

STRATEGIC PLAN 2025-2030: ANNUAL REPORT: MAY 2025

Food Rescue Yellowknife was created in 2008 to help people in need of food security, conserve the environment and reduce food waste.

Annual reports on the Strategic Plan's outputs and outcomes are presented at the Annual General Meetings held in May.

Year One

Food Rescue Yellowknife Strategic Plan 2025-2030: Annual Report 2025

1. Overview

According to the research compiled in *Food Insecurity in Northern Canada: An Overview 2020*, food insecurity is defined as “a situation that exists when people lack secure access to sufficient amounts of safe and nutritious food.” The Northwest Territories (NWT) has Canada's second-highest food insecurity rate. While the national food insecurity rate is 12.7%, the NWT's rate is 21.6%. Over 30% of children in the NWT live in food insecure households, whereas the national rate is 17.3%. Consequences of food insecurity include physical and mental health issues such as malnutrition, infections, chronic diseases, obesity, distress, social exclusion, depression, suicidal ideation, and attempts. In addition, food insecurity impacts learning and education outcomes. To help address food insecurity in the largest city of the NWT, Food Rescue Yellowknife (Food Rescue) was created.

Food Rescue Yellowknife (Food Rescue) is a charitable, non-profit volunteer organization that accepts safe and healthy food and distributes the reclaimed food through local social organizations to families and individuals in need. It operates daily from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Monday to Friday. Food and other merchandise are either picked up from retail stores, wholesale distributors, and other sources or, in some cases, dropped off at our location. At the site, volunteers and staff sort and then distribute the items to agencies, schools, daycares, and other organizations that work with families, children, or individuals. These organizations use the food for their programs and services. Food Rescue works with 29+ community organizations weekly.

During the past 17 years of Food Rescue's operation, Yellowknife residents have observed the following community benefits of Food Rescue:

- o Helps people in need of food security

- o Delivers an essential community service
- o Supports local social organizations
- o Encourages collaborative local partnerships
- o Conserves the environment
- o Promotes recycling and composting practices

During the next five years, Food Rescue will continue to concentrate on its mandate of supporting social organizations that assist families and individuals in the Yellowknife area. In addition, and based on research conducted in 2023-2024, Food Rescue will implement the following initiatives:

- o an educational outreach awareness program available to food donor staff, recipient organization staff, students, and the public
- o a communications strategy that advocates for reclaiming food, reducing food waste, and conserving the environment
- o a system for tracking Food Rescue's carbon footprint and investigating ways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions
- o orientation and training materials for staff, volunteers, and board members

2. Vision

In Yellowknife and the surrounding area, nutritious and useable food will not be wasted, people will not be hungry, and conservation practices will be implemented.

By 2030, Food Rescue will:

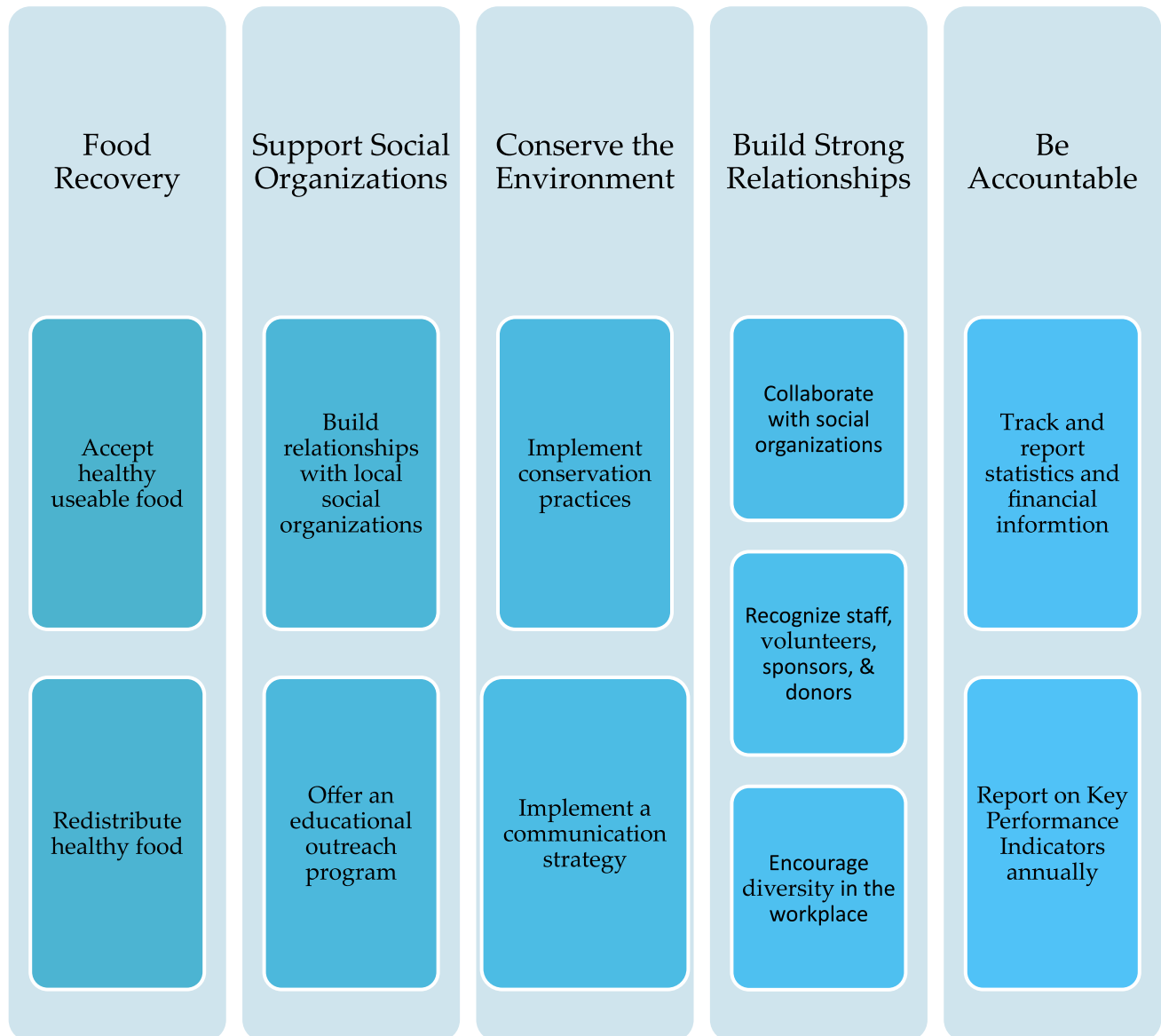
- o rescue and distribute food to organizations in Yellowknife and the surrounding area
- o be acknowledged as an organization that supports community food security
- o have well-trained staff in key positions to ensure day-to-day operations run smoothly
- o have secure infrastructure (building and vehicle)

