

Fall 2019 Edition

OKANAGAN GLEANERS

HELPING TO FEED THE HUNGRY
OF THE WORLD IN JESUS' NAME

Okanagan Gleaners

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Gleaners Welcome New Truck

Okanagan Gleaners has been blessed with a modern, new to us 2015 Ford F-450 truck. This truck replaces the 1997 one ton flatbed truck and will be used on a daily basis to haul product from the fields as well as moving compostible materials to the designated locations. **A HUGE thank you to all who contributed towards the purchase.**



4 Generations

A mini family reunion

The **Jaarsma** family gathered recently at the Gleaners to enjoy a mini family reunion and graciously volunteered their time helping out with the preparation of vegetables. Parents Bill and Evelyn have been volunteering at the Gleaners since 2002. They were joined by four children and their spouses, seven grandchildren and three great grandchildren. Evelyn writes:

"We all feel privileged to work here. It's so rewarding to use produce which otherwise would go to waste. It's wonderful that a group of people had the vision to start Oliver Gleaners. We feel blessed to be able to help feed the hungry. May God bless the Gleaners and all who volunteer their time."

Thank you **Jaarsma family** for coming and blessing the hungry with your willing hands and blessing hearts.

**OKANAGAN
GLEANERS
25TH
ANNIVERSARY
BANQUET**

**SATURDAY
OCTOBER 19TH
PENTICTON
SENIORS CENTRE**

**See page 6 of
newsletter for details**





First load of Walla Walla Sweet Onions arrive

Rosthern Junior College Visits the Gleaners

David Epp from Rosthern Junior College in Rosthern, Saskatchewan writes:

“Thank you for your generous hospitality, spiritual leadership and affirmation. The reception our students receive at the Okanagan Gleaners is overwhelming. I’m deeply appreciative ... your openness to student experience, particularly in facilitating opportunities to work as Christ’s hands and feet. You are an invaluable educational partner in our efforts

to equip students to be leaders in faith, service and peacemaking. Thank you for everything. See you next year!”

(David Epp and the RJC Gr. 10 Class)



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2019 Mixing Complete

Once all the dust had settled, Okanagan Gleaners were able to produce **8.7 million servings of soup mix** during the 2019 mixing sessions. Many thanks to the dedicated group of volunteers and staff who contributed to this years mixing.



From the President's Desk

This summer, as I watched the exuberance of many youth teams as they worked at the plant, I was encouraged not only by the fact that they were there serving, but that they were enjoying every minute of their time together. It is really important that we, as parents and grandparents, instill in our children the desire to serve in any and all areas that are God's heart. We can be certain that the culture surrounding them and bombarding them with information daily, won't do that job for us. To see these young people fellowshiping, listening to worship music and just simply spending their mornings working together to feed the hungry, was very gratifying.

We really appreciate the work of all our volunteers, both local and visiting, and one of the things our General Manager Greg has been doing is reading letters of appreciation at morning prayer time, from many of the recipients of our dried vegetable mix. These letters from many different countries, from mostly mothers and grandmothers, help all our volunteers understand that their work at OKG plays an important part in the lives of families. Stories of better nutrition resulting in less illness, better concentration on schoolwork and improved family dynamics all speak of better futures because of the work accomplished by our volunteers.

Thank you for all you do. It's important to realize that whether you are here working, or support us financially, you're not just providing nourishing food to areas where it's needed, you're also changing lives and introducing many families to the grace of God.

Blessings,
Bill Saul



Okanagan Gleaners Prayer Requests

We ask that you would join with us in prayer for the following needs:

- pray for the people in weather torn countries. Mozambique, Bahamas, and Canada's Eastern Provinces.
- Pray that front line workers will rise up in the Bahamas and Okanagan Gleaners will be called on to supply soup mix. We are ready to ship.
- Pray also for our partners at GEM.... **Global Emergency Missions** who are working on getting food into Venezuela. Pray that country's leadership will allow these donations to cross their borders.

