



Happy Holidays from the Shelbourne Community Kitchen!

As we tuck into big mugs of hot cocoa and quality time with family and friends, we have so much to celebrate and be thankful for this year. Following the success of our 'Bring Home the Kitchen' capital campaign that raised funds for phase 2 renovations, our guardian angel philanthropist returned with a second \$50,000 donation matching challenge; this time for programs and services! We launched our **Donate & Double Your Impact campaign** and held two incredible benefit concerts with Jazz Vespers: Stephanie Greaves on Nov 26 and Winter Wonderland with Edie DaPonte on Dec 10. The two shows were packed and the music was incredible! At our last show, Jazz Vespers brought a surprise horn section, and the Chinatown Lioness Club surprised us with a \$2,000 donation during intermission! Thanks to the overwhelming support we received from individual donors, big-hearted businesses, community organizations, and funders, throughout the campaign we are overjoyed to announce that **on December 15th, we reached (and exceeded!) our goal and raised a whopping \$101,781 with the matching!**

December was the Shelbourne Community Kitchen's busiest month on record, but thanks to hardworking volunteers and the tremendous outpour of community generosity, everyone who reached out to us for support this month left with bags filled with nourishing food, a \$25 special grocery gift card, and even a whole chicken! We held our annual wreath making event, distributed matzah ball meal kits to celebrate Hanukkah, and gave away heaps of goodies and cozy knits made by community members. We even shared 200 lbs in chocolate advent calendars that were donated by Thrifty Foods! **Dozens of food drives were organized throughout the community** as well, including the Victoria Lions Club soup-drive and 'Operation Snowball' at Cedar Hill Middle School that raised 146 boxes of food and \$5,300 in donations. Goodness!

It's been a challenging time for so many families and individuals in our community, but the unprecedented need for services inspired a tremendous wave of generosity and kindness this year. Our team shed plenty of tears of joy -let me tell you! We send our

deepest thanks to our generous anonymous guardian angel donor, and to each and everyone who helped to make this season bright at the Shelbourne Community Kitchen.

Our hearts are filled with gratitude to our amazing volunteers! Hundreds of dedicated community members dedicate their time, their talent, and their big hearts with us. Each and every day, volunteers make our work possible and bring so much joy, hard work and humour to the Kitchen.

The Kitchen is now closed for the holidays and the beginning of renovations. We will be in a full closure from December 22nd to January 16th. **Adapted programs and services will begin on January 17th** above the Shelbourne Community Kitchen, in the upper hall at Lutheran Church of the Cross. [Learn more](#)

Pantry Program Participants! Over the course of renovations, we have the opportunity to reimagine our Pantry Program and adapt our services to meet changing participant needs. **Please take this moment to complete our [2023 Pantry Program Survey](#).** Your feedback will directly inform our work, and you will also be entered to win a piece of kitchen equipment!

As we round out the year, stay tuned for a recap of our 2023 Programs and Impact!



Wishing you a safe and happy holiday!

-Kim Cummins, Director of Operations

-Tyler Akis, Program Coordinator



Holiday Message from Chair of the Board of Directors

Dear Shelbourne Community Members,

On behalf of The Kitchen Board, best wishes to you all for a Happy Holiday Season! In these difficult times of high food, gas and housing costs, it is important to also focus on the good things in our lives, our families, Kitchen staff, volunteers and construction team, friends and supportive community. We at The Kitchen are blessed with all of these. Our heartfelt thanks to all who help make us a welcoming and well functioning community facility.

We hope you have enjoyed the special Holiday events and Pantry Holiday offerings of chicken, butter ++. I enjoyed meeting some of you at the Wreath Making and excellent Jazz Concerts.

As we look forward to construction of our commercial kitchen, accessibility improvements, and Pantry, office, dining room and walk-in freezer and fridge upgrades, we will continue to provide the Pantry program, with choice, above the Kitchen in the upper hall at Lutheran Church of the Cross. Be sure to check our website below for updates. We will

have several special offerings during the four months we are operating on reduced hours during construction. [Learn more](#)

The reopening of the awesome Kitchen renovated space in May will be gradual as we get used to our renovated space and new equipment. There will be much to unpack and try out! **We all look forward to seeing Food Skills Program attendees cooking together again in the “the Kitchen”**. We will truly have Brought The Kitchen Home!

Wishing you Peace and Joy this Holiday Season,

-Clarice Dillman and the Shelbourne Community Kitchen Board

From the holiday season...



Alternative Food Resources in Victoria

If you are looking for additional food resources during our holiday and renovations closure, our Alternative Food Resources in Victoria information sheet may be of benefit. You can always find this, and other resources on the 'Resources' tab, under the 'Programs' menu on our website.



[View Alternative Food Resources Sheet](#)

COOK GROW SHARE CONNECT

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