- o have a strong and dedicated pool of trained volunteers
- o have a volunteer board of strong and committed leaders who provide planning, governance, and accountability
- o implement an educational outreach awareness program available to food donor staff, recipient organization staff, students, and the public
- o develop and implement a communications strategy that advocates for reclaiming food, reducing food waste, and conserving the environment
- o establish a system for tracking Food Rescue's carbon footprint and investigating ways to reduce its carbon emissions
- o develop comprehensive orientation and training materials for staff, volunteers, and board members

2024-04-08 Ice Road Delivery



Food Rescue Matrix



3. Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

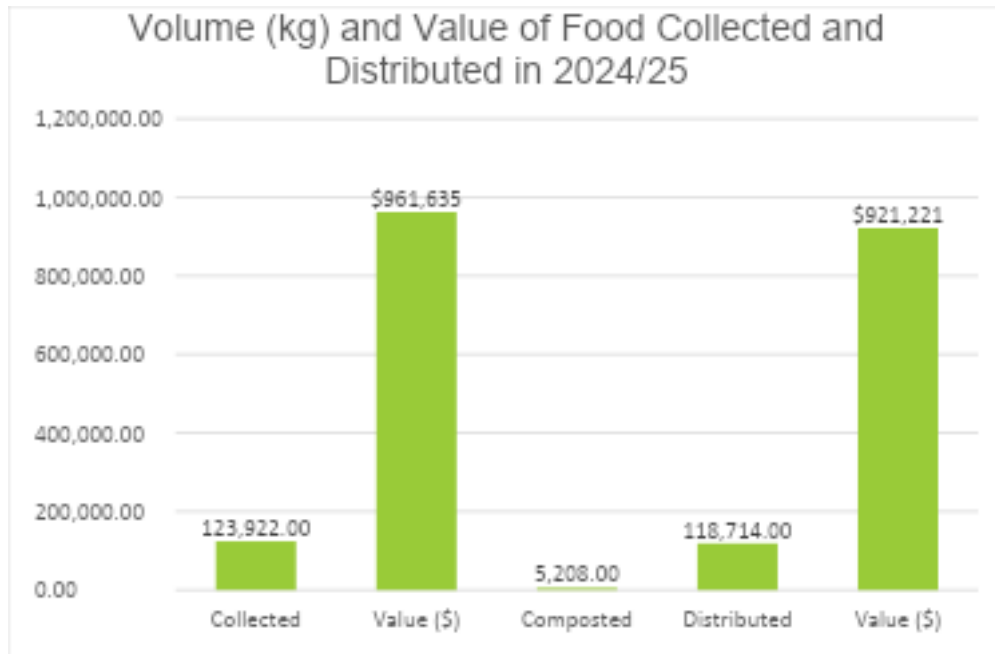
1. Food Recovery

Outputs 2024-2025

1.1 Number of major daily food donors - 3

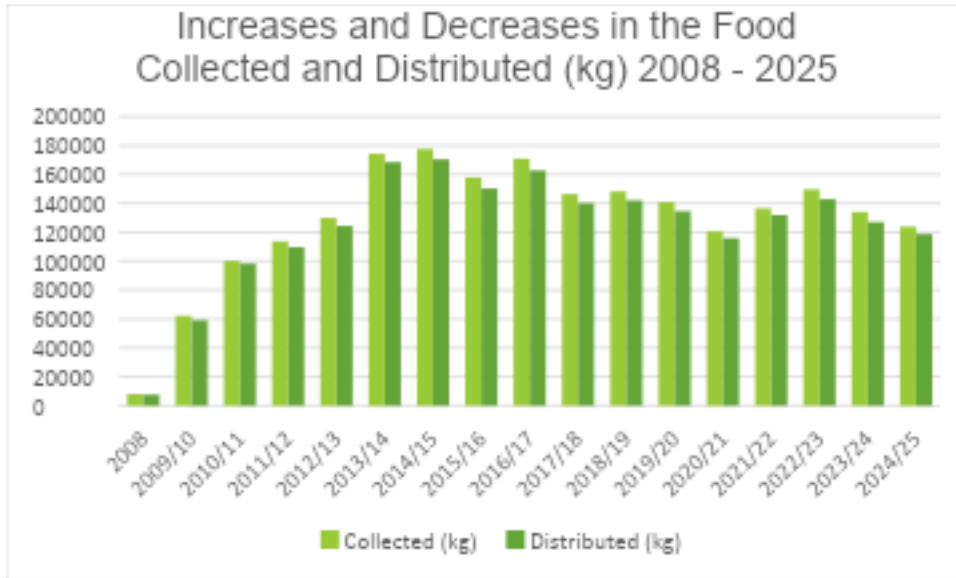
- o **Yellowknife Direct Charge Co-op** 2009-2025
- o **Rochdi’s Your Independent Grocer** 2009-2025
- o **Inder’s Your Independent Grocer** 2010-2025
- o Other food contributors
 - o **Shoppers Drug Mart** 2022-2025
 - o Mines/Expeditors and Various Companies - **seasonally**
 - o Individuals and Groups

