



A Note From The Chairperson

In this our 69th campaign year our mandate remains the same and our commitment to the working poor families of our community continues to be the foundation of our organization. Since 1940 the Christmas Bureau of Edmonton has provided a festive food hamper at Christmas time for the less fortunate of our community. Persistent poverty and growing inequality are two of the most significant challenges facing society today, diminishing the lives of thousands of individuals and families.

As a result of your kindness, we met our financial goal in 2008 and for this we sincerely THANK YOU! Your continued support allows us to meet increasing requests while maintaining the quality of the food hamper. Your donation of \$95.00 will provide a food hamper for a family of four. A donation of \$35.00 will provide for a senior. This year we anticipate providing a festive meal for 65,000 Edmontonians in need. To meet this commitment, our 2009 fund raising goal is \$1.6 million dollars.

Our Festive Food Hamper program does more than just deliver food to the less fortunate of our community. Collectively, we represent a "people caring about people" program that believes in sharing the spirit of Christmas; a tradition of caring that continues year after year. Thank you very much for your help and support of the Christmas Bureau. Know that your donation changes the lives of many less fortunate people within our community.

Yours very truly,

Dick Frenz,
Board Chairperson

Letters of gratitude . . .

Thank you so much for your gift of the gift card. It's really so appreciated. I so understand, it's all about caring and sharing and kindness. This also makes me believe that people like me are counted worthy, wanted and loved.

Thank you to all the giving people that have warm hearts. You add a lot to our Christmas, and you work for no reward. Thank You.

I received a warm-hearted story this morning. A lady from South America told me what the Christmas Bureau did for her and her family. The first year they were in Canada she got lung cancer and was unable to work. They had a year-old boy and no money. The Christmas Bureau showed up with a hamper and gifts. She will always remember what the Christmas Bureau did for her family. We both shed a tear.

Board of Directors

Board Chairperson
Dick Frenz

- Directors**
- Yves Auger
 - Marc Barylo
 - Les Bellan
 - Vasant Chotai
 - Leeann Currie
 - David Dickinson
 - Ruth Elliot
 - Judy Erickson
 - Joe Fenrich
 - Harry Fucarro
 - Laurie Giesbrecht
 - Brian Gingras
 - Andrew Harbinson
 - Dorothy Jacques
 - Carol Kelly
 - Willie Lee
 - Chris Leung
 - Stuart McKellar
 - Sandy Mowat
 - Linda Romaniuk
 - Ivan Sawchuk
 - Maria Vuksanovich
 - Debbie Walker
 - P. Daryl Wilson, Q.C.

Staff

- Executive Director**
Wendy E. Batty
- Campaign Director**
Dianne Brown
- Campaign Assistant**
Liam Peuramaki
- Volunteer Coordinator**
Michael Walker
- Office Supervisor**
Kim Ratke

Mark Your Calendar

NOVEMBER 2009

- 16 Campaign Kick Off
- 23 Donation Desk Orientation
- 24 Donation Desk Orientation

DECEMBER 2009

- 3 to 24 Donation Desks open at malls
- 18 Hamper Packing
- 18 Caroling at the Winspear
- 18 Radiothon
- 19 Hamper Delivery
- 22 & 23 Walk-In Days

JANUARY 2010

- 27 Volunteer Appreciation Event



2008 Volunteer Award Recipients

Kevin Lowe Award - Lucille Gans

Since 1998 Lucille Gans has been involved annually in multiple events. Her contributions to the Christmas Bureau have been, and continue to be, significant. Lucille is always positive and works well with other volunteers, staff, clients and the donating public.

Lucille has volunteered for Walk-In Days, Highlands Coat Check, Kingsway and Edmonton City Centre Donation Desks, Radiothon, FMC Breakfast, Copper Jackets Luncheon and Office Clerical assignments - many of them annually.

In recognition of her volunteer experience and insights, three years ago Lucille was invited to join the Volunteer Committee. Lucille has become ambassador for our organization, quietly promoting the values and mission of the Bureau. She has demonstrated outstanding service to the Christmas Bureau and is well deserving of this award.

Chairman's Award - Barb Heagle

Barb Heagle has been instrumental in ensuring the continuance of one of the Christmas Bureau's longest running annual fundraising events, the U of A Winter Solstice.

As a past client of the Christmas Bureau, Barb was generous enough to share her story with all of us in 2007.

Barb continued her contribution through providing her own beautifully handmade crafts and those of her Edmonton renowned artist husband, George Heagle. The true reward that Barb offers all of us is that past clients can overcome their circumstances to become Christmas Bureau fundraisers, personal donors and volunteers.

