

December 2020

Dear Saint Columba's Anglican - United Church,

Well we can all agree it has been quite an unusual year. Despite the challenges however, there have been many stories of perseverance brought forth by the kindness of others. This inspires all of us at Loaves & Fishes as we push forward to increase the amount of food provided to communities throughout Vancouver Island. One of these stories comes from the Hardy Bay Senior Citizens Society. They are a group that brings free, hot meals to 50-60 vulnerable, low income seniors in Port Hardy every week.

I just wanted to thank you all again for all the wonderful donations allowing us to send out this amazing meal. Pot roast and rare roast beef with Yorkshire puddings and gravy, potatoes, mashed turnip, parsnips and carrot, green beans, corn and diced peppers rounded out the main meal. Creamy seafood chowder and a bread pudding with caramel sauce used up all that fish and seafood and the last of the bread and eggs in the freezers. Just in time to get those wonderful meatloaf meals, freezers are full again and we are incredibly grateful to Loaves and Fishes for supporting our seniors so well. Thank you all again

Kris Huddlestan
Hardy Bay Seniors



This is just one of many instances of hope brought from the over 80 other non-profits, food banks, schools and Indigenous Communities throughout Vancouver Island who depend on Loaves & Fishes for free food.

From January to November of 2020 we were able to source and distribute over \$6 million worth of food that reached over 15,000 people across Vancouver Island. This is a significant jump from 2019 when \$4.6 million worth of food was sourced and distributed. Other non-profits, food banks, schools and Indigenous Communities were not the only groups who benefitted from the food we provide. We have also been able to increase the amount of food households and individuals receive at our depots by 25%. Throughout 2020 people received an average of \$66.88 worth of food per person, per visit. That is \$267.54 worth of food for a family of 4 each time they come to us. Our depots remain barrier free and open 6 days per week in Nanaimo and bi-weekly in Port Hardy because of the support we receive from caring people like you.

Recently one of our many clients remarked,
"I really appreciate the selection and volume of food being given out while having so much that I regularly share with the neighbours here."

This truly illustrates what Loaves & Fishes stands for, turning scarcity and unnecessary waste into an abundance of food for all.

As we venture forward bravely into a new year, we wish you all the best for a safe and happy holiday season with the knowledge that you have made a real difference to a great many this year.

Gratefully yours,

Peter Sinclair
Executive Director

Abby Sauchuk
Director of Development

