

WOOD BUFFALO FOOD BANK



ANNUAL REPORT
FOR 2022-2023



BOARD CHAIR REPORT

As an organization whose work is rooted in supporting and advocating for food security in Wood Buffalo, the Wood Buffalo Food Bank is tasked with an enormous responsibility. While the mission of the Food Bank is simple in words, it is incredibly complex to execute. It is no surprise to anyone that the demand of the Food Bank has increased and will continue to increase year over year. From the people who volunteer to govern our organization, to the staff who participate in the day-to-day operations, to the volunteers who spend their time in the warehouse, to the community who supports us in donations of monetary means and time, we are all in this together. We must continue to work together, despite the challenges we may encounter, to ensure no person in our region goes hungry.

The past year has not been without challenges. Every day, despite these challenges, the team shows up and works with kindness and professionalism. Dan Edwards, Executive Director, leads the dedicated group all while working to increase awareness surrounding food security in the region and build financial streams that will allow the Food Bank to maintain its current operations and grow to develop further programming.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank the board members who have completed their time with us. I wish Brad Lucier and Theresa Wells all the best and thank them both for their dedication to the organization.

My time with the Food Bank has come to an end. This AGM will be the last meeting I chair. The past 6 years of being a board member has been incredibly gratifying. I have had the pleasure of meeting and working with so many dynamic community members. Thank you all for allowing me this opportunity.



MERYA GOULD

Board Chair

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

I am honored to present our annual report for the past year as we reflect upon our journey and achievements. The 2022/2023 year has been a remarkable one for the Wood Buffalo Food Bank, filled with challenges and opportunities that have tested our resilience and determination. Through it all, we have emerged stronger, more adaptable, and better positioned to make a lasting impact in our community.

In the face of unprecedented global challenges, our team demonstrated unwavering commitment to our mission. We navigated the complexities of the ever-changing donor landscape, adapting swiftly to ensure the continued delivery of our services and the fulfillment of our strategic goals. Our dedication to innovation allowed us to not only weather the storm but also seize new opportunities for growth and positive change. I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to my team and all our supporters whose unwavering kindness and collaborative spirit have been instrumental in our success. Together, we have accomplished great things, and I am excited about the possibilities that lie ahead as we continue to build a brighter future for the WBFB and the communities we serve.

Looking ahead, our vision remains clear, and our commitment to excellence is stronger than ever. In the coming year, we will focus on further growth with new partnerships expanding our support within the RMWB. Sustainability and social responsibility will continue to be at the forefront of our strategic initiatives as we strive to make a positive impact to society.

As we move forward, I invite you to join us on this exciting journey. Your continued support, feedback, and partnership are invaluable to us. Together, we will continue to write the next chapter in the WBFB's history, building upon our achievements and creating a legacy of positive change. Thank you for your trust in us, and I look forward to the opportunities and challenges that the future holds as we work together to achieve our shared goals.

Please stay tuned for more info on how you to can be a "Hunger Hero"



DAN EDWARDS

Executive Director

MEET THE TEAM



Executive Director
Dan Edwards



Operations Manager
Kristin Hayward



Communications Manger
Michelle Hand



Warehouse Lead
Dana Westerman



MISSION:

Our Mission at the Wood Buffalo Food Bank is to provide the resources and education necessary to ensure food security for all citizens in the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo (Fort McMurray and all surrounding rural communities).

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

BOARD CHAIR

MERYA GOULD

VICE CHAIR

THERESA WELLS

TREASURER

ALEKSANDRA PLEMIC THOMAS

SECRETARY

GORDON VALVERDE

DIRECTORS

JOSE ALVARADO

KERRI ANN MACQUARRIE

NARCISA RYAN

BRAD LUCIER

LINDA MYWAART



MOBILE PANTRY PROGRAM

The Food Bank's Mobile Pantry Program is unique and progressive because we directly address geographically isolated low-income communities where residents experience chronic hunger and food insecurity.

The Mobile Pantry Program was established to assist low-income individuals and families who live in rural communities within the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo (RMWB), where residents have little or no access to transportation and/or where there might be no full-service grocery stores within reasonable walking distance.

BASIC SHELF & FINANCIAL LITERACY

The Basic Shelf Program is a 6-week series of workshops combining nutrition, cooking, shopping, and basic financial literacy. The Basic Shelf program is premised on the idea of a "Basic Shelf" of grocery items, which are nutritious and affordable.

The program cookbook is comprised of recipes using these ingredients, and at each class participants are taught how to prepare several of the recipes. Lesson topics include food safety, basic nutrition, shopping skills, food preparation and eating well on a budget.

