### **Okanagan Gleaners**

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



Tuesday, November 28, 2023
Everyone has something to give and every act of generosity counts!

#### **OKANAGAN GLEANERS**

Fall 2023
Newsletter
NEWSLETTER EDITOR:
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# Okanagan Gleaners

FALL ISSUE

O C T O B E R 2 0 2 3

## **Editors musings...**

### Roads ...

On a recent trip to the East Coast, I was reminded while driving around the roads of an old saying I remember hearing growing up in New Brunswick. My dad would often say "they must have followed a snake when building this road"! The secondary roads (there are many) are often windy with lots of curves. One needs to pay attention while driving.

Driving along the about the 'road' Gleaners have 27 plus years. It many twists and hills and valleys today still on the "faith-stepping" of mitment of volun-



roads got me thinking journey the Okanagan been on over the last has been a road with turns, straight aways, and yet here we are journey. The vision and the leadership, comteers and dedicated

donors has produced millions of serving of soup for the needlest of the world.

Inside the pages of this newsletter, you will see evidence of this and perhaps if I may highlight one of these roads on the journey it would be the completion and dedication of the "Storage To Feed the Hungry" building.

Thankyou for your commitment and support through the years!

Thank you to all our donors and volunteers for the many ways you've blessed us this year. Because of your prayers, your words of encouragement, your helping hands, your financial support, and your resource donations, Okanagan Gleaners has been able to send food and hope to many people experiencing food insecurity.

# Shared Blessings ...

Thank you to all our donors and volunteers for the many ways you've blessed us this year. Because of your prayers, your words of encouragement, your helping hands, your financial support, and your resource donations, Okanagan Gleaners has been able to send food and hope to many people experiencing food insecurity.

We've also been able to complete and pay for the storage building project started last year. Thank you to all those who blessed us by donating towards the building costs.

As we move towards the end of 2023, several additional capital projects are on the radar:

Concrete apron in front of the storage building entrance Re-surfacing the area under the outdoor work canopy Concrete foundation for a donated equipment garage A new to us forklift

Page 4 lists a number of ways that you can donate to help fund capital projects or operational needs. Thank you for your continued support.

For your donations to be eligible for 2023 income tax receipts, please ensure we receive them by December 31.

Please also note that if you wish to donate securities through CanadaHelps, the donation deadline is generally early to mid December. It is worthwhile noting that proposed tax law changes for 2024 for securities donations may change the benefit offered to both charities and donors in some circumstances. Consult with your financial advisor if you are considering a securities donation.

One additional way you may want to share your blessings is through a legacy donation, or a donation in your will.

May you be blessed as you have blessed Okanagan Gleaners!

"A huge thankyou to all who came throughout the year to prepare product for drying and for taking part in the Spring & Fall mixing."

# 2023 Mixing Report ...



Saturday, October 28 marked the completion of the 2023 mixing season for Okanagan Gleaners. A total of 9,200,000 servings of soup were mixed, packaged and made ready for shipment around the world in 2023, to those who are desperately in need of food. A huge thankyou to all who came throughout the year to prepare product for drying and for taking part in the Spring & Fall mixing.

To date servings of soup mix have been shipped to Burundi, Ukraine, El Salvador, Haiti and Turkey. Fall shipments are destined for Guatemala, Madagascar and Ukraine .



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### Are we looking for you?

Dear Friends and Members of the Okanagan Gleaners

The Okanagan Gleaners are in need of skilled volunteer maintenance people!

The Gleaners operate mainly by valued volunteers. Without our dedicated volunteers we would not be able to meet the Lords mandate of feeding the hungry of the world. There is such a demand to assist those, suffering food insecurity.

We currently have some very skilled and dedicated maintenance people but we would like to add to the team to share the workload. There are different skilled volunteers needed to continue to operate. (Property, equipment & building maintenance) Clearly, volunteers to process vegetables are most thought of but the Okanagan Gleaners is also in need of volunteers with maintenance skills. If you feel you can participate in this area, please come and join our team to continue to allow the plant to operate on a daily basis. Please contact okgsecretary@gmail.com or phone Darrell at 236-687-9214 for additional information.

