

WL Food Policy Council harvests support



Eliza Mitchell, trustee of the W. Garfield Weston Foundation, presents the Williams Lake Food Policy Council's Tatjana Bates and Ryan Veitch with a \$25,000 cheque in Bidy Jones' (right) community garden.

Erin Hitchcock photo

Published: September 08, 2009

The Williams Lake Food Policy Council has received a generous donation to help support its food action programs.

It has received \$25,000 from the W. Garfield Weston Foundation and will use the money to support the work being done by its food action co-ordinator Ryan Veitch, as well as numerous programs the Food Policy Council is working on.

Tatlayoko valley resident Eliza Mitchell, a trustee of the foundation, presented the \$25,000 cheque to the Food Policy Council at Bidy Jones' community garden

Thursday, Aug. 27

Mitchell says the Weston Foundation allows trustees to find charities they are interested in and give them a grant for a specific project on a one-time basis.

"I was excited to learn about the Food Co-op and especially the community garden effort," Mitchell says, adding that the board unanimously approved the grant.

"With a little extra work you can produce your own food. I think that's really important that people remind themselves of their connection to the land."

Tatjana Bates, chair of the Williams Lake Food Policy Council and community nutritionist for Interior Health, says the Food Policy Council is grateful for the foundation and its support.

She says the Food Policy Council can't survive on volunteerism completely and will use the funding to expand more community and school gardens and continue with the Food Policy Council's many other priorities.

"We just don't want to supply food," she says, adding the council wants to build a system that would educate and involve youth so all ages can be involved in food recovery, picking food, learning about food, and how to grow it, with the ultimate goal to increase self-sufficiency.

It is also encouraging community members to grow food, and is collaborating with the Ministry of Agriculture and Land to provide resources to assist aboriginal communities grow food.

Mitchell says one of the reasons the foundation was in favour of supplying the grant is because the Food Policy Council has

volunteer support.

“There are lots of volunteers, wonderful people giving of their property and their time and their energy, so we’re very happy to contribute and support the paid employees,” Mitchell says.

Veitch, who has been working on getting more school and community gardens in the ground, hopes to start three to five more gardens by the spring.

City council recently passed a motion to partner with the Food Policy Council to start a new community garden between Cariboo Lodge and the museum.

Last week, 15 Terasen Gas employees volunteered their time to get the garden, which will have 20 plots, ready for next year.

In Jones’s community garden, which was created earlier this year, there are eight plots, including one looked after by Adult Mental Health. The rest of the plots are looked after by others from the community.

Jones says she had heard that the Food Policy Council was trying to get people in the community to start one and liked the idea.

“I said, ‘Eureka! This is exactly what I could do with this awful back garden of mine. It’s nothing but weeds.’ There was nothing I could do with it,” Jones says.

“There are so many people interested in this and are already helping out,” Veitch says, adding that the Food Policy Council is still asking for support from sponsors and volunteers and those interested in having plots at community gardens. “What’s happened in the last month is absolutely

unreal, with everything that’s been going on.”

The Food Policy Council is planning its annual Taste of the Cariboo local food festival for Saturday, Oct. 3.

The festival, Bates says, will take place in partnership with the Williams Lake Central Business Improvement Area, the City of Williams Lake, and the Food Policy Council.

This year, it will feed about 250 people local meals from two local chefs. Next year, the organization hopes to feed 500 or more.

The Food Policy Council will hold a fundraising dinner and silent auction from 6-9 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 24 at the Blue Spoon.

Tickets for the dinner are now available at Red Shreds Bike & Board Shed, the Gecko Tree, and the Blue Spoon. They will also be available at the Harvest Fair Sept. 12-13 at the Food Policy Council’s booth.

They are also available through Bates and Veitch, who can be reached at 250-267-5412 or 250-305-4799.

Find this article at:

http://www.bclocalnews.com/bc_cariboo/williamslaketri bune/news/57685622.html

\$25,000 donation for the Salvation Army

By **Erin Hitchcock**

Published: September 17, 2009 8:00 AM

The Salvation Army in Williams Lake got a big spoonful of help in order to upgrade its kitchen from residential to commercial.

Eliza Mitchell, a trustee of the W. Garfield Weston Foundation, presented the Salvation Army with a \$25,000 cheque at the soup kitchen Monday.

Salvation Army Captain Randy Kadonaga says the funding from the foundation will allow volunteers to make more meals as required.

“We are in a no-fry zone because we don’t have proper ventilation,” said Randy at the kitchen, where volunteers were busy preparing salads, soup, sandwiches, and fruit.

Mitchell says the money will also help replace the Salvation Army’s cooler.

“It could be a lot more efficient and have a lot more space,” Mitchell says.

Any funding left, Mitchell says, will go toward food.

Mitchell says the grant is a trustee-initiated grant that addresses hunger and homelessness concerns.



Salvation Army captains Claudine and Randy Kadonaga (left) accept a \$25,000 donation from Eliza Mitchell (middle) of the W. Garfield Weston Foundation, as well as several boxes of food items from Royal Canadian Wholesale Club assistant manager Olli Allaire and store manager Andrea Moleschi on Monday.

Erin Hitchcock photo

“Who does it better than the Salvation Army? Our foundation has a long history of supporting the Salvation Army, both at a National level and locally,” Mitchell says. “The Salvation Army runs on its wonderful officers and basically volunteers and shoe strings. It’s amazing what they can do with very little.”

She says the Salvation Army is conscious about the dignity of people, which is shown through the soup kitchen and drop-in that addresses not only people’s physical appetites, but their social and spiritual needs as well.

Accompanying Mitchell Monday were Real Canadian Wholesale Club store manager Andrea Moleschi and assistant manager Olli Allaire, who dropped off several boxes of food for the food bank.

Mitchell says the funding for the foundation originally came from an endowment of the Loblaws, which runs the Wholesale Club and other stores.

The Wholesale Club, Mitchell says, not only provides monetary donations to the foundation, but it also provides food donations to the Salvation Army every week.

“It’s usually one or two pallets,” Moleschi says.

The Salvation Army’s food bank and soup kitchen receive no government funding and rely on locally raised funds.

The food bank has experienced a 300 per cent increase in usage over last year. Food valued at \$82,000 was distributed through emergency food hampers in the first five months of the year.

Over the last year, the soup kitchen has seen a 50 per cent increase, with meals valued at \$65,500 being served at the drop-in.

The Salvation Army expects to see a bigger jump in food bank clients in December due to more mill shutdowns and some employment insurance benefits reaching term.

“We’re still feeding up to about 100 people toward the end of the month per day,” Randy says.

Salvation Army Captain Claudine Kadonaga says more food donations and more volunteers are needed for the Salvation Army.

Food items the Salvation Army is particularly short on include soups, dry pasta, and peanut butter.

According to the 2009 Basic Needs Poverty Line for Canada, the basic needs line for one person is \$10,797 a year or \$900 a month; for two, it’s \$16,939 a year or \$1,412 a

month; for three, it’s \$10,588 a year or \$1,1715 a month.

Claudine says since many families had a higher income last year, they don’t qualify for the child tax credit.

“All of a sudden this year their income dropped,” Claudine says, adding that many families fall below the poverty needs line, which only takes into account what it costs for essential needs, such as food, housing, and hydro.

“That’s the poverty line we go with, the essential needs,” she says. “Those are the ones who qualify for monthly assistance.”

Although the food bank has seen a 300 per cent increase, Claudine says the increase in families with children is even higher.

For more information on how to help the Salvation Army, whether by volunteering or donating, contact the Salvation Army at 250-392-2423.

Find this article at:

http://www.bclocalnews.com/bc_cariboo/williamslakatribune/news/59586287.html

The Hamilton Spectator
Sep 19, 2009

Six food banks share \$50k boost

Six Hamilton food banks are sharing \$50,000 from a foundation established by the Weston family of the Loblaw and Fortinos grocery chains fame.

The one-time grant from the W. Garfield Weston Foundation is being passed on through the Hamilton Community Foundation to help reduce poverty.

The grant supports small food banks and community cupboards that don't have the capacity to undertake food drives on their own.

The community foundation is distributing the money to food banks run out of the Welcome Inn Community Centre, Eva Rothwell Resource Centre, Lightway Church and Roxborough Centre. Money will also go to an emergency food voucher program at Christ's Church Cathedral in Jamesville and the Community Access to Child Health's food cupboard.

