



dufferin  
**FOOD  
SHARE**  
well nourished community

**2023  
2024**

Annual Report



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# OUR MISSION, VISION AND VALUES

## MISSION

To lead in meeting the nutritional needs of our community, by providing dignified food assistance, education, and advocacy for solutions to end poverty.

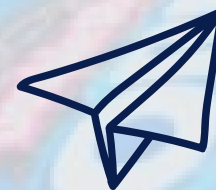
## VISION

A well nourished community

## VALUES



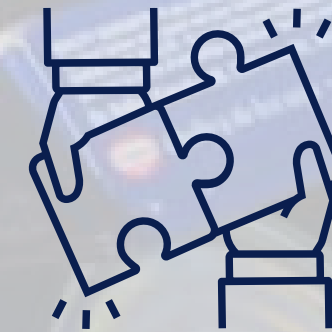
Inclusiveness &  
Respect



Innovation



Accountability



Collaboration



# A message from Heather

"This year was marked by a 37% increase in demand for our services from community members, as they try and cope with the cost of living, including a lack of affordable housing options. In response we have worked on improving our partnerships by joining forces with the Grand Valley Food Bank, creating The Dufferin Food Share to ensure greater access to food resources and client support along with a greater focus on advocacy.

We know that food insecurity is because of a lack of government policy that fails to address the need for affordable housing, employment opportunities paying a living wage and increases to social assistance rates. This year we participated in several provincial initiatives including MPP advocacy days at Queen's Park, Press Conferences and an MPP Food Sort hosted here in Orangeville in hopes of keeping policy change at the forefront of decision makers in the province.

I am incredibly grateful to the staff and volunteers who show up every day to make life better for those in need of support. The community that continues to come together in support of their neighbours by donating food or funds leaves me in awe and so proud to be part of the Orangeville Food Bank & The Dufferin Food Share.

I'm looking forward to strengthening our programs, services and partnerships as we lean into the challenges and opportunities that 2024/2025 will bring us, knowing we have the community support, skills, hearts and hands to make a difference.

With love and gratitude,  
Heather



**Executive Director**  
Heather Hayes



# Board of Directors

## BOARD MEMBERS

**Heidi Vanderhorst**

Program Manager  
Dufferin Area Family Health Team

**Bill Cutt**

Innkeeper  
Millcroft Inn & Spa

**Jennie Bradley**

Leader of Performance & Success  
GreenShield

**Catherine Lawrence**

Community Member  
Food Insecurity Advocate

**Nina Miles**

Retired Bookkeeper  
Grandma

## CHAIR

**Ryan Lemire**

Chief Operating Officer  
Yorkshire Valley Farms

## VICE CHAIR

**Sandy Kang-Gill**

Leader & Co-Founder  
Infin8 Consulting Group Ltd.

## TREASURER

**Cathy Campbell**

Chartered Professional Accountant  
Serial Community Volunteer

## SECRETARY

**Buffy Duke**

Principal Consultant  
DecAid Consulting Inc.

# Keynote Speaker

Pauline is the Community Food Lead at the Arrell Food Institute at the University of Guelph. Her role aims to connect and support food access work throughout the region by utilizing her knowledge of how these systems work to address food security. Much of this insight comes from her near decade of experience in food banking.



**Pauline Cripps**

Alexandra is part of our NPO accounting team, here at RLB. Her journey to accounting started with her career as a designer and adoption manager for a local dog rescue. As a type-A person, she has always loved the organizational structure, processes, and strategy side of business and not-for-profits.



**Alexandra Wilson**

CPA, Manager



This past year has been one of both significant achievements and notable challenges. Together, as an organization and as a community, we have navigated them with our defining traits of resilience, determination and most importantly compassion.

The ongoing economic pressures have increased demand for our services to record levels. More families and individuals are turning to us for support. In many months of this past year, there has been more food going out than coming in. Fundraising in a fluctuating economy is also a challenge. The reality remains that there are many competing, worthy causes and there is only so much financial support to go around. Despite these daunting circumstances, Orangeville Food Bank has remained committed to addressing the challenge head on.

We have continued to see remarkable increases in the engagement from our community. Our food drives and fundraising events have attracted more support and participants than ever, reflecting the generosity of those around us. Thanks to your efforts, we have distributed over 755,894 pounds of food to those in need, providing vital support to families and individuals facing food insecurity.

We have also continued to grow our volunteer base, with many individuals stepping up to help. It is with their dedication and hard work that we continue to have a profound impact, ensuring that we can operate effectively and efficiently. We are truly grateful for every one of our volunteers, whose time and energy make everything that we do possible.

We also officially launched the Dufferin Food Share organization to provide a County-wide solution to address the growing needs across all our local communities. By linking the Grand Valley and Orangeville Food Bank sites, we have been able to coordinate our resources, drive efficiencies, and increase support to those we serve. By combining our voices, we can more effectively advocate on behalf of our clients for meaningful change and stronger support systems.