Time commitment is at your availability. It could be occasionally, one morning a week or more.

If interested, thank you for your consideration of this request.

Lex Haagen, President

<u>Notice</u>: Okanagan Gleaners is looking to hire a casual part time production assistant. Interested person may contact **Greg Masson**, **General Manager at 250-498-8859** or email okgmanager@gmail.com

### Legacy Gifting ...

Legacy gifting is a gesture that comes from the heart. It is an authorized future contribution to a charity or non-profit organization, donated on your behalf through a will or other form of legal designation. A legacy gift is a decision you can make in your own financial planning process, taking into account your charitable wishes and values.

People create legacy gifts for different reasons. For some, it is a way of ensuring that their memory lives on. For others, it is a way of ensuring that an organization such as Okanagan Gleaners is able continue its work of feeding the hungry of the world in Christ's name. By creating a legacy, you could be making a significant contribution to the future sustainability of our ministry if it has had an impact on your life, or the life of someone you love.

Gifts, both large and small, are important. Legacy gifting is not just for the wealthy, and every gift is cherished. Please consider leaving a legacy gift to Okanagan Gleaners when evaluating your personal, family and financial needs, as well as your long-term charitable giving. As there are many different options for legacy gifting, please consult with your lawyer or financial advisor for taxation benefits and legal advice.

The board is pleased for the generous donations for the new storage building. We did it folks! We met our goal! Thank you supporters and donors!

# From the President's Desk

Hello members and friends of the Okanagan Gleaners. We have had our AGM which was well attended. At this meeting everyone was made aware of the current activities of the Gleaners. Each of the members of the board is responsible for a program to facilitate the business of the Gleaners.

At the AGM, voted in were, Jane Marcelet, Elmer Neufeld, Dorothy Haagen and Lex Haagen as returning members and added Darrel Bennett as a new member. We welcome Darrell and know that his vast experience will benefit the Society.

At our Statutory Board meeting Dorothy Haagen was appointed as Secretary, Ann Froese, Treasurer, Val Fenn, Vice President and Promotions, Darrell Bennett Building/Property/Equipment, Jane Marcelet. Hospitality, GM Greg Masson, Bill Saul and Lex Haagen, Distribution Team, and Lex Haagen was appointed as President.

The Board and I want thank Peggy Cumberbatch for serving on the board for two terms. And a big Thank You to Bill Saul for serving as President for a number of years. Bill will still be on the board as past President, but needed a well-deserved break. Thank you both for your dedication and service!

The board is pleased for the generous donations for the new storage building. We did it folks! We met our goal! Thank you supporters and donors!

Lex Haagen, President



Families in Syria sincerely appreciate the blankets and food that came their way.

#### **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. We are always looking for volunteers at Gleaners to help with the production of vegetables for our soup mix. 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:**

**BY PHONE**: Single donations can be arranged by credit card 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 VOH 1T1

BY INTERAC: Donations can be made using the email — okgfinance@gmail.com

BY INTERNET: Donations can be made securely via CanadaHelps by following the Donate link on our website at: www.okanagangleaners.com

<u>BECOME A "SOUPER DONOR"</u> with recurring monthly donations by credit card. Email okgfinance@gmail.com to request an authorization form.

**LEGACY GIFTS**: Consider leaving a legacy gift in your will.

Thank-you for your continued support.

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On a beautiful fall sunny day in October, 50 people gathered at Okanagan Gleaners to dedicate our new storage facility. Lex Haagen, our president, greeted everyone, told the story, praised God, and cut the ribbon. He was joined by Irwin Chahal from the RDOS and Terry Schafer from the Town of Oliver, sending their best wishes and appreciation for the work of the Gleaners. A plaque was unveiled to thank all the donors, who made this happen. The day was special with 30 young people from the Nobleford Christian Reformed Church from Nobleford Alberta, who fundraised the money to come and work at mixing time as a mission trip. The celebration was completed with cake.













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