1.2 Food collected and distributed in 2024/25

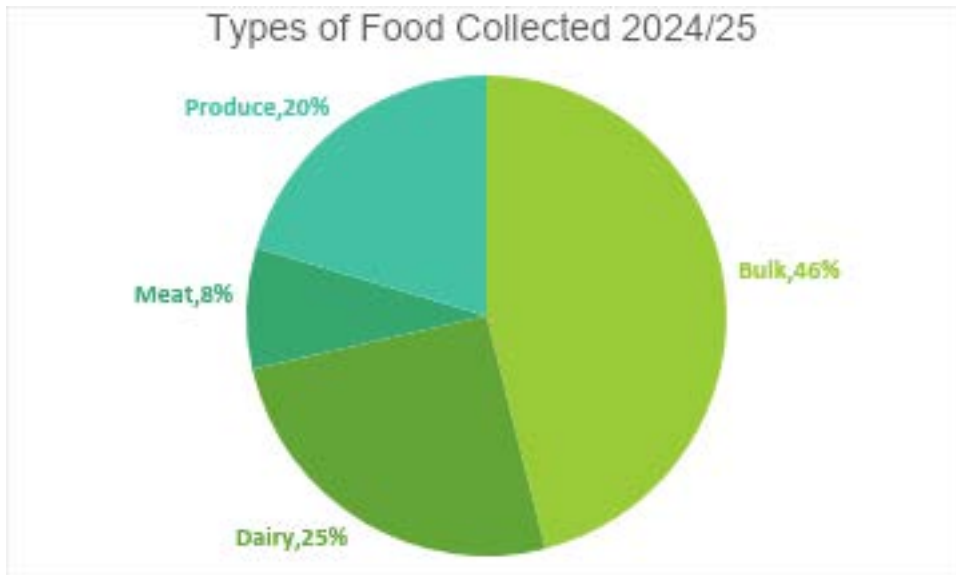


Note: Value of food has increased to \$7.76 per kg.

1.3 Annual increases and decreases and fluctuations in the volume of food collected and distributed since 2008



1.4 Types of food collected in 2024-2025



Note: Merchandise and pet food are less than 1%

1.5 Educational sessions offered and conducted with food donors – 6

- o Meetings with food donors in January 2025 – 3 meetings
 - o Three presentations to the food donor staff in March and April 2025
- 1.6 Criteria developed for the inclusion of new organizations/programs
- o Utilize an ad hoc approach at this point, as food requests are dependent on the availability of donated food and NWT priorities and emergencies (wildfires, evacuations, and floods)
 - o Suggestions from 22 social organizations during 2023 Research indicates children should be the priority and alternative funding sources should be considered when selecting new recipients.
- 1.7 Streamlined operations in place at the Food Rescue site
- o New kitchen manager daily reporting format
 - o New log sheet for recording daily intake by individual food donors, recording cooling equipment temperatures and leaving notes for incoming volunteers
 - o Alarm system at the site, including notification of power outages
 - o Daily checking of cool food storage temperatures to ensure food is stored as per food safety requirements
 - o New facility with a more streamlined intake and delivery system
 - o Updated volunteer scheduling system, contacts, and online accounts to increase business efficiencies
 - o New phone system linked to Food Rescue Google accounts
 - o Tidied the main facility and removed old equipment and material
 - o New computer and cell phone
- 1.8 Number of contacts with potential food donors
- o Review in 2026
 - o Known potential food donors such as restaurants and fast-food outlets present challenges due to Food Rescue’s current work and volunteer schedules and the unpredictability of food recovery from these organizations

Outcome

- o Provide a non-wasteful alternative to food suppliers disposing of excess food
Food Rescue is the only longstanding non-profit organization rescuing and distributing food to local recipient organizations in Yellowknife since 2008.

2 Support Social Organizations

Outputs 2024-2025

2.1a Number of recipient organizations by total and category – 31

Social organizations (15):

Salvation Army, Spruce Bough, Women’s Centre/Shelter, YWCA, Foster Families, Lynn’s Place, Housing First, Integrated Case Management, Street Outreach, Food Bank, Northern Mosaic Network, Arctic Indigenous Wellness Foundation, Family Connections, Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Camp Connections Healing Camp

Daycare (2):

Raven’s Nest Daycare, Centre for Northern Families Daycare

Schools & College (4):

Mildred Hall School, St. Joseph School, St. Patrick High School, Aurora College

Youth (3):

Youth Housing, Home Base, Youth Centre

Seniors (2):

Avens Centre, Yellowknife Senior Society

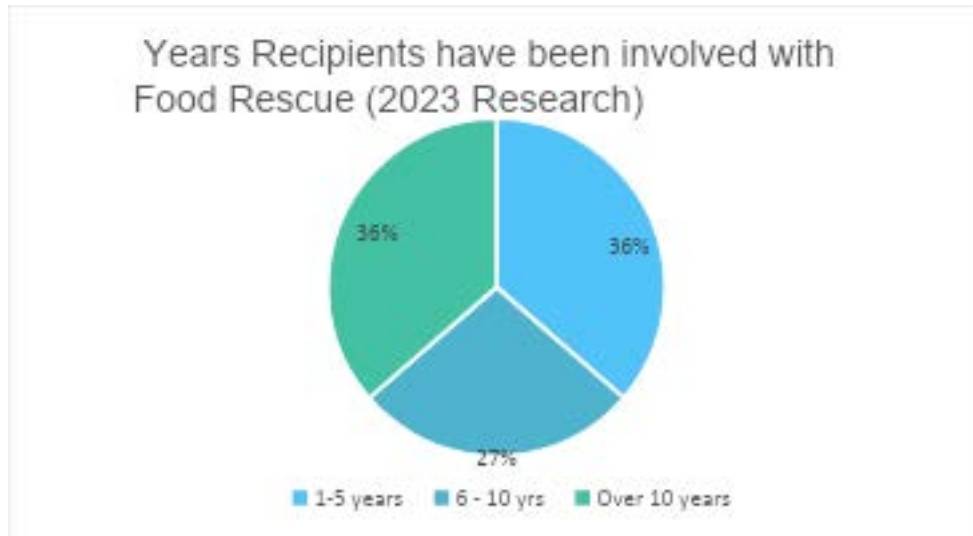
Tłı̨chǫ Territory(3):

