



Christmas 2020 at the Nicola Valley Food Bank

The first ten months of 2020 has been unlike any other that we have ever known as a society, as a community.

Covid-19 has challenged us at times, we are thankful for the overwhelming support from our local grocery stores, Food Banks BC, Food Banks Canada, The Provincial Government, The Government of Canada, and of course the Nicola Valley Food Banks here, Darius Sam. There are so many other donors that have made it possible for us to get through this trying time and we are at a point that we can continue to provide our services each week.

Christmas this year, will be more challenging for us. Due to our extremely limited space, last year, we offered the non-for-profit Daycares to come and pick out toys that they felt the children would play and interact with. We were happy to donate the toys back out to our community partners.

This year, due to Covid-19, we are unsure if the Merritt Fire Department will be able to do their annual Toy Box drive, the Merritt Stockcar Association was not able to hold their annual toy drive or food drive, the Thanksgiving Food Drive that The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints host each year has been postponed, and The Hockey With Heart Food Drive is also up in the air.

The foodbank and our clients are appreciative of all the sponsors from past years. Your generosity truly makes a difference to the families you have helped, and we hope you are able to join our program again this year. We welcome any new organizations, businesses or individuals who would like to contribute to make a family's Christmas merry and bright.

If sponsoring a family or senior this year is of interest to you, please email me at foodbank@telus.net for an application and return it to us. I will match you with one of our many families who are facing food insecurity this holiday season.

Thank you for helping spread Christmas Spirit!

Derlanda Hewton
Nicola Valley Food Bank
General Manager