The Financial Literacy program is designed to increase participants' basic financial management skills, with a focus on increasing confidence and self-esteem. Workshop topics include: Assets, Budgeting, Banking, Credit & Consumerism.

TRADITIONAL HAMPER PROGRAM

The Traditional food hamper program offers services by appointment and by approved application. We provide these services by appointment for many reasons – most importantly client confidentiality. We also do this so we are able to spend a few minutes with clients and give them our undivided attention, and refer them to other agencies that might be helpful as well.

By making appointments ahead of time, it also allows us to ensure there is enough milk and produce freshly stocked. Examples of referrals we make; for clients who have recently become unemployed we would refer them to Service Canada to access unemployment insurance. For a client who is struggling with a disability we would refer them to PDD and AISH.

EMERGENCY HAMPER SUPPORT

The WBFB provides emergency 3 days hampers to organizations within the RMWB, who serve clients during weekends and holidays who need food bank support.

These hampers provide enough food to get a small family through the weekend until they can contact the food bank when it opens the following week.

SNACK ATTACK

The Food Bank's Snack Attack Program is a program designed to address the increasing need for snacks in our schools for children and youth who come to school hungry.

This program will provide a choice of healthy snacks as approved by Alberta Health Services (AHS).

FEEDING WOOD BUFFALO

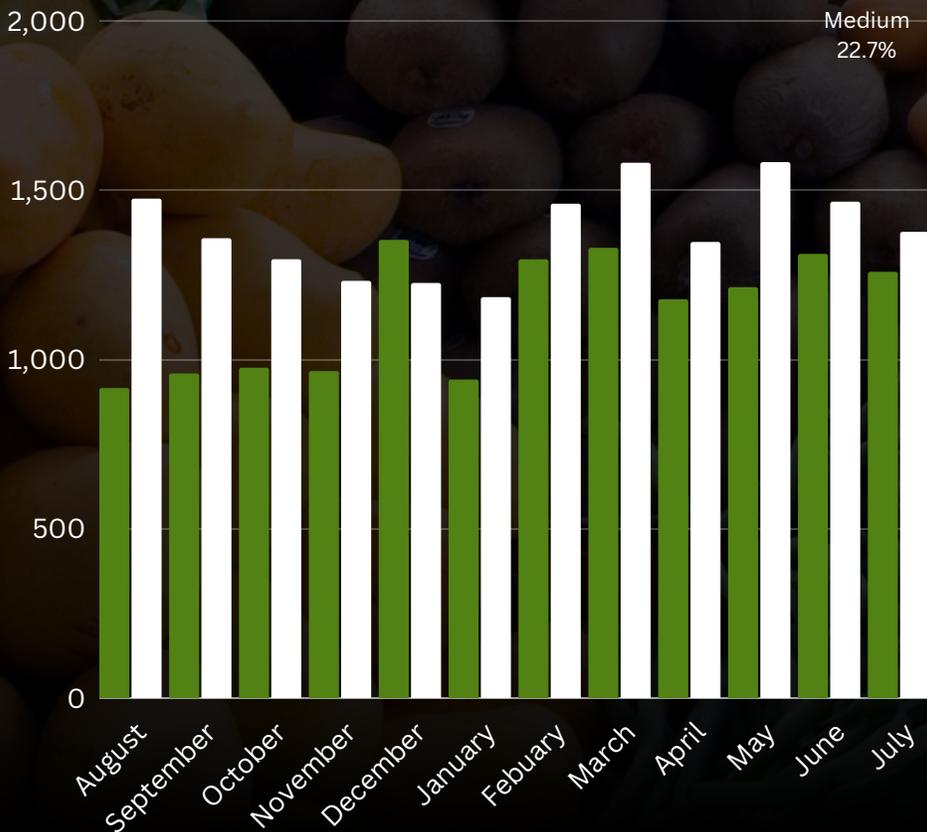
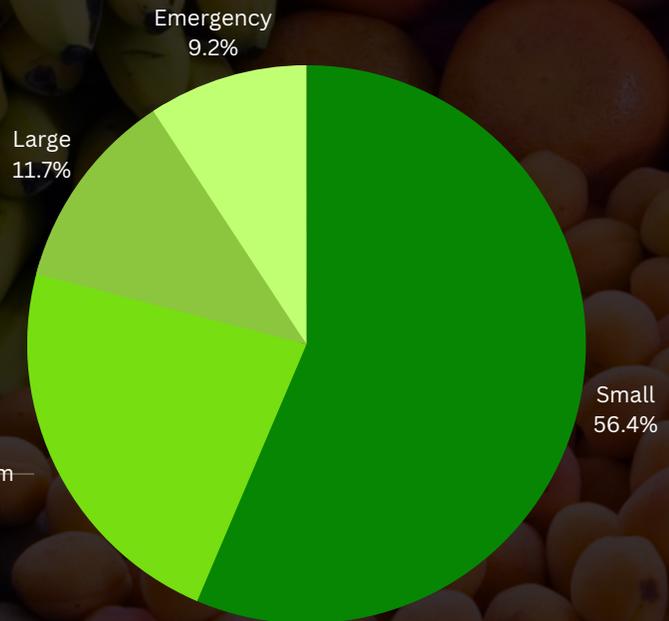
8,005