These are but a few of many examples of how we have continued to adapt and innovate against ever-growing and changing needs. As we move into the next year, we remain focused on our mission to meet the nutritional needs of our community. Together, we will work to enhance our programs, strengthen our partnerships, and drive new and innovative solutions to ensure our long-term viability.

I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to all of our volunteers, staff and community supporters. It is your passion and commitment that drive our success and make a difference in the lives of those we serve.

Thank you for being an integral part of our community and for your continued belief in our mission,

Ryan Lemire

Chair of Orangeville Food Bank Board of Directors



# Our Impact In Numbers

**\$2.1 Million**

of food was distributed at our food bank alone

**1,185**

households were supported through our in-person shopping

**10**

local food pantries and community partners were supported with food each month

**54%**

of the foods that we distribute are fresh and perishable, including produce, dairy, and proteins

**23,000+**

hours of volunteer work were given by people who believe in Neighbours Helping Neighbours

**14,532**

meals were prepared in our Community Kitchen and distributed to clients and community members

**50**

adults and children participated in our *Healthy Eating Workshop* series, and our March Break Camp

**886**

children received food over the last year through our Kid Zone program and the After the Bell program



# Advocate

Orangeville Food Bank advocated for the increasing of social assistance rates at the 2024 Rural Ontario Municipal Association Conference at Queen's Park, and again on a Day of Action, where Food Banks and their MPPs came together to address the need for policy change to reduce food insecurity.

During Hunger Action Month the food bank presents to local councils on the needs of the community and participates in a post card campaign aimed at bringing awareness to our local MPP.

# Educate

We are thrilled to have our Chef, Mark Comendador present cooking classes throughout the year focusing on simple, healthy, affordable meals that can help stretch a budget.

# Lead

The Executive Director of Orangeville Food Bank is the Co-Chair of the Dufferin County Equity Collaborative (DCEC) representing a strategic partnership of a broad base of stakeholders with a shared mandate to increase social prosperity and decrease inequities for the Dufferin population affected by economic hardship.

Heather Hayes, our Executive Director and Lori Robertshaw, our Volunteer Coordinator, were honoured to be asked to present on Inclusive Volunteer & Community Engagement at the annual Feed Ontario Conference.



# Ontarians are Drowning Amid Surging Affordability Crisis

## Key Facts:

- Food Banks in Ontario were visited 7,689,580 times between April 1 2023- March 31, 2024, an increase of 31% over 2022-2023, and 134% over 2019-2020
- 2023-2024 is the eighth consecutive year food bank use has risen in the province
- 69% of Ontario food banks are concerned about not having enough food to adequately provide support to those in need



“When we released record-breaking data last year, we thought that was the high-water mark. But food bank use has only continued to climb as more Ontarians find themselves struggling to make ends meet.”

–Carolyn Stewart,  
CEO of Feed Ontario



# The need for food banks is spiralling out of control.



**Food banks in Canada have been around for decades. During that time, they have reached some regrettable milestones that should have signalled to the country's governments that social policies were failing those who needed support the most.**

**It took around 25 years before food bank visits surpassed 1 million in a month. We should all have responded to that sombre milestone.**

**We did not.**

Incredibly, food banks recently registered another sombre milestone. They saw an additional 1 million visits per month – within the past five years.

That milestone was reached in one-fifth of the time that it took to reach the earlier equivalent milestone.

This unthinkable rate of growth is not sustainable for either food banks or people in Canada.

For the last few years, the HungerCount report and food banks across the country have been ringing the alarm bells about a crisis spiralling out of control. Despite our speaking out, the situation has continued to worsen and there has been no sign of urgent action to counter it.

And so, this year, food banks reached yet another regrettable milestone. They registered a record-breaking 2 million-plus visits to food banks in March alone, an increase of 6% compared to last year and nearly 90% higher than in 2019.



