

Monthly Message: It's nearly turkey time at the Shelburne Food Bank

As the weather becomes crisper and leaves begin their colourful journey to falling, thoughts start to turn to Thanksgiving!

In order to ensure that all our neighbours can enjoy a family meal this coming Thanksgiving, the Shelburne Food Bank is once again looking for businesses, organizations, or individuals to think about donating turkeys.

We have been blessed each year to have enough turkeys donated to be able to give each family one, and we are hoping that this year we can too. If you are interested in donating towards this, feel free to email us at shelburnefoodbank@gmail.com to let us know. Thank you!

September is Hunger Action Month – a time to raise awareness about hunger issues here in Dufferin County and across the province. Food insecurity, according to Feed Ontario, has reached a record high in Ontario, with over 1 million people having to turn to a food bank to get by. High housing costs and rental rates, low-quality jobs with few benefits, and inadequate social support programs are driving this issue and leaving many Ontarians faced with making difficult choices every month just to get by.

Hunger Action Month is a national campaign that was started here in Ontario by Feed Ontario. It is run in partnership with local food banks to raise awareness about hunger and food insecurity.

During the month of September, we encourage the public to take action to end hunger in their communities and across Ontario in four key ways: Educate. Advocate. Volunteer. Donate.

Educate – Feed Ontario has a wonderfully informative website that contains up-to-date information on what hunger looks like and the impact it has on a person. Please take the time to check out its website at www.feedontario.ca

Advocate – Sign the petition that is on the Feed Ontario site, asking the government to take real action to reduce poverty and increase incomes to align with the cost of living. And ask your local elected representatives what action they are taking to end poverty

Volunteer – Lend your time and talents by supporting the Shelburne Food Bank. Whether it's in website design, technology, or arranging a food drive, email us at shelburnefoodbank@gmail.com.

Donate – Every little bit helps! The summer months are when we experience the least amount of donations, so we look forward to the fall to help restock the shelves. Whether it be items you drop off at the food bank or in the grocery bins at Shelburne's No Frills or Foodland, or a financial donation, all are appreciated!

The Shelburne Food Bank will be marking Thanksgiving with an event on Friday, Oct. 3 at the Shelburne Legion, called the All Shelburne Service Club Thanksgiving Smoked Turkey Dinner!

Tickets are \$25 for adults and \$12.50 for youth under 12. Proceeds generated through the dinner will go to the Shelburne Food Bank.

Let's fill the Legion and celebrate our service clubs!

A strong Ontario depends on strong communities – communities where everyone has what they need to live, contribute, and succeed.

Let's work together to create a strong, vibrant, hunger-free Shelburne.