Tłı̨chǫ Friendship Centre, Ndilo community, Tłı̨chǫ Animal Care Society

Other (2):

Yellowknife SPCA and Madeline Lake Market Garden

2.1b Recipient organizations in partnership with Food Rescue



Note: 2023 Research interviewed 22 organizations

2.1c Families and individuals per week who benefit from Food Rescue donations (2023 Research)

- o Food Rescue **augments** existing programs and services offered through local social organizations
- o The 22 social organizations (2023 Research) estimate 600 individuals and families per week benefit from Food Rescue’s program to some extent

Primary Focus (Food Security due to poverty and homelessness)	Primary Focus (Safety, emergency services, health, and social issues)	Primary Focus (Programming and Education)
100/week	250/week	250-300/week

Note: 2023 Research interviewed 22 organizations

2.2 Educational sessions offered and delivered to recipient organizations

- o Implementation of Waste Less Eat More Initiative January 2025
Sessions scheduled in March and April of 2025

- 2.3 Number and type of educational materials developed and provided to recipient organizations
 - o Best before and expiry date presentation and materials

- 2.4 Bi-annual reviews of food preference lists with recipient organizations
 - o Recipient organizations' food preference lists were updated in November 2024 and March-April 2025

- 2.5 Bi-annual check-ins with recipient organizations
 - o Check-ins coincided with reviews of food preference list updates
 - o Check-in regarding potential educational sessions – March-April 2025

- 2.6 Number of invitations offered and accepted for tours of the Food Rescue site
 - o Delayed until 2026 as Food Rescue relocated in November 2024

Outcomes

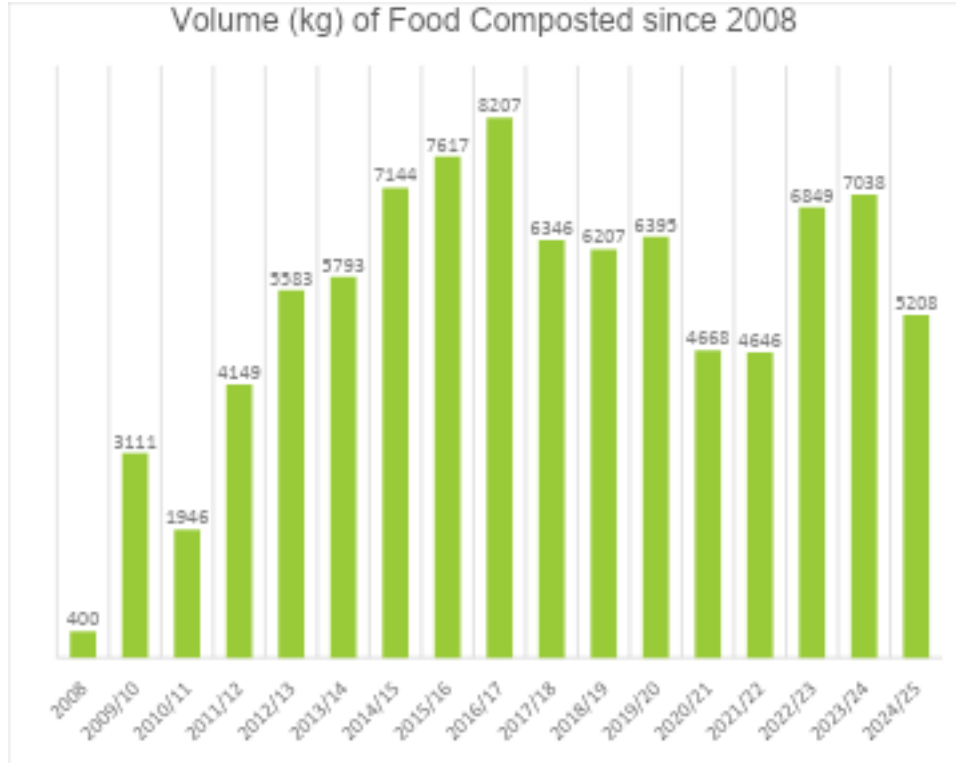
Increased accessibility of nutritious food to organizations that serve clients needing food security

Better communication, recognition, and engagement with recipient organizations

3 Conserve the Environment

Outputs 2024-2025

3.1 Conservation and composting practices over time and volume (kg)



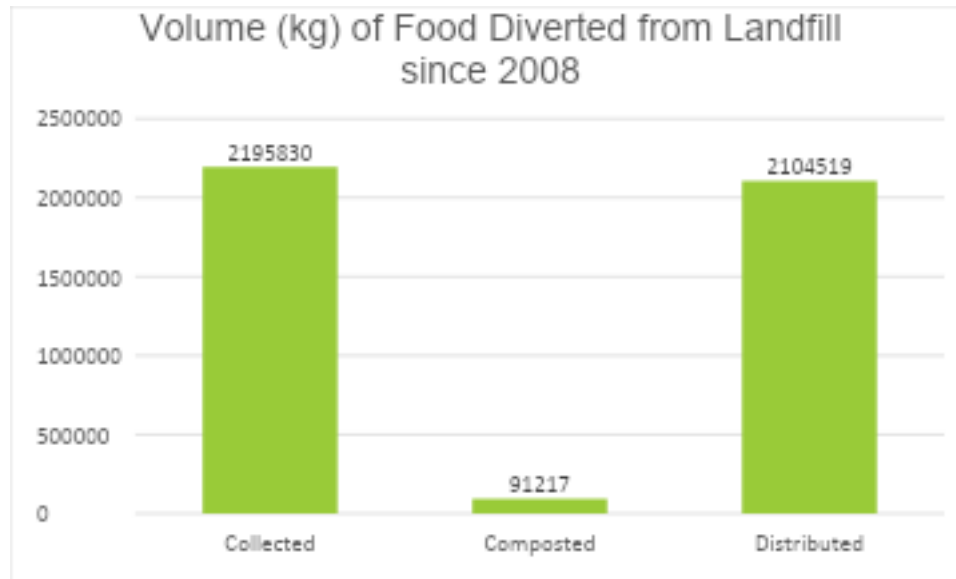
3.2 Recycling processes in place

- o Bottle donations from the mines and winter road companies
- o Paper, box board, cardboard, plastic, and refundable container recycling

3.3 Partnerships with local companies and farmers related to composting initiatives

- o Bush Order Provisions/ With Media
- o Madeline Lake Market Garden
- o YK Microgreens

3.4 Volume (kg) of food diverted from landfills



- o Estimation of reduction in greenhouse gas emissions
 - o On average, approximately 1 kg of organic waste can produce 0.1 to 0.25 kg of methane when it decomposes anaerobically in a landfill environment (United States, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) 2023)
 - o Food Rescue Yellowknife has rescued 123,922 kgs of food in 2024-25. According to Second Harvest (April 11, 2025), the total greenhouse gases (GHGs) averted from landfill for 123,922 kgs of food is over 419,000 kgs.
 - o Food Rescue Yellowknife recognizes that factors such as the type of food, the conditions in which the food decomposes, and whether the food decomposes aerobically (with oxygen) or anaerobically (without oxygen) affect the generation of greenhouse gases.

3.5 Type of information provided to the public re: climate change and food waste

- o Participation in the Arctic Energy event
- o Farmers' Market
- o Implementation of the Waste Less Eat More Project January 2025

- o Educational sessions with local organizations
 - o Best practices to reduce food waste in the NWT
 - Community composting programs
 - Education on food preservation and shelf-life guidelines
 - Promoting local food production
 - Encouraging food recovery and redistribution programs (Food Rescue)
- 3.6 Research on ways to reduce Food Rescue’s carbon footprint
- o New Food Rescue tents – insulated floors, small footprint
 - o Installed a backup power system for heaters and purchased a portable generator
 - o Toyo heaters – efficient and temperature-regulated system, reduced temperature when the site is closed and turned off over the summer months

Outcome

- o Better documentation of Food Rescue’s conservation efforts and practices



Sub-Arctic Geomatics donation

4. Build Strong Relationships

Outputs 2024-2025

- 4.1 Number of donors, sponsors, and funders- 22
- o **Operations (4):** City of Yellowknife, Government of Canada Young Canada Works, Government of the Northwest Territories Anti-Poverty, and United Way NWT
 - o **Sponsors for the Facility Move (12):** Det'on Cho Corporation, Det'on Cho Landtran Transport, Det'on Cho Northbest Distributors, Discovery Mining Services, Nahanni Construction LTD., NWT Construction LTD., Matrix Camps, Logistics and Aviation Management, NAKA Power, HoevEng Consulting LTD, Structure All Engineering LTD, Independent Electrical Services, Central Mechanical Systems
 - o **Funders for the Facility Move (6):** GNWT MACA NGO Stabilization, Matrix Camps, Logistics and Aviation Management, Yellowknife Community Foundation – Community Impact Fund, Yellowknife Community Foundation – Holy Family Lutheran Legacy Fund, Corothers Home Building Centre, and Independent Electrical Services
- 4.2 Number of corporate contributors - 8
- o Bassett Petroleum, Bluewave Energy, WB Water Services, Central Mechanical Systems, Fire Prevention Services Ltd., Kavanaugh Bros. Ltd., RTL – Robinson Enterprises Ltd., and Superior Propane
- 4.3 Number of community businesses/donors (food and in-kind) – 19
- o Aurora Geosciences, Bartle & Gibson, Yellowknife Community Garden Collective, Coombs & Co, Dillon Consulting, École Allain St-Cyr, Environment and Climate Change Canada, Integrated Emergency Management Solutions, Northern News Service,

Northwestel, Rio Tinto (Diavik), Sub-Arctic Geomatics, Tastes of the North, Tibbitt to Contwoyto Winter Road Joint Venture, TD Bank, University of Cambridge, Westown Tire, With Media- Digital Media Services, YK Microgreens

- 4.4 Number of volunteers and volunteer hours
 - o Total number of volunteers – 99
 - o Number of volunteers at the site weekly – 25 on average per week
 - o Volunteer hours at the site weekly – 75 hours on average per week

- 4.5 Number of staff – (3 part-time)
 - o 2 drivers and 1 Site Coordinator

- 4.6 Number and type of orientation materials developed for staff, volunteers, and visitors
 - o Site Coordinator Manual 2023 – update in 2025-26
 - o Infographic – annual update
 - o Food Volume chart on display at the site
 - o Board Orientation Manual – update in 2025-2026