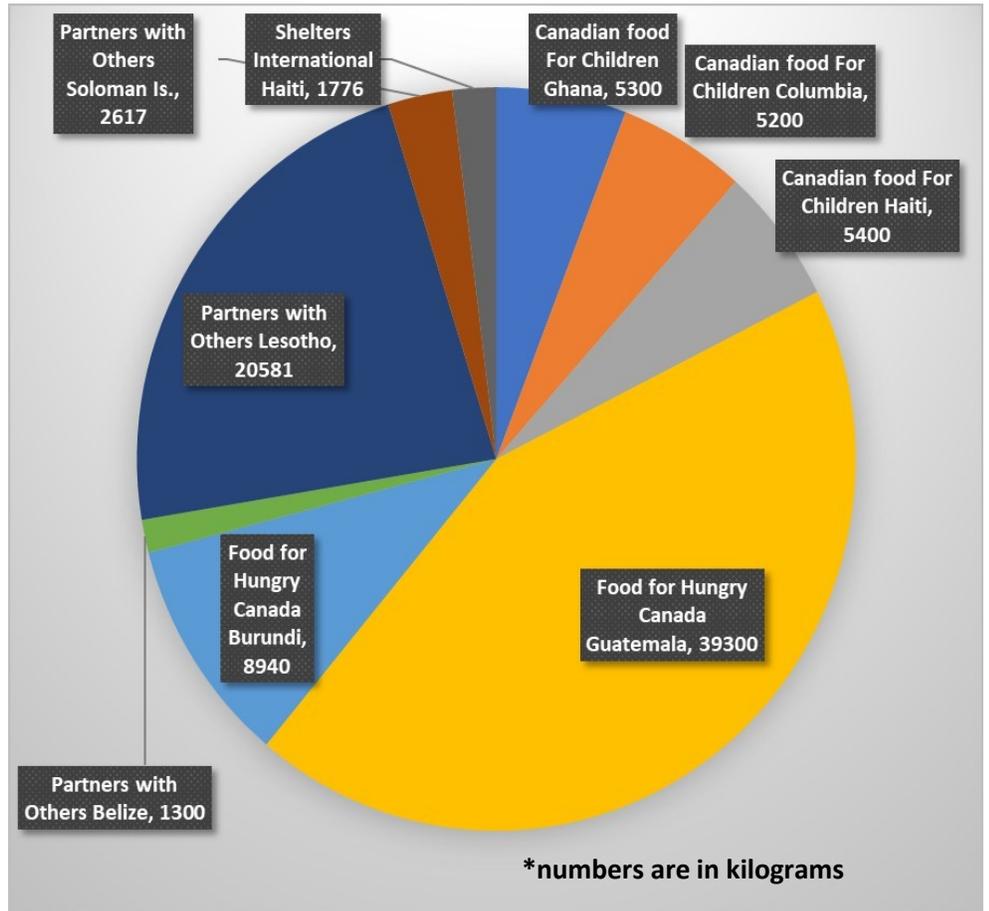
Okanagan Gleaners is a smoke free, drug free and vaping free zone. There will be no smoking, vaping or illegal drugs on the Gleaners property.

Apple Chips to Bolivia

Gleaners Mike and Sherri on a recent trip to Bolivia brought Gleaners Apple Chips and shared them with the Bolivia International Justice Mission.



2018—2019 Product Distribution



Following the Product

Ray Brosseuk with Partners With Others reports on the arrival of a second container to the Mountain Kingdom of Lesotho, Africa.



Loading some of the one million servings of soup heading to Venezuela through the Christian & Missionary Alliance Church of Canada.



From the Board...

Okanagan Gleaners needs your help to fill the following role as soon as possible. Please spread the word and help us find the right people.

Treasurer Needed

A new treasurer is still needed for Okanagan Gleaners. This is a part-time volunteer position, which oversees all financial and accounting procedures for the organization, as well as sitting on the Board of Directors and participating in Board activities. It may not be glamorous, but the treasurer has one of the most important roles at Gleaners. If you're good with numbers, enjoy record-keeping, and have a keen knowledge of tax regulations, we need your help and expertise to keep the operation running smoothly. Please contact Jane at 250-535-1424.

2019 Board of Directors

Thank-you to everyone who came out to support Okanagan Gleaners at the Annual General meeting in May. Our Board of Directors includes new and returning members: Bill Saul (President), Bob Ellis (Vice President), Jane Marcelet (Interim Treasurer), Dorothy Haagen (Secretary), Lex Haagen (Past President), Peggy Cumberbatch, and Les Clarke.



Students and adults working together during soup mixing

How You Can Get Involved

Okanagan Gleaners Society is powered by volunteers and funded by donations. We couldn't do what we do without the generous help of our many supporters from near and far. There are several ways in which you can get directly involved.

VOLUNTEERING:

We are always looking for volunteers at Gleaners to help with the production of vegetables for our soup mix. Whether you live nearby or are passing through the Okanagan, we can sure use your help.

Skilled volunteers and experienced trades people are also encouraged to contact Gleaners. There is never any shortage of work to be done around the Oliver plant.

DONATIONS:

Regular donations help Gleaners to meet its monthly operating expenses and fund necessary improvements to the facility.

BY PHONE: Single or recurring monthly donations can be arranged by credit card or Direct Deposit from your bank account by calling Gleaners at 250-498-8859

BY MAIL: Cheque and money order donations can be mailed directly to the Okanagan Gleaners Society at: 507 No. 3 Road, Oliver, BC V0H 1T1

BY INTERNET: Donations can be made securely via **CanadaHelps** by following the Donate link on our website at: www.okanagangleaners.com
Thank-you for your continued support.

OKANAGAN GLEANERS

Fall 2019

Newsletter

NEWSLETTER EDITOR:

LES CLARKE

CONTRIBUTORS:

**Bill Saul, Greg Masson,
Evelyn Jaarsma, Ray
Brosseuk, Mike & Sherri,
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**Okanagan Gleaners
25th Anniversary Banquet Dinner**

MARK YOUR CALENDARS and join us as we celebrate our 25th year of helping to feed the hungry of the world in Jesus' name.

Date: October 19th

Place: Penticton Seniors Centre

Time: Doors open at 5:30 pm Dinner at 6:00 pm

Tickets: \$25 each

Keynote Speaker:

Ryan Walters—15 year veteran NHL player
Stanley Cup champion with Montreal Canadiens
Canada's Junior's and Men's World Championship teams

Guest Speaker:

Ray Brosseuk founder of the humanitarian aid organization
Partners With Others in Revelstoke, BC which sends food,
clothing and medical supplies to developing countries.

There will also be a Silent Auction.

Any donations of NEW items would be appreciated

Information and tickets available from Okanagan Gleaners (250-498-8859)

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE