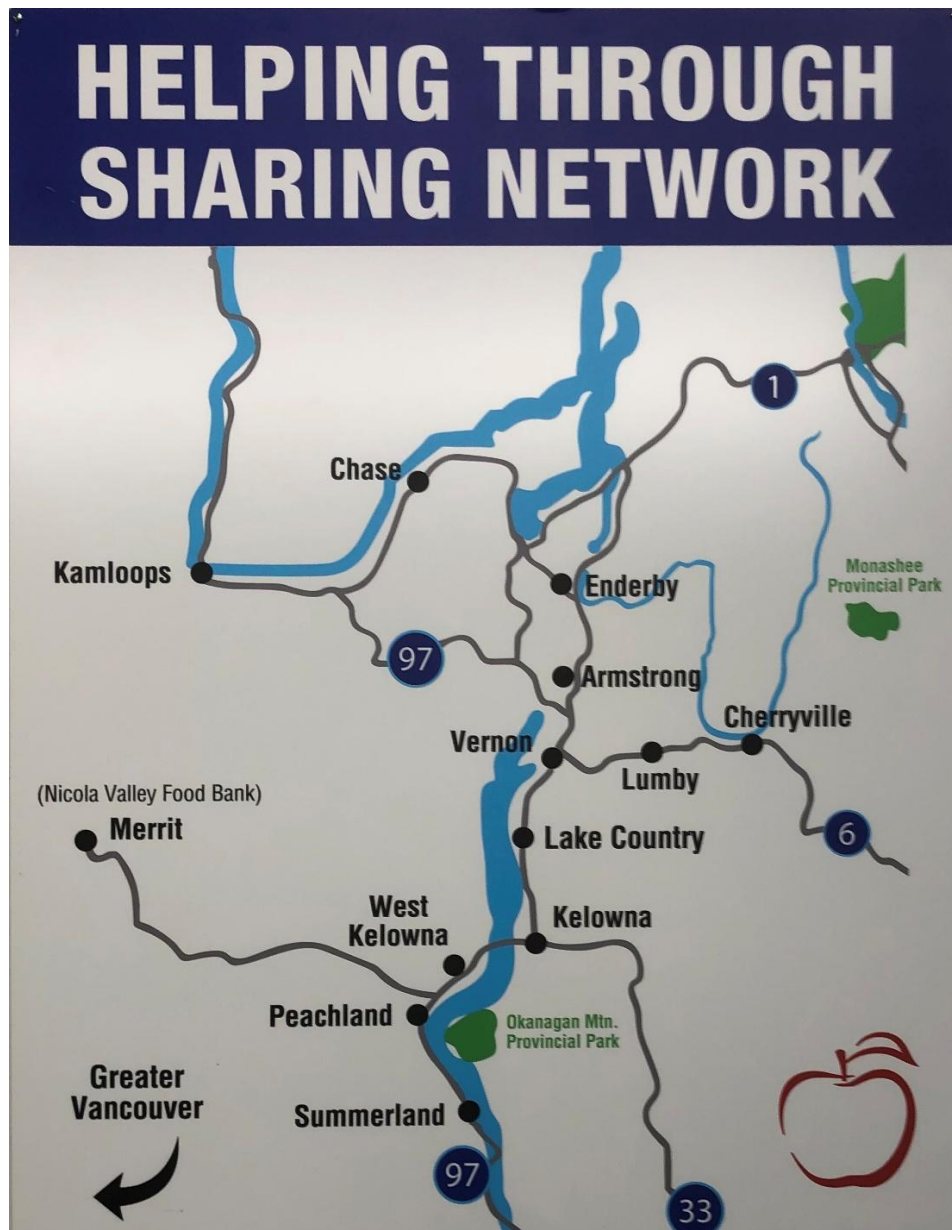
- **619,269 pounds** of food products was recovered from our donor partners valued at \$2,216,983.
- **187,224 pounds** recovered food distributed to partners with a retail value of \$670,262 to the Helping Through Sharing Network.
- **432,045 pounds** recovered food to clients of the Lake Country Food Bank.
- Grant Awarded by Central Okanagan Community Foundation to hire a Network Coordinator.

Helping Through Sharing Network

- Over 40 non-profit organizations receive food from the Lake Country Food Bank
- We support Community Fridges in Lake Country (7) and Kelowna, BGC (BGC Club), all Lake Country schools, Métis and Okanagan Indian Band.
- Distributed and stocked LC Community Fridge with over 25,0321 of perishables with the LCFB volunteers stocking the fridge 5 to 6 times a week.
- We are continuing and working on increasing the deliveries from the Greater Vancouver Food Bank, thanks to Sysco Kelowna. Sysco is providing free pickup and delivery to Lake Country. This incredible sharing has allowed Lake Country to expand the Helping Through Sharing Network to include Okanagan Indian Band, Splitsin (Enderby), Westbank First Nation, Métis

Collaboration Meeting with the HTSN

- Joy Haxton hosted a HTSN meeting in Lake Country it was well attended with 12 food banks taking part and several society partners. Community agencies in attendance: Community Foundations (Central Okanagan and Northern), Urban
- Matters. It was a great event building collaboration and unity with all the partners to enhance working together.
- The meeting set the stage for a new position for the LCFB Network Coordinator (Food Recovery Coordinator).



Helping Through Sharing Distribution Map

New Building



Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the new building. Nov 22, 2024

- The New Building Idea and Drawings were presented to the District of Lake Country Mayor and Council for District approval Thank you Joy Haxton and Board Secretary, Jim Haxton.
- Building drawings finalized and approved Building Permits issued with construction starting in May 2024.
- Completed on time and on Budget with Gibson Contracting as the General.
- Grand Opening Nov 22, 2024
- Gibson Approached each contractor for a Food Bank discount on supplies and services. Great communication to the ED with solutions to every challenge. Thank you, Gibson.

Community

- The support from the District of Lake Country was outstanding. Thank You Lake Country, Shawn, Matt, Blair and many others.
- An increase in demand for our services puts additional pressure on our resources and operations.
- We received tremendous support from our community, which played a crucial role in helping us complete the Food Bank Renovations and the New Building.

Projects

New Truck Fundraiser

- The first large fundraising event was planned and held at the Gray Monk Winery. It was a great success raising fund with a silent auction and tickets to the event. Corbin Kelly took the lead on the event with board members assisting. Corbin did a fabulous job organizing the event and being the master of ceremonies and the auctioneer for the silent auction.
- The donations that the event triggered were significant and allowed us to purchase the new 5 tone truck.



Food Dehydrators

- Dehydrators, vacuum packing and canning supplies Delivered to the OKIB and Métis community.
- Grant funds were utilized for the food preservation project using dehydration and canning, the elders teaching the children.
- A dehydrator was also used at the Food Bank, drying vegetables for soup mix. Great use of recovered food.

Standards of Excellence

- Food Banks Canada has taken on a large mandate for all the food Banks in Canada to become accredited by 2025.
- They have developed standards that the Food Banks will need to implement and follow, with 6 Categories containing 10-22 subcategories in each.
- Categories are as follows.
 1. Governance and Administration
 2. People Management
 3. Financial and Legal
 4. Client Service and Care
 5. Public Engagement and Fundraising
 6. Food Operations and Food Safety

Lake Country Food Bank is more than 50% complete

Link2Feed Implementation

- Food Banks Canada has made the implementation of Link2Feed part of the Standards for the FBs of Canada
- Lake Country Food Bank is in the process of implementation and has been successful in having grants awarded to support the project.

Tim Horton's Smile Cookie Campaign

- The funds will be used for the New Building. The campaign is used for a Lake Country Food Bank Partner appreciation. Our volunteers deliver a box of smile cookies to all our donors.



Rotary – Save On Food Cards

- The Rotary Club of Lake Country supports a Save On Food Card Program. Customers purchase a card for a dollar amount. The card is used for purchases at Save On Food for the full amount of the purchase price of the card.
- Save On Foods donates 8% and an anonymous donor donates 8% of the value of the cards sold.
- The program will reach One Million \$1,000,000 cards sold bringing \$160,000 dollars back to the Food Bank since the program inception.



Attended the Uncharitable Documentary Film

- Great presentation on Changing the culture of giving in the Central Okanagan
- [Changing the Culture of Giving in the Central Okanagan - Purppl](#)

FBBC Representatives Visited the Food bank

- Nike Johnson discussed the possibility of grants for sustainability for hubs.

Grant Highlights

Grant Name	Grant Amount	Completion Date	Grant Distributor	Grant Objective
New Horizons Seniors Grant	25,000		Federal Govt.	Engaging Seniors. Our objective is food preservation with Elders teaching traditional food preserving.
GVFB Capacity Grant	6,000	April 2024	Greater Vancouver Food Bank	
Equity Menstruation Project	500	Completed	Food Banks Canada	
United Way Capacity	20,000		United Way	
FCC AgriSpirit Fund	15,000		Farm Credit Canada	
FBBC Agency Relief Fund	33,100		Food Banks BC	
FBBC Emergency Food Fund Year 3	18,200	3/1/2024 Completed	Food Banks BC	
Community Gaming Grant	90,000	Dec 2024	Provincial Government	
FBC Capacity Boost Grant	41,417		Food Banks Canada	
Standard of Excellence 1st year 2023	8,234.00		Food Banks Canada	
2023 Cold Weather Grant	500	February 2-24		Completed (jackets)
2023 Access Grant	5167.68	Complete	Food Banks Canada	Revise grant (no longer universal bathroom)
2024 Farmers' Market Nutrition Coupon Program (FMNCP).				local market not interested
Interior Savings Community	\$15,000	Complete	BEEM - Interior Savings	Flooring, wall removal, electrical and counters
Link2Feed	4,000	December	Food Banks Canada	
Community Gaming Grant	90,000	December 2025	Provincial Government	40,000 Salary 50,000 food
Central Community Foundation	15,000		Central Community Foundation	
Standard of Excellence 2nd year 2024	30,050		Food Banks Canada	
Emergency Transit Assistance Program (ETAP)			United Way BC	500 bus tickets
Fed Ex Cares	3,000 US		Fed EX	

Christmas

- Another Great Success. Thank you to all the dedicated volunteers.