# Financial Summary

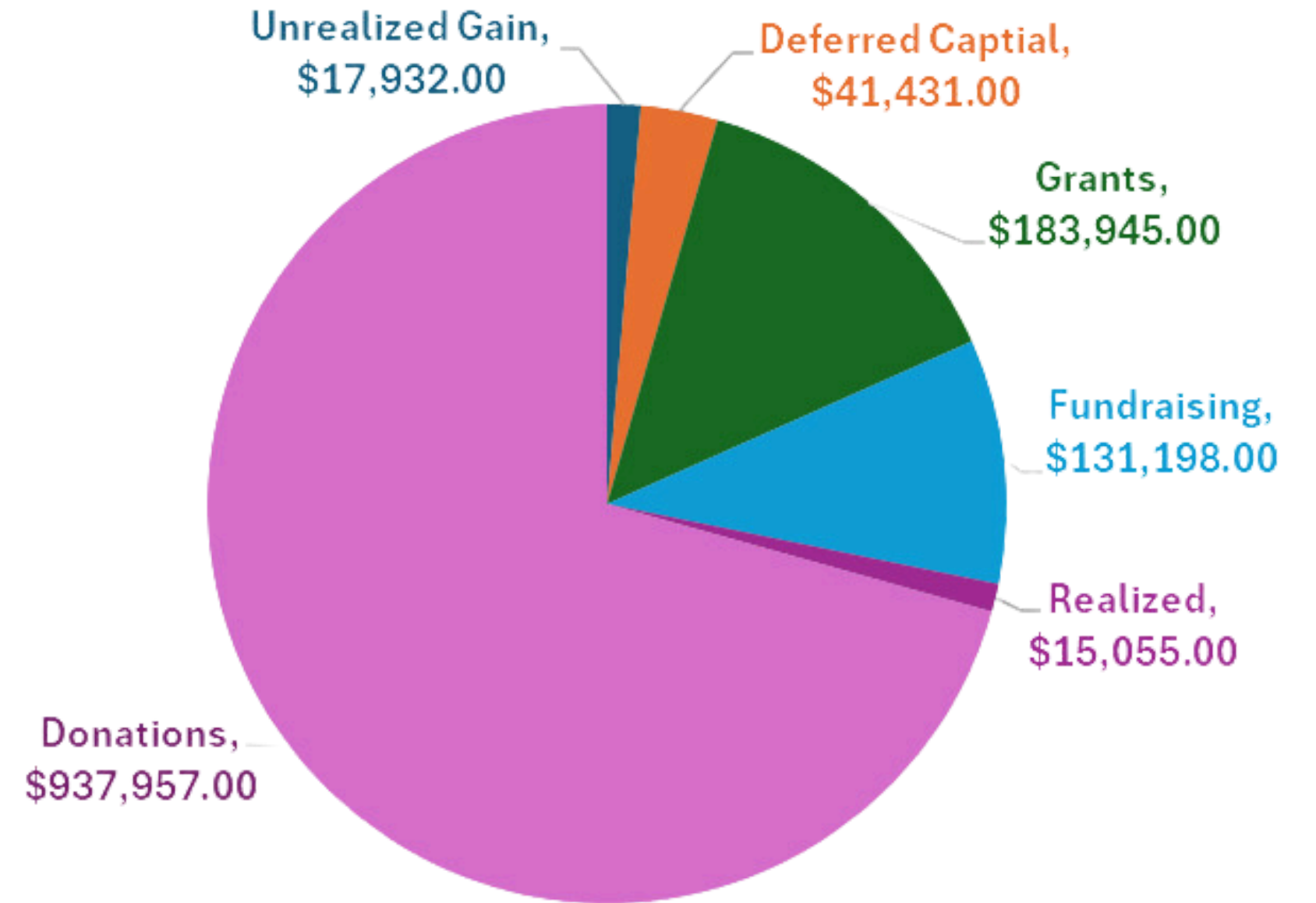
## Revenue

Donations	\$937,957
Grants	183,945
Fundraising	131,198
Deferred capital contributions recognized	41,190
Unrealized gain on investments	17,932
Interest income	15,055
	<hr/>
	\$1,327,277