- 4.7 Number of staff performance reviews conducted each year –3

- 4.8 Number of training opportunities provided for staff each year -4
 - o **Drivers**
Winter driving and skid control course (drivers – 2)) January 24, 2025
 - o **Site Coordinator**
First Aid Refresher May 16, 2024
2024 Summit Community Voices of the NWT – October 3 &4, 2024
Cultivating Systems of Mutual Aid: Community Mapping Workshop – March 5, 2025 (Dene Nahjo and Dechinta Centre)

- 4.9 Development of training materials for the key Food Rescue staff and volunteer positions

- o Meeting with Kitchen Managers on February 28, 2025
- o Review of training materials in 2025-2026

4.10 Communication Strategy developed and implemented related to food waste

- o Develop in 2025-2026

4.11 Types of communication developed and published

- o Annual thank you ad in the newspaper
- o Acknowledgements of thanks on Facebook and the Website
- o Donor and sponsor logos on the Website
- o Feature articles and press releases in local newspaper and radio interviews
- o CBC Northbeat – Featuring Food Rescue Yellowknife – December 13, 2024
- o Van with logos
- o Christmas emails to volunteers, organizations, and food donors
- o Check-ins with food donors and recipient organizations
- o Presentations for food donor staff
- o Educational materials on best before and expiry dates
- o Holiday announcements as notification to volunteers and food donors of closure dates
- o Infographic – updated each year

4.12 Number and type of partnerships - 7

- o Inclusion NWT
- o Th̄ch̄ Friendship Centre
- o CDETNO
- o Dillon Consulting
- o Bush Order Provisions/ With Medi
- o College Nordique
- o Sir John Franklin (CALM hours)

- 4.13 Number of public acknowledgements/events of volunteers, sponsors, and donors
 - o Volunteer Christmas open house
 - o Appreciation event for businesses associated with the relocation
 - o Tours of Site – United Way
 - o Meetings with recipient organizations and food donors
 - o Thank You ad April 2025

- 4.14 Development of a human resources policy/manual for Food Rescue staff
 - o Hiring policy under review

Outcome

- o Better communication, recognition, and engagement with the public, volunteers, staff, sponsors, and donors



Kathi Woodward Cutting the Parmesan



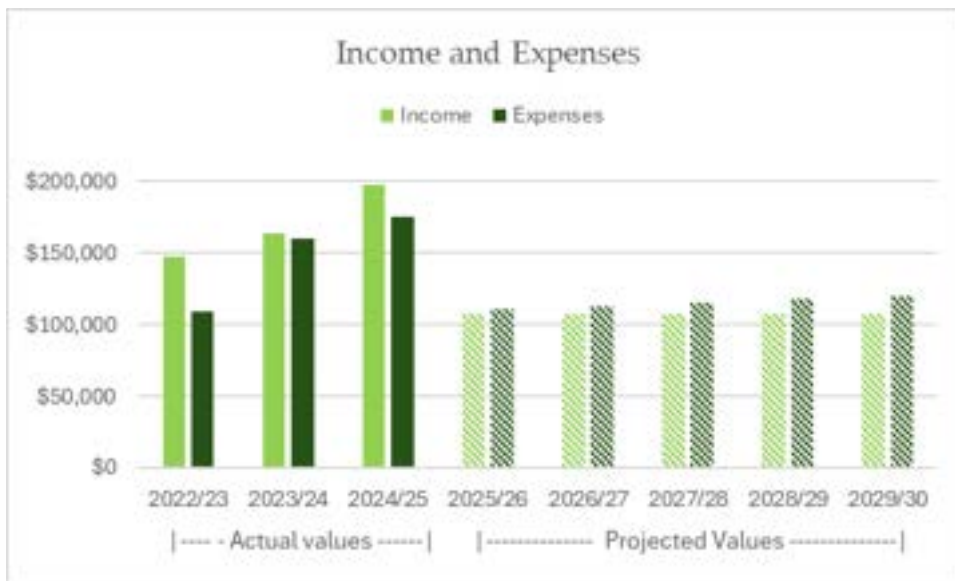
Val and Karen at the market

5 Be Accountable

Outputs 2024-2025

- 5.1 Review of annual revenue targets met/exceeded
 - o Actual 2024-2025 revenue of over \$197,000 exceeded the budgeted revenue of \$170,750. The availability of additional grants and relocation funding made up the additional funds.
 - o Actual 2024-2025 expenses of just over \$175,000 were higher than the budgeted expenses of \$148,250. The increased expenses are primarily due to Food Rescue purchasing a new main tent, covers, insulation, and end wall for the utility tent. Salaries also increased as hours were increased to manage the new facility construction and move.
 - o Currently maintaining approximately one year of funds in reserve.
 - o As seen in the financial summary chart below, Food Rescue Yellowknife received an unanticipated increase in donations and other revenue. Future revenues are based on historical trends.

- 5.2 Historical and projected financial summaries completed and updated each year



- 5.3 Reviewed financial statements submitted at Annual General Meeting.
- 5.4 Compliance with annual reporting requirements for Corporate Registries and Canada Revenue Agency
- 5.5 Strategic plan annual report by year submitted at Annual General Meeting
 - o Strategic Plan implemented (2025-2030)
 - o Annual Strategic Plan Report submitted on May 2, 2025
- 5.6 Reports to funders completed and submitted by the deadline date - 7
 - o Reports all completed and submitted to funders by deadline
 - Operations – 4 reports
 - Facility – 3 reports
- 5.7 Staff contracts completed and signed – 3 + 1 summer employee
 - o Two drivers (part-time)
 - o One site manager (part-time)
 - o One summer student – (8 weeks, 20 hours/week)
- 5.8 Updated job descriptions - deferred to 2026
- 5.9 Updated pay scale grid and performance criteria
 - o Improved systems for tracking food collection, payroll, carbon emissions, fuel, and alarms.
 - o New food intake log - by food donor and Food Bank
 - o Payroll processes in place and payroll and hours reviewed each month
 - o New accounting/bookkeeping service
- 5.10 Emergency Response plan and related checklists developed and implemented
 - o Emergency Response plan completed February 2025
 - o Checklists – 2025
- 5.11 Strategies for attracting new Board Members and volunteers with specific skills
 - o Initial contact with potential board members in February 2025

