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Media Release

Harvest Manitoba released its 2023-2024 **Impact Report** ahead of its Annual General Meeting today in Winnipeg. The **Impact Report** highlights the important contributions made by Harvest Manitoba's donors, volunteers, and community partners over the past year.

Highlights from the 2023-24 report include:

- Over 13 million pounds of food distributed to over 380 agency partners
- Food donations last year of over 9,000,000 lbs., valued at over \$32,000,000 and representing 4,200 tonnes of greenhouse gas diversion.
- A record number of households served with an average of 20,221 each month
- Expanded food bank service in remote First Nations with a record 254,707 lbs. delivered by air and ice road.
- 66,000+ hours of volunteer time donated to Harvest Manitoba last year.

“It takes a province to feed a province, and no one does that better than we do right here in Manitoba,” said Harvest Manitoba Board Chair, Phil Poon. “The hard work of our staff and volunteers, combined with the generosity of people from across Manitoba, is allowing us to meet the record need for food banks, improve our critical programs and expand service to new communities.”

In addition to the record amount of food distributed and people served, Harvest Manitoba has also continued to focus on client supports, innovative programs and partnerships.

“Harvest Manitoba has always been about so much more than just hampers, it's about hope,” said President & Chief Executive Officer Vince Barletta. “Last year, 100 people graduated from our training programs, we established an important new partnership with MKO to support northern First Nations food security and feed more children with our Meals2Go program. I am immensely proud of our incredible team at Harvest Manitoba for all their dedication and hard work.”

The **Impact Report** also provides highlights from Harvest Manitoba's new strategic plan and its focus on four key areas over the next three years. These areas include continued expansion of Indigenous partnerships, improved service delivery across the province and improved use of technology and innovation with our partnerships in the agri-food sector. This innovation includes the work now underway with MNP to consider the feasibility of a Harvest Manitoba Food

Transformation Centre which would increase the availability of locally sourced products for our programs and promote food recovery across the province.

In addition to the release of the Report, Harvest Manitoba also welcomes new members to our Board of Directors:

- Diane Redsky, Distinguished community leader and former Executive Director of the Ma Mawi Wi Chi Itata Centre.
- Susan Brown, Elected member from the Harvest Community Food Network (Winnipeg) representing Charleswood Caring & Sharing Food Bank.
- Mariyam Tsygankova, Elected member from the Harvest Community Food Network (Rural) Executive Director of Many Hands Resource Centre in Morden, MB.

This year's AGM will also see the changeover of the Board of Director's gavel from current Chair, Dr. Phil Poon who has concluded his two-year term to longtime Harvest Manitoba Board Member and Regional Vice President, Business Financial Services at RBC, Shawn MacDonald.

"I am proud to continue the work we have started" says incoming Harvest Manitoba Chair, Shawn MacDonald. "Food bank usage has never been higher, and we are working on innovative ways to ensure we're here for Manitobans when they need us"

The Harvest Manitoba 2023-24 Impact report can be found online [here](#)

The Harvest Manitoba Strategic Plan can be found [here](#)

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