Outstanding Volunteer Awards

Kathie Reith. Since 1998, Kathie has been an outstanding example of ongoing commitment to the Christmas Bureau. At the start of each new campaign, Kathie's name is one of the first to surface at the Christmas Bureau Volunteer Coordinator's desk. Her past and continuing contributions are greatly appreciated.

In 2008, Kathie took on many different volunteer roles including special events, donation desks, Walk-In Days and hamper delivery.

Sheila Westwong. As a Volunteer Services Clerk, Sheila played a vital part in organizing volunteers to fulfill the Christmas Bureau's mission. Sheila was also a Kingsway Mall Donation Desk Team leader.

As an on-call volunteer – often on very short notice – she took on other assignments, including Campaign Kickoff, Christmas party coat checks, certificate stuffing, filling in cancelled shifts at the Kingsway Donation Desk and stuffing 800 gift bags for the FMC Breakfast.

Ann Wilson (nee Smithson). With more than 450 hours in the role of Private Sponsor Clerk, Ann's volunteer contributions during the 2007 and 2008 campaigns can only be described as a major commitment.

Ann's dedication is augmented by her excellent communication, organizational, and interpersonal abilities - all necessary attributes when working with the more than 500 individuals and organizations that support the Christmas Bureau each year as Hamper Sponsors. As quoted by Campaign Director Dianne Brown, "What a fabulous silent fundraising partner to have in our organization."



A Magic Award . . .

This award announcement letter was forwarded to the Christmas Bureau of Edmonton by Lori Rebalkin, assistant to Kurt Leavins, Vice-President & General Manager, Magic 99 Edmonton & Rawlco Radio Ltd.

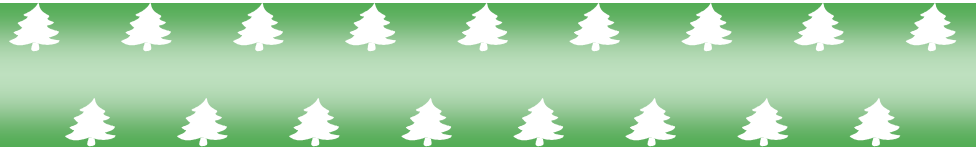
I'm proud to let you know that Magic 99 has received a prestigious award for community service.

Magic 99 recently won the Western Association of Broadcasters 2009 Gold Medal Award for Community Service. This honor is awarded annually to a Western Canadian radio station.

In 2008, Magic 99 held a twelve-hour radiothon and staged a separate charity jazz concert and silent auction. The proceeds from these two efforts went towards the Christmas Bureau of Edmonton, our city's oldest charity.

With the assistance of Edmontonians, through events like ours, the Christmas Bureau of Edmonton raised over \$1.5 million.

This was only accomplished through the remarkable generosity of the citizens of Edmonton. I thought it was important to take time to illustrate how truly great our city is!



From The Volunteer Committee Chair

Remember that when you leave this earth, you can take with you nothing that you have received — only what you have given. — St. Francis of Assisi

Isn't it so appropriate that all the Christmas Bureau hampers that are delivered to Edmontonians in need are packed at St. Francis of Assisi school? And what more fitting tribute to the vision of this great man than our volunteers, who give so freely of their time, talent and energy so that others may share the spirit of Christmas.

Every year since 1940, generations of Edmontonians have worked to sustain this simple vision: that acts of kindness make the world a better place. As volunteers, you demonstrate that where kindness is planted, it takes seed and grows to the benefit of all.

Last year, more than 700 of you pitched in for the Christmas Bureau cause. Judging from some of the letters we've received, your contributions are not only appreciated but have made an enduring, positive difference in their life.

Whether you are a long time volunteer, or just beginning your first year, I assure you that your efforts truly do reach out and embrace those in need.

So, on behalf of our Volunteer Committee, Dick Frenz, Lucille Gans and Eric Cooke, and our new Volunteer Committee members, Linda Romaniuk and Sandy Mowat – I say thank you, well done, and I look forward to working with you again this year!

- Brian Gingras, Volunteer Committee Chairperson

For Those Who Go The Extra Mile . . .

Volunteer Award Nomination Submissions

The Edmonton Christmas Bureau Outstanding Volunteer Award program celebrates the contributions of outstanding volunteers – individuals whose passion, commitment and leadership enrich our lives and make our community and world a better place.

Nominations are reviewed by the Christmas Bureau Volunteer Committee. The nomination form includes space for a nominee profile. You may wish to include: How does this person inspire you and others? What obstacles were overcome or problems solved? How did this person support the Christmas Bureau's Mission and Core Values?

Nominations must be submitted in writing by January 4, 2010. Nomination forms are available from Michael Walker, Volunteer Coordinator at 780 414 7682.