- o Other contact initiatives before AGM in May 2, 2025

5.12 Strategies for attracting new staff as required

- o Recognition that Food Rescue needs an additional casual driver – recruitment in 2025-2026

Outcomes

- o Ongoing financial sustainability
- o Ongoing sustainability through leadership, governance, collaboration, and operations
- o Ongoing health and safety measures in place



Allain St. Cyr Gr. 9 students

Main Food Donors



Rochdi's Your Independent Grocer

Inder's Your Independent Grocer



Yellowknife Direct Charge Co-op

Shoppers Drug Mart

Ongoing Sponsors - Operations

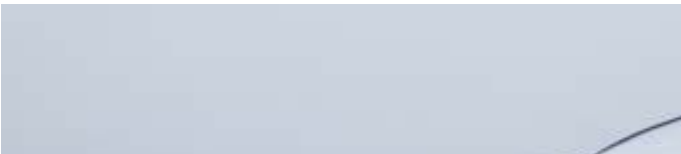


Ongoing Sponsors – Site Location

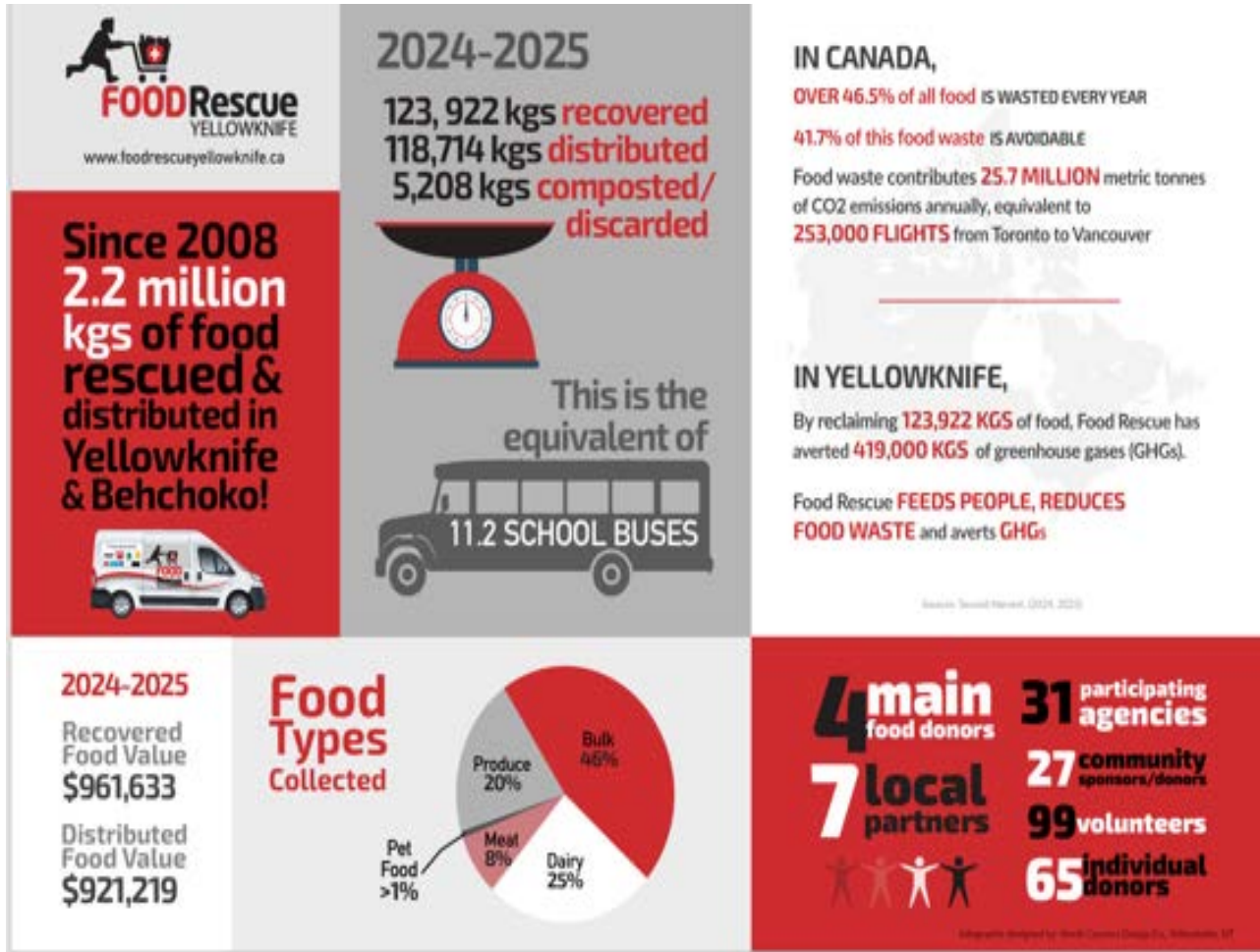
Det'on Cho Corporation

Det'on Cho Northbest Distributors

Relocation Photos October – November 2024



Infographic and Thank You Ad 2024-2025





FOODRescue
YELLOWKNIFE

347 B Old Airport Road,
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2P1
(867) 669-3663
www.foodrescueyellowknife.ca

**FOOD
DONATED:**

2022/23 - 149,732 KG

2023/24 - 134,076 KG

2024/25 - 123,922 KG

Thank You, Yellowknife 2024-2025

Food Rescue Yellowknife gratefully acknowledges the tremendous contribution that Yellowknife residents, sponsors, donors, and volunteers make to our organization.

