



friendship inn

Winter 2023

friendshipinn.ca



\$100,000 Matching Donation from Nutrien helps to *Fill the Plate*

AS THEY HAVE SINCE 2010, Nutrien is once again helping to 'Fill the Plate' with a generous commitment to match financial donations up to \$100,000 for the Friendship Inn's annual December campaign.

Funds raised through Fill the Plate enable the Inn to serve meals for vulnerable guests, 365 days a year.

"Everyone should have a warm meal, not just during the holiday season, but every day. We know there are so many people who depend on the meals and compassionate services provided by the Friendship Inn. At Nutrien, our purpose is feeding the future and it starts with addressing food security challenges and helping people here in our home community," says Noralee Bradley, Executive Vice President

External Affairs and Chief Legal Officer at Nutrien. "The Friendship Inn is a lifeline for people facing hunger, and we call on our fellow community members to join us in supporting the Inn's valuable work."

"At Nutrien, our purpose is feeding the future and it starts with addressing food security."

"Community need for meals has risen nearly 35% over the past year," explains Friendship Inn Board Chair, Ashala Jacobson. "The Inn is regularly serving between 1100 and 1500 daily meals for people who may otherwise go hungry. We are thankful for Nutrien's partnership and commitment to encourage support from the community so the Inn can

continue serving neighbours in need well into the new year."

Along with their matching donation, the Nutrien team will be donning aprons to help serve meals on Tuesday, November 28th to kick-off the Fill the Plate campaign. "We are very grateful for Nutrien's support, they really do care and serve as volunteers well beyond the holiday season. We see many Nutrien teams roll up their sleeves and volunteer to serve meals all throughout the year," comments Sandra Kary, Executive Director of the Friendship Inn.

Every meal makes a difference. \$6 helps to fill one plate, and thanks to the matching commitment from Nutrien, you can double the power of your generosity to the Friendship Inn during December. Your support means the Inn will continue to serve nutritious breakfast and lunch meals daily, with no questions asked.

Please give now so we can Fill the Plate and offer food and friendship for anyone in need.

Thank you to Nutrien for your hands, hearts and financial help to keep us cooking and serving those who are in need.

Nutrien™
Feeding the Future™



The Spirit of Hospitality

WHAT HAPPENS IN YOUR HOME WHEN YOU PREPARE FOR GUESTS?

Food likely hits your radar, be it a simple dessert and coffee or trying a new recipe to test your culinary skills. However simple or involved, there's a mindset of hospitality. When we entertain people in our home we focus on *them*, we prepare for *them*, we serve them. We treat them as *guests*.

Everyone who walks through the doors of the Friendship Inn is a guest. I'm not sure when the tradition started, but I really like it. We don't have clientele, or patrons, or customers — we serve *guests*.



Saying that, I'm pretty sure standing in line outside for a free meal is not altogether comfortable. It's a humbling and vulnerable experience, which is why it's so important for people to be treated as guests the minute they enter. Guests are greeted, offered a cup and directions to the coffee/tea station, and invited to sit where they are comfortable. Hot meals are delivered by staff or volunteers. Inevitably, someone will have said hello, smiled, or called a guest by name. It's these little things that matter, those small kindnesses to make someone feel welcome and they belong.

Now, I have to brag a little. Our kitchen is BUSY and the team is always racing the clock to prepare between 1200-1500 daily meals. You might think this pressure cooker goal (pun intended) would have us throwing food on a plate as fast as

possible. Not so. There is a standard and a mindset, set by our Head Cook: each plate is prepared with care, drips are wiped, no slopping allowed! She often says, 'We are cooking for kings and queens.'

Hospitality crosses every culture and works to build a friendship. The Ancient Greeks defined it as 'the acceptance of strangers.' Hospitality is woven into the ethos of the Friendship Inn. We're not perfect, but we keep finding a way to serve our guests by accepting them and treating them with dignity and care.

As we head into cold winter months and holiday seasons, together as a community, we extend our hands and hearts to provide a meal to friends or strangers, knowing that all who come through our doors are here with need.

When your mindset shifts to hospitality this Christmas season, we invite you to consider supporting and serving guests of the Inn, in whatever way you can. We are so grateful to YOU for your hospitality, and for caring for guests of the Inn.

In the spirit of hospitality,

Executive Director

A MOM AND TWO KIDS wanted to bring in their bike. Bikes aren't allowed in the dining room, so another guest who was waiting in line offered to watch the bike while the family ate. Mom trusted the offer even though she admitted to not knowing the man. He patiently waited, letting others in line move ahead while he took care of the young girl's bike as he promised to do. He was hungry and asked a few times if the family was almost done. In the end, he stayed with the bike until they came back just prior to the closure of the dining room. The family was thankful for the opportunity to have lunch and return to a bike taken care of by a Friendship Inn friend.

