



the Caring
and Sharing
Exchange
People helping people since 1915



MEDIA RELEASE

VOLUNTEERS HELP PACK A RECORD 700 HAMPERS FOR FAMILIES IN NEED

Total number of hampers surpasses last year's efforts by 75%!

Friday, December 18, 2015 Ottawa — Earlier today, hundreds of volunteers came together to help pack and deliver a record 700 hampers to those in need in the Ottawa community. Through the generosity of corporate sponsors, the Caring and Sharing Exchange (home of the century old Christmas Exchange Program) was able to increase its number of hampers by 75% over last year.

“This day is becoming bigger and bigger each year,” said Cindy Smith, Executive Director of the Caring and Sharing Exchange. “It is so wonderful to see so many of Ottawa’s corporations come together to give back and help us not only pack but also deliver these hampers directly to those in need.”

Many community leaders took part in the day, including Mayor Jim Watson, Ottawa Centre MPP Yasir Naqvi, Ottawa West-Nepean MP Anita Vandenberg, city councillors, and more!

This holiday season marks an incredible 100 years of the Christmas Exchange Program providing individuals and families in need in this city with Christmas assistance. In addition to the 700 hampers delivered today, thousands of redeemable gift vouchers have been mailed out to those in need so that they can purchase items for a festive meal with their loved ones. More than 300 hampers have also been sponsored through the Sponsor-a-Hamper program, **making the grand total more than 1000 HAMPERS delivered through the charity this year alone.**

“This Christmas, we have seen over 16,000 individuals turn to us for assistance,” said Smith. “We are proud to have been able to help nearly 15,000 of them already, but with Christmas just around the corner we still have more than a thousand names left on our waiting list for assistance.”

If you wish to make a donation to the Christmas Exchange program, please visit www.CaringandSharing.ca or call 613-226-6434. It’s also not too late to take part in the Caring and Sharing Exchange’s Sponsor-a-Hamper program, which allows community members to purchase the supplies for, pack, and then deliver a hamper directly to a family in need. E-mail hamper@carinandsharing.ca for more details.

2015 CORPORATE SPONSORS

Gold: CISCO, Currey Insurance Agencies, Innovapost, Keller Williams Foundation for Giving, Lim Geomatics, Malhotra Family Foundation

Silver: AffinityClick, Clancy P.C. Brion Raffoul, Framos, Gowlings, The Miller Group, Ramius Corporation

Bronze: 360pi, Emond Harnden, Life Therapies, Progressive Waste Solutions, Richcraft Homes, Tamarack Homes/Taggart Group, Todd Tackaberry

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EVENT ADVISORY: Donate your empties this weekend

Join us on Saturday, December 19th for the 28th Annual Running on Empties fundraising event! Volunteers will be stationed at all the local Ottawa Beer Stores from 9:30 am – 5:00 pm collecting donations of empties in order to help raise funds for the Christmas Exchange Program. Every dollar (and every empty bottle) counts! This year, the goal is to raise \$20,000 through this event.

Some community leaders will be giving their time to help make this event a success:

Anita Vandenberg, MP will be at 1984 Baseline Rd (early afternoon)
Andrew Leslie, MP will be at 1675 Tenth Line Rd, Orleans (11:00 am)
Yasir Naqvi, MPP will be at 1545 Scott St (10:00 am to 11:00 am)

Councillor Tim Tierney, 2016 Ogilvie Rd, Orleans (10:00 am to 10:45 am)
Councillor Jean Cloutier, 1910 St. Laurent Blvd (10:00 am to 1:00 pm)
Councillor Keith Egli, 1669 Merivale Rd (12:00 pm)
Councillor Shad Qadri, 1140 Carp Rd, Stittsville (11:00 am to 1:00 pm)
Councillor Catherine McKenney, at 515 Somerset St (2:00 pm to 4:00 pm)
Councillor Bob Monette, 1675 Tenth Line Rd, Orleans (11:00 am to 12:00 pm)
Councillor Marianne Wilkinson, 499 Terry Fox Dr, Kanata (10:00 am)
Councillor Riley Brockington, 1860 Bank St (11:00 am to 12:00 pm)
Councillor Allan Hubley, 1140 Carp Rd (TBD)
Councillor Rick Chiarelli, 1984 Baseline Rd (TBD)

Contact day of:

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