Invested In Capital Assets \$1,299,975

### Reserves:

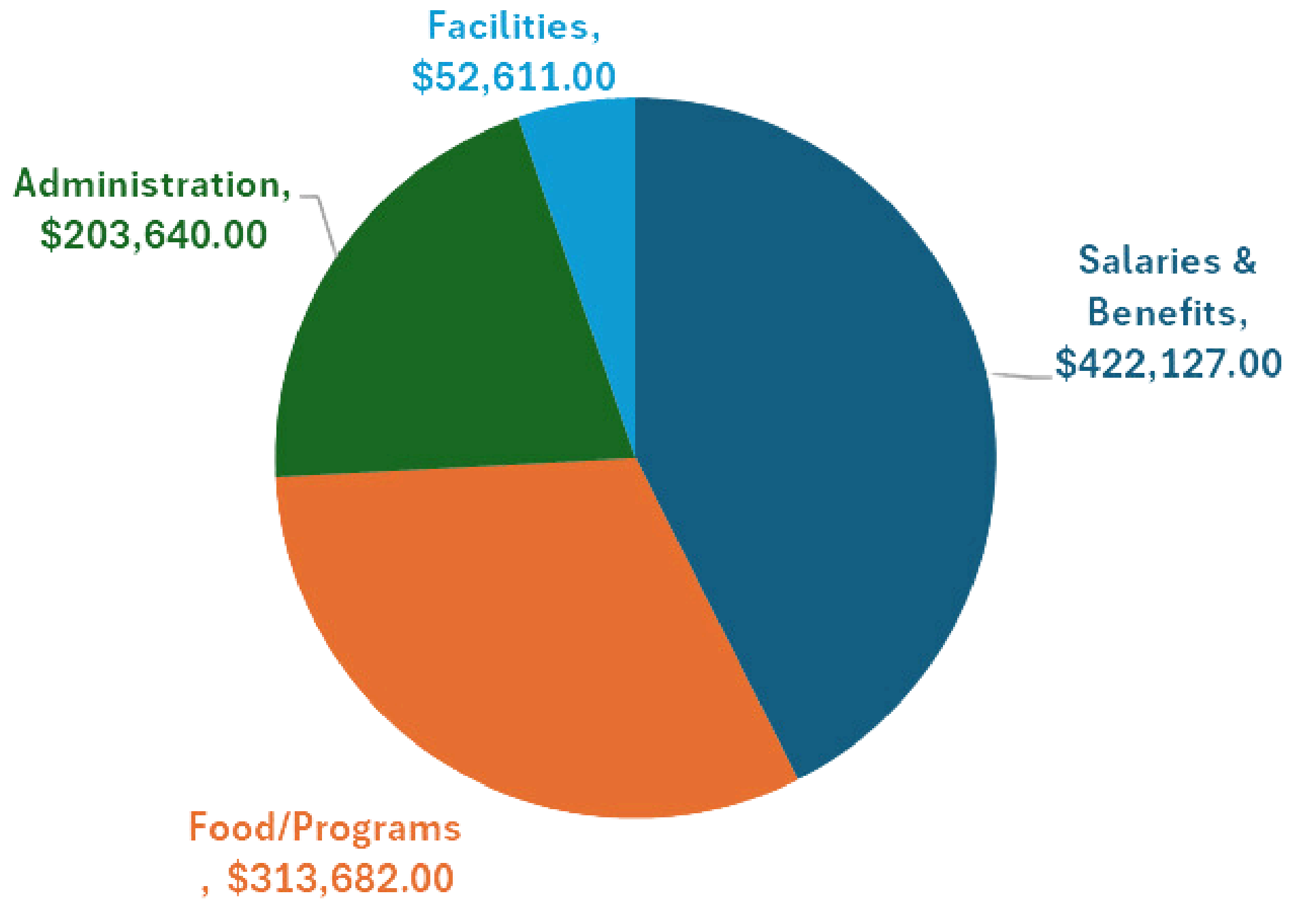
Operating	\$363,967
Future Capacity Expansion	\$350,000



# Expenses

Advertising & Promotions	\$2,524
Amortization	88,468
Food purchases	218,280
Fundraising	10,683
Hygiene purchases	6,214
Insurance	11,380
Interest on long-term debt	23,163
Membership fees	4,941
Office and general	12,939
Professional fees	19,788
Programming	89,188
Property tax rebate	(5,039)
Property taxes	10,170
Rent	7,756
Repairs and maintenance	10,725
Salaries & benefits	422,127
Telecommunications	16,241
Training & development	24,893
Utilities	17,619
	<hr/>
	\$992,060

**Excess of Revenue over Expenses**                      **\$ 335,217**





## Local Government



## Local Societies & Charities



## Reclamation Partners



## Event Organizers



## Our Food Bank Network



## Local Businesses



## Partners Providing Prepared Meals





# Thank You

The Orangeville Food Bank relies on the dedication and generosity of our donors, volunteers, partners, and staff to support the growing number of community members in need. Below is a partial list of those who have contributed \$5,000 or more as of the time of printing.

All Pro Roofing

Allto Construction

Andrew Mason

Andrew Morris

Ariel & Daryl Somes

Bracket Auto Group

Buddy Pitt & Melody Crowe

Christine Hann

Clublink

County of Dufferin

David Baker

David Roth

E. Hoffman Plastics

Elaine Kehoe

Emanoil Kapoulos

Eric and Marcia Duiker

Feed Ontario

Fiddle Foot Farm

Food Banks Canada

FreshCo

Gary Noland

Gary Ursell

Government of Canada

Grand Valley Lions

Justin Cowling

Kenneth Wishart & Shelley Peters

Landman Gardens & Bakery

Lavender Blue Catering Ltd.

Lori Ker

Mark's Work Warehouse

Metro Richelieu Inc.

Moorefield Excavation Ltd

Morningview Foundation

Mullin Group Realty

Nadine Meek

Patricia Keachie

Peace Valley Ranch Limited

Rob & Marget & Maria Hruby

Samantha Salisbury

Sobey's Orangeville

The Delaney Family Foundation

Tony Blackburn

Town of Orangeville

United Way Guelph Wellington Dufferin

Walmart Orangeville

Whispering Pines Landscaping

William & Patricia Pletch

Willtrade Commodities Inc.

Zehrs Orangeville