"Primarily, it's about meeting the immediate food bank needs of the families in these communities," said Sharon Charters, grants manager for the community foundation.

"There are no (large) food banks in east Hamilton. The larger ones are not very accessible for some people."

The money will help the smaller food banks meet the needs of their clients -- for example, one of them might buy food vouchers at a Punjabi grocery store to serve its diverse population, she said.

Charters said most of these smaller food banks are not covered by Hamilton Food Share, the umbrella organization that collects and distributes huge amounts of donated food to the city's major food banks.

CARMELA FRAGOMENI
cfragomeni@thespec.com
905-526-3392

\$60,000 for kids' breakfasts

North Star, News, Wednesday, October 14, 2009

by Stephannie Johnson

Hundreds of children from 22 East and West Parry Sound district schools will now have full bellies before school each morning.

Thursday afternoon, inside William Beatty Public School's special education classroom in Parry Sound, which also serves as the room for the school's breakfast program, Geordie Dalglish, chairman of the W. Garfield Weston Foundation presented a cheque for \$60,000 to support breakfast, snack and lunch programs throughout the area.

"How appropriate that we're here at Thanksgiving, when all of us have so much and Geordie going to donate to those who don't have so much," said Mary Hachigian, volunteer with school breakfast programs. "I think everybody in this room has seen the difference meal programs can make in the lives of children. And we collectively gather together to thank Geordie and the Weston Foundation."

The W. Garfield Weston Foundation is a private family foundation first established in the 1950s by Willard Garfield Weston and his wife Reta.

The foundation is supported by an endowment from the Weston family, with the majority of the funds being directed to specific organizations in the fields of education, land conservation and science in Canada's north.

The Weston family owns George Weston Limited which, today, includes not only the family's original baking company, but also Loblaw Companies Limited, a group of food retailing, processing and distribution companies, including the No Frills franchise.

Harry Reurink, owner of the local No Frills franchise, who provides some food for the breakfast program, was also on hand for the presentation.

"I'm really only the courier here with a cheque for you," said Dalglish. "This is deserved really to you guys, to all the volunteers, you guys make it happen. We love what we do, but the work is done by you guys. We wouldn't have any money to give away if it wasn't for the hard work of guys like Harry. So Harry, thank you very, very much for your efforts."

Dalglish, whose grandmother came from Magnetawan, said he holds a special place in his heart for this area.

"We are trying to pump money into communities as quickly as we can go, we recognize with the current economic hardships that there's a huge need," he said. "Generally our mandate is education and the environment and we don't stray far from that, but this spring we realized that there is a big hole in our communities and country we've got to try and help. We can't always say we're going to solve the problem, but we're going to do our best to chip away at it. We've seen some amazing things, we've probably done 150 different programs in the last six months and I must say that the student programs here, giving children a good breakfast, is one of the most popular. Thank you for all the great work you do for the kids – keep it up."

Originally published at <http://www.parrysound.com/press/1255550554/>

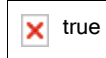


Clockwise from left, Bonnie Beatty, Nobel School breakfast coordinator, No Frills store owner Harry Reurink, Victory School breakfast coordinator Sheena Calibani, W. Garfield Weston Foundation chairman Geordie Dalglish, school breakfast program volunteer

Stephannie Johnson/North Star

Weston donation helps Drouillard Place in Windsor

BY CHRIS THOMPSON, THE WINDSOR STAR OCTOBER 21, 2009 7:50 AM



The Windsor Essex Community Foundation, in partnership with the W. Garfield Weston Foundation, announced Tuesday \$30,500 in grants for two local food security projects. Michael Helferty (L), plant manager with Ready Bake Essex presented a cheque to Marina Clemens, executive director of Drouillard Place. Mary Medcalf, coordinator of field education for the University of Windsor and chair of the Community-University Partnership Committee, was presented with a cheque by Michael Robinson, chair of the Windsor Essex Community Foundation.

Photograph by: Scott Webster, The Windsor Star

WINDSOR, Ont. — A \$25,000 donation from a charitable foundation connected with the baking and retail Weston family has started the ball rolling for so-called food security programs in Windsor.

The W. Garfield Weston Foundation is granting \$25,000 to Drouillard Place to fund a new Teen Cuisine program to help young people learn how to cook.