MONTHLY HAMPERS
DISTRIBUTED

16,573

PEOPLE FED

SIZE OF HAMPER



● 2021/2022
○ 2022/2023

Syncrude

Operated by Suncor

30th Annual

Food Drive

November 25–27, 2022



The weekend began with the Corporate Challenge radiothon on Thursday, November 24th with our Title Sponsor Syncrude announcing their pledge of \$95,000 live on radio stations Country 93.3 and Rock 97.9.

The community was then encouraged to call in and donate throughout the day, or online through the campaign link. Several individuals and organizations contributed throughout the day and even into the following day, collectively raising \$389,217. A massive \$89,217.00 over the goal, successfully kicking off this important annual campaign.

The Syncrude Food Drive then followed from Friday, November 25th, to Sunday, November 27th at all local grocery stores, raising an additional \$44,574.22 in monetary donations, and 45,685 pounds of food.

Wilson generously donated all trucks stationed in front of the stores, and Sentinal Storage and SNF provided the bags handed out with needs lists to customers entering the stores. Thank you to Starbucks, for partnering with us to provide warm beverages for our volunteers.



Weekend Total
\$389,217.22
45,685 LBS

The 2022 Syncrude Food Drive and Corporate Challenge surpassed their monetary goal of \$300,000, and raised over half of their 80,000-pound food goal.



servus
credit union

9th ANNUAL

Spring FOOD DRIVE



Weekend Total

\$18,365.38
28,113 LBS

During the The Wood Buffalo Food Bank's Spring Food Drive, held on April 29th and 30th, 2023, Together we raised an impressive \$18,365.38 and collected a staggering 28,113 pounds of food.

We had an ambitious goal of \$25,000 and 35,000 pounds of food, and although we did not reach our goals, the overwhelming response from our sponsors and hardworking volunteers made this weekend a success.

Summit GM & Summit Fleet generously donated all trucks stationed in front of the stores, and COVERALL and SNF provided the bags handed out with needs lists to customers entering the stores. Thank you to Starbucks again, for partnering with us to provide warm beverages for our volunteers.





As the Wood Buffalo Food Bank settled into its new space at the NorthStar Ford Food Centre, the completion of the brand-new kitchen in late January 2023 called for a grand opening celebration like no other. Instead of a traditional ribbon cutting, the Food Bank decided to showcase its culinary prowess by hosting the very first annual CHOPPED challenge.

This thrilling cooking competition gathered participants who were provided with mystery ingredients and given just one hour to create a spectacular meal. The atmosphere was electric as the competitors showcased their skills, each dish more impressive than the last. The judges had a tough decision to make, but ultimately, two talented individuals from the fire department emerged as the first official CHOPPED champions, taking home the coveted title.

The success of this inaugural event has cemented its place as an annual tradition for the Wood Buffalo Food Bank. Plans are already underway for the 2024 CHOPPED challenge, promising even more excitement and culinary talent. This event not only celebrates the Food Bank's new kitchen space but also highlights the support and generosity of the community in addressing food insecurity.

CHOPPED 2023



PAINT N' DRAG

JUNE 30, 2023 6:30PM -10:30PM

Our community came together for an unforgettable evening of art, entertainment, and giving back at the Paint N' Drag night, hosted at The Smoking Butcher.

The star-studded event featured mesmerizing performances by the incredible Oil Royals, leaving the audience in awe with their talent and charisma. Their energy and showmanship added an electrifying touch to the evening.

But it wasn't just about the performances; it was also about coming together to make a difference. With the generous support of our friends at Color Me Mine, attendees had the opportunity to unleash their creativity by painting bowls for the upcoming Empty Bowls Festival. These beautifully crafted bowls will serve as a symbol of hope, reminding us of our commitment to combating hunger in our community.

As we gathered around, brushes in hand and a vision in our hearts, we couldn't help but feel the sense of unity and purpose that filled the room. Each stroke of paint on those bowls was a small act of kindness, a contribution to a better world.

The success of this event was a testament to the power of collaboration and the willingness of our community to come together for a great cause. It was an evening of laughter, artistry, and a shared commitment to making a positive impact on the world around us.