Serving our community for 17 years

2.2 million kgs of food have been rescued since 2008

Grants & Funders - Operations

- City of Yellowknife
- Government of Canada
- Young Canada Works
- Government of the Northwest Territories Anti-Poverty
- United Way NWT

Grants & Funders - Facility Move

- Central Mechanical Systems
- Corothers Home Building Centre
- Det'on Cho Corporation
- Det'on Cho Landtran Transport
- Det'on Cho Northbest Distributors
- Discovery Mining Services
- GNWT MACA NGO Stabilization
- HoevEng Consulting LTD
- Independent Electrical Services
- Logistics and Aviation Management
- Matrix Camps
- Nahanni Construction LTD.
- NAKA Power + NWT Construction LTD.
- Structure All Engineering LTD
- Yellowknife Community Fund - Community Impact Fund
- Yellowknife Community Fund - Holy Family Lutheran Legacy Fund

Corporate Contributors - Operations

- Bassett Petroleum
- Bluewave Energy
- Bromley & Sons Ltd.
- Central Mechanical Systems
- Fire Prevention Services Ltd.
- Kavanaugh Bros. Ltd.
- RTL - Robinson Enterprises Ltd.
- Superior Propane

Major Food Donor Businesses

Yellowknife Direct Charge Co-op	2009-2025
Rochdi's Your Independent Grocer	2009-2025
Inder's Your Independent Grocer	2010-2025
Shoppers Drug Mart	2022-2025

*Wines/Expeditors/Various Companies/Individuals

Community Donors (Food & In-kind)

- Aurora Geosciences
- Bartle & Gibson
- Community Gardens
- Coombs & Co
- Dillon Consulting
- Ecole Allain St-Cyr
- Environment & Climate Change Canada
- Integrated Emergency Management Solutions
- Northern News Service
- Northwestel
- Rio Tinto (Diavik)
- Sub-arctic Geomatics
- Tastes of the North
- Tibbitt to Contwoyto Winter Road Joint Venture
- TD Bank, University of Cambridge
- Westown Tire
- With Media-Digital Media Services
- YK Microgreens

Volunteers & Board Members

Alan Cash	David Welting	Gena Florio	Kristen Cameron	Melanie Williams	Ruth McLean
Alex McCluskie	Deirdre Morse	Gerard Elliot	Kyle Lee	Michael Peck	Sally Max
Amanada-Brea Watson	Denis Mutebi	Gerard Landry	Laura Gareau	Michelle Burtch	Sarah Krymalowski
Anita Griffiore	Denzie Hurst	Gerri Whiteford	Laurel Graf	Nancy Cymbalasty	Sheila Humphrey
Ann Hall	Donna Nash-Alain	Guy Erasmus	Lenore de Jong	Nancy Lamb	Sophia Chalker
Bev Bowden	Dot Bergman	Hannah Porsonby	Lesley Allen	Nancy Vail	Sophie Kuenlenz
Brent Karstad	Dustin Martin	Helen Hoeve	Lesley Singer	Nicole Dion	Stephanie Sorowka
Bryan Mason	Ed Hoeve	Jacob Hoekstra	Liam Lyon	Pam Dunbar	Tanya MacIntosh
Carrie Vanderlinde	Elise DeRoose	Jeanette Hall	Linda Maljan	Pam Monkman	Teri Thayer
Cathie Bolstad	Erin Nelson	Joe Auge	Lola Grabka	Paul Curren	Theresa Molnar
Cindy Kelly	Eve Erasmus	Joe Daley	Madison Liske	Philip Lewis	Toni Auge
Clementine Bousche	Francois Adane	John Borkovic	Margaret Kraft	Quinn Golland	Tracey Oldfield
College Nordique	Gail Nesbit	Karen Short	Margo Graydon	Rhea Moses	Valerie Janz
Cynthia Brown	Gail Paquin	Kathy Woodward	Marilyn Malakoe	Robert Morse	Vimal Manohar
Dave Kellet	Galana Ouattara	Kathy Paul-Drover	Mark Bond	Roland Laufer	Wendy Bisaro
Dave Speakman	Gary Strong	Klaus Scheuhing	Matthew Peck	Rose Youngblut	Zach Penner

Individual Donors

Alan Cash	Ed Hoeve	Jenny Crawford & Simon Toogood	Meagan Wohlberg	Sabrina Smith
Aina D'Amicantonio	Elena Befry & Della Cefor	John Clark	Melanie Newberry & Jo Lush	Shauna Morgan
Anne Flynn	Elam Falah	Ken Hadford	Michael Billowits	Sophia Kelly
Belinda Whitford	El Purchase	Lena Schofield	Hilite Crawford	Stefanie Philipp
Ben Linaker	Elsie DeRoose	Lesley Allen	Mona Durfee	Stephen/Amanda Dunbar
Brad Linrau & Wendy Feil	Fred Skanes	Lily & Mike Howden	Muz Taher	Susan Martin
Brian Latham	Gary Strong	Marie Wilson	Nyra Robertson	Todd Slack
Catherine Lorraine Seale	Gerard Elliot	Marie-Angela McDowen	Pamela Slater	Tracey & Franklin Carpenter
Chris Barclay	James McDonald	Mark and Jan Bond	Patrick Michael Gannon	Vivian Nyika
David Gilday	Jane Speakman	Mark Wharton	Rachel Vander Veen/Jeremy Kalitta	Winfield Boyd
Dustin Martin	Janice Laycock	Matthew Senkow	Rose Jasmin	
Dwayne Wohlgemuth	Jay Kar			

Thank You

Food Rescue Yellowknife is a volunteer organization that reclaims safe and nutritious food from local food businesses and distributes it to social organizations, schools, and other community organizations in Yellowknife and the surrounding area.