A WOMAN called to inquire about sponsoring a meal. She shared how she and her young daughter had eaten at the Inn many times during a really difficult period in their lives, commenting the Inn was the only reason they were able to have a meal on many occasions. She said our kindness and non-judgmental approach helped make her feel welcome here. She is now in a position to share back with the Inn as a way of saying thank-you because we are so important for people who have nowhere else to go.

RON beads lanyards and keychains to sell. A mom and daughter noticed his collection and the child wanted a lanyard. Mom said they didn't have money to make a purchase. As they walked away, Ron called them back and told the young girl to pick whatever lanyard she wanted for free. Mom was so amazed and thankful.

Leadership

We wish to acknowledge and thank the volunteer members of our Board of Directors who collectively guide the Inn by offering expertise, insight, sage advice and strategic direction to our daily work.



Back row L-R: Melanie Christianson, Ashley Petite, Dani Nichols, Ashala Jacobson (Chair), Denis Sirois (Treasurer), Holly Kelleher, Alex York, Stephanie Hughes (Past Chair)
Front row L-R: Nadine Connoly, Jonathan Huntington, Sandra Kary (ED), Sarah Wingerak, Andrew Hodson, Karen Lloyd
Missing: Clinton Poitras, Joelle Sparvier

The Board is supported by:

- Executive Director, Sandra Kary
- Director of Operations, Robert Wyma
- Development & Engagement Manager, Laura Herman
- Finance & Administration Manager, Matthew Hutchings

Friendship Inn honoured for Community Impact with 2023 SABEX Award

Acknowledging our Mission to nurture a community without hunger, a people with hope, the Saskatoon Chamber of Commerce recognized the Friendship Inn as the 2023 recipient of the SABEX Award for Community Impact. Members

of the Inn's management team and Past Board Chair, Stephanie Hughes, were on hand at the annual ceremony to accept the prestigious award. Presented by Cameco, the award celebrates a local non-profit whose efforts are opening pathways for individuals to grow and thrive, delivering programs and services that are making a difference, and/or leading initiatives that will enhance our quality of life in Saskatoon today and tomorrow.

In a poignant acceptance speech, Sandra Kary accepted the honour on behalf of the Inn's board and staff, thanking the entire community for so generously supporting the Inn and helping to alleviate the chaos of hunger for at risk citizens.



Jonathan Huntington, Cameco; Sandra Kary, Stephanie Clovechok, The Chamber.



FOOD: turkeys, ham, celery, carrots, onions, sugar, coffee, hot chocolate mix.

FINANCIAL DONATIONS: always needed and always appreciated! It takes \$6 to prepare and serve one meal to a neighbour in need.

COATS, MITTS, GLOVES, SOCKS & TOQUES: warm clothing helps guests deal with cooler weather.

DONATION DROP-OFF: (Green door located in our parking lot) daily from 7:00 am - 3:00 pm at 619 - 20th Street West.

THANK-YOU!

Hunger is happening.
 We're serving well over 1000 meals everyday, and we need your help to make sure no one goes hungry. \$6 fills one plate.


YES! I want to FILL the PLATE and give to the  friendship inn

GIVE THE GIFT OF FOOD THIS SEASON!

- \$6000 Fill the Plate Daily Sponsorship helps serve 1000 meals;
- \$3000 Fill the Plate Half Day Sponsorship helps serve 500 meals;
- \$600 helps serve 100 meals; \$300 helps serve 50 meals;
- \$150 helps serve 25 meals; \$120 helps serve 20 meals;
- \$60 helps serve 10 meals;



WAYS TO GIVE:

- Cheque**, payable to the *Saskatoon Friendship Inn* and mailed or dropped off at 619-20th Street West, Saskatoon, SK S7M 0X8. We're open 7 days a week from 7:00 am to 3:00 pm.
- VISA or Mastercard**. Call us at **306-242-5122** ext 7 to make a single donation or sign up to be part of our monthly giving program.
- You can give securely online at www.friendshipinn.ca/donate-online/....or scan this QR Code now  to make your donation through the Friendship Inn secure giving portal.
- E-Transfer** to donate@friendshipinn.ca No passwords necessary, we use auto-deposit! Please include your NAME, MAILING ADDRESS and PHONE NUMBER in the message section so we can issue your receipt.



All eligible donations will receive a charitable tax receipt. Charitable Registration Number: 119140937 RR0001



Nutrien encourages you to "Fill the Plate" by matching gifts up to a total of \$100,000.