We're thrilled by the overwhelming response to this Paint N' Drag night, and we want you to know that this is just the beginning. We have big plans for more events like this one, where we can celebrate art, culture, and community while making a real difference.



AUGUST 20, 2023

THE HERITAGE VILLAGE

11AM - 3PM



EMPTY BOWLS
FESTIVAL

PRESENT BY
hedco
GROUP INC

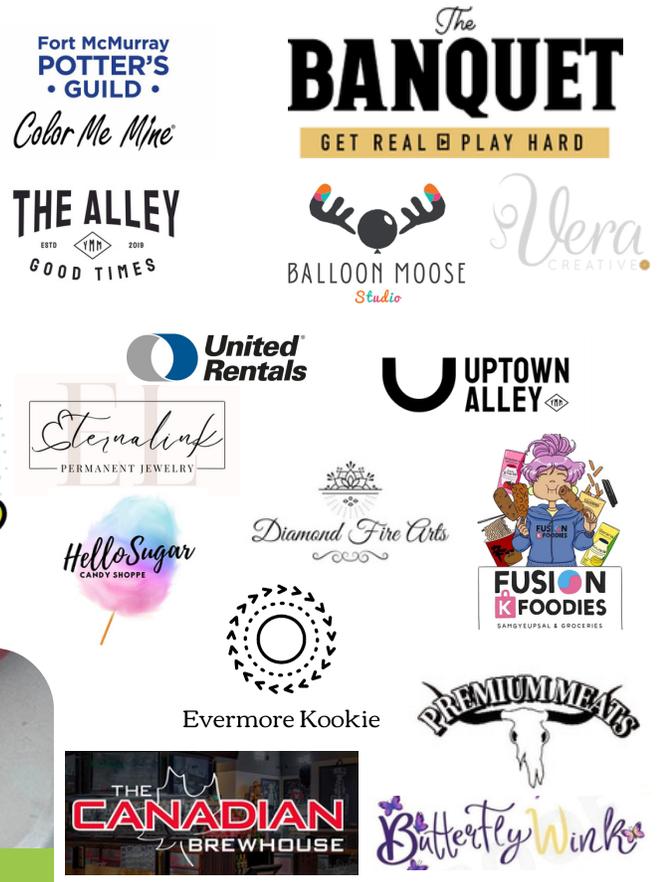
Raised
\$16,902.59

On a warm summer day the Wood Buffalo Food Bank held our annual Empty Bowls Festival, we saw approximately 600 attendee's come through the doors at Heritage Village. We raised an impressive \$16,902.59 and a \$403.00 50/50 prize was drawn

a local resident Tim won the Summer BBQ raffle after his wife purchased his ticket at Sobeys Clearwater Fort McMurray .

We want to express our deepest gratitude to our title sponsor, Head-co, and all our amazing sponsors who supported the Empty Bowls Festival. Your generosity and unwavering support have made a lasting impact on the Wood Buffalo Food Bank Association and the lives of those in need.

Thanks to those who made this event possible!



WOOD BUFFALO FOOD BANK ASSOCIATION
Statement of Operations
Year Ended July 31, 2023

	2023	2022
REVENUE		
Donated food products	\$ 1,909,937	\$ 1,412,246
Donations	538,264	781,064
Fundraising	474,312	380,352
Program	270,640	223,581
Grants	191,000	171,956
Interest	44,511	18,740
Amortization of deferred capital contributions	43,880	48,125
Other revenue	9,631	115,477
Casino	2,282	14,403
Government Subsidies	-	31,959
	<u>3,484,457</u>	<u>3,197,903</u>
EXPENSES		
Donated food products - distributed	1,909,937	1,412,246
Salaries and benefits	804,339	644,355
Food purchases	612,933	426,168
Amortization of capital assets	183,252	165,304
Travel	59,035	43,869
Office	52,252	49,691
Facility	42,882	136,803
Warehouse	40,142	59,778
Fundraising	37,037	35,711
Utilities	27,875	31,863
Insurance	25,247	48,549
Supplies	24,521	8,433
Professional fees	23,788	40,741
Advertising and promotion	7,071	14,301
Licenses and fees	2,956	6,430
Interest and bank charges	2,875	4,255
Board	269	333
	<u>3,856,411</u>	<u>3,128,830</u>
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES FROM OPERATIONS	(371,954)	69,073
OTHER REVENUE		
Insurance recoveries	504	94,692
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES	\$ (371,450)	\$ 163,765



THANK YOU!

To our incredible sponsors, donors and partners. We have listed as many as we can fit, but this list is not exhaustive of all the support we receive on a yearly basis. Thanks for helping us #FEEDYMM #HUNGERHEROS