"We have so many of our young people between 16 and 24 who come in to us and say they don't know how to cook," said Marina Clemens, executive director of Drouillard Place.

As a result of the funding Drouillard Place will begin a program, hopefully in January, to teach about 15 young people how to prepare and cook their own food at classes at the Gino Marcus Community Complex.

"I think I'm going to be the first person to join this program because I don't cook," said Clemens.

She said she is hoping to get some high-profile people, such as city councillor Bill Marra, to come in and teach some cooking. "We're also going to teach them how to shop and shop wisely," said Clemens.

"Hopefully we'll be able to save them some money as well."

In response to the Weston Foundation grant, the WindsorEssex Community Foundation, which helped guide the donation to Drouillard Place, decided to make a donation of its own of \$5,400 to the Community-University Partnership.

That program is helping to provide nutritious snacks to people taking advantage of the four programs involving University of Windsor students.

"We have many people who come to our drop-in centres for a coffee, for a fruit, for a bagel," said Mary Medcalf, the co-ordinator of field education for the University of Windsor.

The funding was announced at a cheque presentation Tuesday in the courtyard at 445 Glengarry Ave.

The W. Garfield Weston Foundation has traditionally provided money for scholarships and towards land conservation, but in light of the current climate, it decided to donate this year to organizations that provide food, clothing and shelter to those in need.

"The foundation knew they wanted to do something for the Windsor-Essex area," said Michael Helferty, plant manager for Ready Bake Foods in Essex, a Weston subsidiary that employs 120 people.

© Copyright (c) The Windsor Star

Weston Family Foundation Equips Local Salvation Army

Posted on 03 November 2009



A large contribution: Maritime Divisional Commander Larry Martin, Lower Sackville Superstore Manager Gary Davis, W. Garfield Weston Foundation President W. Galen Weston and Diane van der Horden.

Halifax, November 1, 2009

The Maritime Salvation Army was one of the chosen recipients of special grant funding provided by The W. Garfield Weston Foundation. In response to the challenges created by the current economic downturn, the Foundation is providing additional support to more than 120 programs offered through registered Canadian charities.

The Weston Family owns George Weston Limited which today includes not only the family's original baking company but also Loblaw Companies Limited.

The Salvation Army is encouraged by this practical demonstration of support. Programs at Salvation Army Centres in Summerside, Sussex and Spryfield will greatly benefit from this recent injection of resources.

The Foundation established this special one-time grant program to assist charitable organizations who provide the necessities of life to families struggling with basic human needs: food, clothing, shelter.

“Our family has had a close relationship with The Salvation Army and its colleagues for over 40 years. We are delighted to be able to support those in the Spryfield community”, said W. Galen Weston, President of the Foundation.

Mr. Weston was in Halifax touring the chain of Superstores and making personal contact with The Salvation Army to acknowledge their work within the community. A cheque presentation was made at the Lower Sackville Superstore in Lower Sackville.

“These funds are a much needed support to the new initiatives we have launched in Spryfield,” says Major Larry Martin, Divisional Commander for The Salvation Army Maritime Division. “Diverse needs are being presented and we need to be equipped to respond to the growing demands. Gifts such as this will enable The Salvation Army to continue to meet human need and be a transforming influence in our community.”

-Ron

Ron Zima ADpPR

Fund Development & Public Relations

The Salvation Army - Maritime Division

ron_zima@can.salvationarmy.org

DIRECT: 902-456-2550

The Weston Family Provides \$540,000 to help Restock The Salvation Army's Shelves

TORONTO, Nov. 5 /CNW/ - The W. Garfield Weston Foundation has donated \$540,000 to The Salvation Army in an effort to assist with the dramatic increase in demand for assistance, particularly for its food bank and meal programs. This is part of a one-time \$1.8 million grant program launched by the Foundation to support the efforts of over 150 programs run by registered charities. These programs provide the necessities of life to families affected by the current economic downturn.

Twenty-five (25) Salvation Army offices, from British Columbia to Prince Edward Island, have been awarded grants to restock their food banks, introduce new community kitchen programs, upgrade kitchen facilities and expand feeding programs for the homeless, the working poor and seniors who are living on a fixed income. Funds also have been provided for school breakfast programs as well as emergency clothing and shelter.

"The Salvation Army is well known to be one of the most effective organizations in delivering assistance to people in need across Canada. The Weston family and The W. Garfield Weston Foundation are delighted to continue their long history of support for The Salvation Army by making a significant commitment to its vital and hope-giving work," says Garfield Mitchell, Director of the Foundation.

"With demand for food assistance increasing between 10-40% across the country, this generous gift from the Foundation could not have come at a more opportune time, particularly as we enter the Christmas Season," says Graham Moore, Territorial Secretary, for Public Relations and Development of The Salvation Army. "We are most grateful for the continued generosity of the Weston family and the Foundation."

The Weston family controls George Weston Limited which, today, includes not only the family's original baking company, but also Loblaw Companies Limited, a group of food retailing, processing and distribution companies, including the No Frills franchise.

About The Salvation Army The Salvation Army is an international Christian organization that began its work in Canada in 1882 and has grown to become the largest non-governmental direct provider of social services in the country. The Salvation Army gives hope and support to vulnerable people today and everyday in 400 communities across Canada and 118 countries around the world. The Salvation Army offers practical assistance for children and families, often tending to the basic necessities of life, provides shelter for homeless people and rehabilitation for people who have lost control of their lives to an addiction.

When you give to The Salvation Army, you are investing in the future of marginalized and overlooked people in your community.

News releases, articles and updated information can be found at www.SalvationArmy.ca.

-0- 11/05/2009 /For further information: Andrew Burditt, Territorial Public Relations Director, The Salvation Army, (416) 845-8231, [andrew_burditt\(at\)can.salvationarmy.org](mailto:andrew_burditt@can.salvationarmy.org), www.SalvationArmy.ca/ CO: THE SALVATION ARMY ST: Ontario IN: SU: NPT -30- CNW 06:00e 05-NOV-09

Donation enables Community Foundation to help provincial charities

Street kids in St. John's, patients in Labrador and seniors in small communities are just some of the people who will benefit from a \$70,000 donation from the W. Garfield Weston Foundation to the Community Foundation of Newfoundland and Labrador (CFNL).

CFNL will immediately pass on \$50,000 of the donation to 12 registered charities across the province, and the other \$20,000 will be distributed later.

The 12 charities include Choices for Youth, the Seniors Resource Centre, the Dover and Area Community Family Coalition, Exploits Valley Community Coalition, Community Mental Health Initiative, Grand Falls Food Bank, Single Parent Association of NL Food Bank, the Salvation

Army, the St. John's Native Friendship Centre, Kilbride to Ferryland Family Resource Centre, Bridges to Hope and the Labrador Friendship Centre Food Bank.

These charities provide a variety of services for under-educated youth with poor job prospects in St. John's, low-income families in Gambo, native people in Labrador, seniors in Spaniard's Bay, mental-health clients in Corner Brook and residents of central Newfoundland who lost their jobs in the global downturn. Individual grants range from \$1,200 to \$8,000.

Community Youth Outreach Worker Jeannie Piercey says the grant of \$5,000 to Choices for Youth is "welcomed by youth who have never had a sense of home or belonging, and who have struggled to find and maintain employment with little or no stability in their lives."

The W. Garfield Weston Foundation is supported by an endowment from the Weston family (owners of Loblaw Cos. Ltd.) with the majority of the funds being directed to specific organizations in the fields of education, land conservation and science in Canada's North.

The Community Foundation of Newfoundland and Labrador is a provincewide registered charity that builds and manages charitable funds for businesses, organizations, families and individuals. It distributes the income as grants to many of the humanitarian, educational, health and cultural charities in this province. CFNL is one of 168 community foundations across Canada and the only one in Newfoundland and Labrador.

Pictured are (front row, seated from left): Joan Francis, Kilbride to Ferryland Family Resource Centre; Marie Ryan, Seniors Resource Centre; Eileen Joe, St. John's Native Friendship Centre; and Viki O'Dea, CFNL. (Back row, from left): Jeannie Piercey, Choices for Youth; Melanie Escott, Single Parent Association of Newfoundland; Kelly Heisz, Seniors Resource Centre; Adele Poynter, W. Garfield Weston Foundation; Jennifer Guy, CFNL; Wanda Burt, Salvation Army; Maj. Wade Budgell, Salvation Army; Jean Bruneau, CFNL; and Sheila Devine, CFNL.

