

# Food Procurement

## Our Goal

We positively impact the lives of those who are hungry in our community by effectively sourcing, managing and distributing food.

## Who Are We?

The Mississauga Food Bank is a food sourcing and redistribution program for the city of Mississauga. We collect surplus perishable (including fresh & frozen) and non-perishable food products for redistribution to local food banks and social service agencies.

The Mississauga Food Bank feeds a network of 108 food programs in Mississauga, including seven full-service food banks. The Mississauga Food Bank is a registered charity that has been collecting surplus food for distribution to local member agencies for 25 years. The Mississauga Food Bank currently distributes over 2.4 million pounds of food per year.

## Who Do We Collect From?

- Food manufacturers
- Food processors
- Food distributors
- Primary food producers
- Grocery stores
- The public/Food drives

## What Food We Accept:

Perishable and non-perishable (including fresh & frozen) quality food items that are:

- close to code
- surplus
- damaged or have mislabelled packaging

## How Your Donation will be Handled:

At The Mississauga Food Bank we understand the importance of not only food safety but also brand protection. Our **fast, free and dependable pick up service** treats your donation with care and integrity. One of our refrigerated trucks delivers your donations to our warehouse facility in Mississauga to be properly inspected, inventoried, sorted and stored by our staff and volunteers with safe food handling certificates before it is distributed to our member agencies.

## Benefits to Your Company:

- Lower warehousing, logistics and food disposal costs
- Convenient, dependable and low cost way to handle your quality surplus foods
- Community goodwill (food donations are distributed to those in need in Mississauga)
- Environmentally and socially responsible



## What about Liability?

You are protected from liability issues via the Ontario Donation of Food Act - 1994 ("Good Samaritan Law").

## Is there a Need for Food Banks in Mississauga?

According to data from Statistics Canada, over 17% of Mississauga residents live below the after-tax low income cut off (LICO), more commonly known as the Poverty Line. A study of Mississauga's food banking system estimated that 119,000 Mississauga residents (56,000 children) lack the financial resources to purchase a nutritionally adequate diet. The same study estimates that this gap will grow at 5% per year.



More food is needed to meet Mississauga's growing hunger gap, and a collective solicitation and distribution process **with your participation** is required. There are numerous food producers and distributors in Mississauga, and **with your help we can work together to fight hunger and feed hope.**

## Who Uses Food Banks?

According to Food Banks Canada, 867,000 Canadians depend on the services of a food bank each month. Contrary to what you might think, more than 11% of people who accessed food banks in 2010 reported that employment was their primary source of income and 38% of food bank users are children.

The Public Health Agency of Canada recognizes food security as one of the 11 determinates of health and recommends 1,000 lbs of food per person each year, including key elements such as dairy, fresh fruit & vegetables, fish/meat and cereals.

Despite this recommendation, there is a growing hunger gap in Mississauga. Our member agencies serve 38,000 people each month, but it is estimated that an additional 100,000 people in our community are still in need of emergency food services.

## What is the Procedure for Donating Food?

Before any arrangements are made, you must contact Dawn Pullar to confirm the product is needed by The Mississauga Food Bank and that we have capacity to handle the donation. We cannot guarantee that we can accept all donations, nor that a pick-up by our trucks can be accommodated.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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