



WELCOME TO OUR

# Quartely Newsletter

*we're so glad you're here!*



## Our New Floors Are In!

### FEEDING POSSIBILITY GRANT

We are thrilled to head into spring with a beautiful, much-needed upgrade to our facility. Thanks to Feed Ontario's Feeding Possibility Grant, we were able to replace the flooring at the food bank. The new flooring provides:

#### Enhanced Safety

The new surface provides a level, slip-resistant floor for our volunteers and neighbours.

#### Hygiene & Maintenance

The medical-grade durability allows for the highest standards of cleaning protocols, ensuring a healthy environment for food storage.

#### Operational Efficiency

Moving shopping carts is now smoother than ever.

## By the Numbers: Our First Quarter

### FOOD BANK USAGE THIS YEAR IS UP

#### 2025 (January to March)

- 481 Individuals Served
- 162 Households Supported
- 1,437 Visits

#### 2026 (January to March)

- 585 Individuals Served
- 197 Households Supported
- 1,676 Visits
- Including a two-week closure for floor renovations.

## Wish List

### MOST NEEDED ITEMS

- Kids Snacks for the summer months
- Canned vegetables and fruits
- Fresh potatoes and onions
- Size 5 diapers or pull-ups

### CURRENTLY NO MORE NEEDED

- Condensed Soups: tomato, chicken noodle and vegetable
- Dry pasta
- Kraft Dinner

**Growing need. Stronger community.**

Thank you for helping us support our neighbours.



## A Heartwarming Act of Kindness

### **WE ABSOLUTELY LOVE WORKING WITH OUR COMMUNITY!**

This past weekend, Matt and his daughter Abby honoured the life of their beloved wife and mother, Sharon French, who was passionate about supporting food banks across Clarington.

In Sharon's memory, they invited guests to bring non-perishable food donations to her Celebration of Life. We were deeply honoured to receive both monetary gifts and over 250 pounds of food, delivered in a truck filled with generosity and love.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to Matt, Abby, and all who contributed. Sharon's kindness will continue to make a difference.



## Coming Up

### **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

May 21 | 7:00–8:00 PM

Join us at Newcastle United Church Hall  
All are welcome to attend as we reflect on the past year and look ahead to what is next for CEFB.

Hear about our achievements in 2025 and the plans to continue.

RSVP: [claringtoneastfoodbank@gmail.com](mailto:claringtoneastfoodbank@gmail.com)  
by May 14, 2026



## Looking Ahead

### **A SEAT AT THE TABLE**

As we begin our Strategic Planning for the next three years, phase, we welcome input from our donors and community. Please reach out to Susan by April 15 with your ideas.

# Retail Food Reclamation

## HEALTHY FOOD. NO WASTE. STRONGER COMMUNITY.

In late February, Executive Director Susan Pascoe toured the Bowmanville Walmart alongside Minister of the Environment MPP Todd McCarthy, Food Banks Canada, and Walmart leadership. The purpose of the visit was to highlight the impact of Food Banks Canada partnership with Walmart Canada has on reducing food waste.

The Food Banks Canada Retail Food Program provides us with fresh, unsold food rescued from Walmart and No Frills in Clarington. This means fresher produce, dairy, and essentials for our neighbours while reducing food waste in our community.

We also benefit from a similar program through Second Harvest, with support from Shoppers Drug Mart and Foodland. These programs divert high-quality food from landfills to food banks, and the impact on our food bank is significant.

Rescued food contributes to:

- 49% of all the food we receive
- 90% of the meat we distribute to our neighbors.



## Leadership Transitions

### WELCOME MELISSA SCOTT

We are excited to introduce our new Board Treasurer, Melissa Scott. A CPA and Treasurer at General Motors, Melissa brings extensive financial expertise, strategic insight, and a strong commitment to community.

Her leadership will help guide CEFB's financial sustainability as we continue to grow and respond to the increasing need. We are thrilled to welcome Melissa to her new role on the Board of Directors.

### THANK YOU RICHARD JEFFERSON

After 15 years of dedicated service, Richard Jefferson has stepped down as Treasurer. Richard's steady leadership, integrity, and deep commitment have played a vital role in shaping our organization and ensuring strong financial stewardship over the years. We are grateful for his contributions and are pleased that he will continue to share his knowledge and passion as a Director on our Board. His continued involvement adds stability to our organization and the community we serve.