Service Pins for 3, 5, 10 and 20 Campaigns

On our application forms over the past few years we have asked when you began as a volunteer. Our files are currently up to date —however, if we have incorrect information, please let us know!

At the 2008 Volunteer Appreciation event we recognized our long service volunteers by distributing Campaign Years of Service Pins. Those volunteers attending the event with 3, 5, 10 or 20 years service received a pin.

If you qualified for a pin in 2008 and did not receive it, please call Michael Walker, Volunteer Coordinator at 780 414 7682 and arrangements will be made to get your pin to you.



Who And How

The Christmas Bureau of Edmonton provides festive meals and promotes the spirit of Christmas sharing and caring to those in need in the city of Edmonton. The following groups of persons may be eligible for assistance:

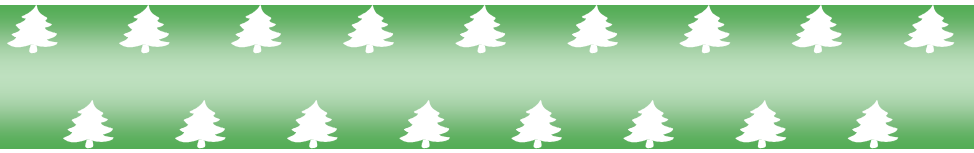
- Families and individuals on Alberta Works or other subsidy / benefit programs.
- Parents receiving the Alberta Child Health Benefit.
- Low income families.
- Senior citizens receiving income support, other subsidy / benefit programs or otherwise in need.

2009 Campaign Goals

This year we anticipate providing festive meals for over 21,000 families, more than 65,000 people in all including 3,500 seniors.

Our fundraising goal is \$1.6 million.

It takes from the start of September to the end of January to deliver our service to the community and to thank all the people who make it happen — that's why volunteer support is critical towards meeting our annual goals!



2008 Volunteer Program Sponsors

Alberta Treasury Branch
Aramark Refreshments
Avanti Salon Spa
Bear Mountain Coffee
Bee-Clean
Café Supreme / Company's Coming
Callingwood Lanes
Capital Transport
Chiro Foods Limited
City of Edmonton,
Community Services Department
City of Edmonton,
Parking Facilities
Club Fit
Cookies By George
Culligan Water
Dare Foods Limited
Devonian Botanical Garden
Edmonton Symphony Orchestra

Fairmont Hotel MacDonald
Gateway Entertainment Centre
Grandma Lee's
Imperial Parking
Ion Print Solutions
Jubilations Dinner Theatre
Moxie's Classic Grill
New York Fries
Northern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium
Rabbit Hill
Ric's Grill
Royal Alberta Museum
Sears Canada Inc.
Second Cup Ltd.
Snow Valley
Spasation Salon
Take Five
Telus World of Science
The Citadel

The Grocery People (TGP)
The Keg Steakhouse & Bar
Trail Appliances
Ukrainian Cultural Heritage Village
Unisource Canada Inc.
Varscona Hotel on Whyte
West Edmonton Mall

Thank You!

Christmas Bureau has new chairs!

The Government of Alberta's Community Spirit Grant provided funding to replace the boardroom, lunchroom and task chairs.

Volunteers working at the Bureau office will be treated to a more comfortable environment. We look forward to 'showing off' our new chairs!

2009 Volunteer Opportunities

Team Leader
Donation Desk Clerk
Letter Stuffing
File Clerk
Volunteer Services Clerk
Private Sponsor Clerk
Special Events Team

Walk-In Days Program
Certificate Stuffing
Hamper Packing
Hamper Delivery

Questions?

Call **Michael Walker**,
Volunteer Coordinator 780 414 7682
Email: michael.walker@christmasbureau.ca

For detailed descriptions and an online application for these volunteer opportunities go to:

<http://www.christmasbureau.ca/volunteer.php>



**Christmas
Bureau of
Edmonton**

**P.O. Box 16000,
Edmonton AB T5J 4B4**

Located at:

2nd Floor, 4230 118 Avenue

Phone: 780 421 9627

Fax: 780 454 6087

christmasbureau.ca

MISSION

- Promotion of the spirit of Christmas, caring and sharing in the City of Edmonton

CORE VALUES

- Share the spirit of giving and collective sharing
- A spirit which offers hope
- Culturally inclusive
- Non-judgmental

The Christmas Bureau of Edmonton has formally adopted the **Canadian Code for Volunteer Involvement**. The Code has important elements that articulate values, guiding principles and organizational standards for volunteer programs in non-profit and volunteer sector organizations.

Learn more - go to <http://volunteer.ca/en/can-code>