



# Newsletter

Fall 2024

With fall upon us, it is time to take this opportunity to update everyone on happenings at the Bloor West Food Bank. We were delighted to once again welcome a great crew of student volunteers who helped us out this summer. It was a great way for them to earn volunteer credits for school and also to fill in for some of our regular volunteers.



*Some of our wonderful Thursday volunteers who helped us become "Best in Class".*

We were also honoured to be recognized by the Daily Bread Food Bank's Best in Class Awards. We were finalists for the "Outstanding Food Bank Program Award", along with Christie-Ossington Food Bank and Parkdale Food Bank. While we didn't win we were proud to be recognized. This was an award earned by everyone who has donated to and volunteered at our food bank.

As we head into the holiday season we will once again be hosting our Holiday Food Bank on Friday December 20th. We look forward to being able to provide some holiday cheer for our over 300 food bank households.

Thank you to everyone for your hard work and support in making the Bloor West Food Bank one of the best in the city.

Warmly,  
Karen, Maggie and Mary Anne  
Coordinators, Bloor West Food Bank



*Mary Anne, Karen and Maggie at the Best in Class Awards.*



## Bloor West Food Bank *Holiday Fundraiser*

\$25 helps buy a holiday gift for our clients

Each \$25 donation will be entered into a draw for **court-side Toronto Raptors tickets** in early 2025!

Visit [bwfb.ca](http://bwfb.ca) to donate!





# Fundraising Success!

Thanks to the amazing efforts of our Fundraising Committee and community groups we had tremendous fundraising successes these past few months.

## Rumors



*Karen and Mary Anne and the cast of Rumors.*

On Sept. 5th we hosted our second fundraiser with The Village Players. The Neil Simon play "Rumors" delighted our audience and raised enough funds to cover one month of our operating expenses.

## TCS Toronto Marathon

For the first time, the Bloor West Food Bank entered a team in the Toronto Waterfront Marathon, half marathon and 5K that took place on October 19 & 20. We had 23 people sign up for our team, including Logan who ran the half marathon and Mary Anne Waterhouse who ran her first full marathon. Big thanks to volunteer Rob Phillips for helping to organize all the details around our participation in this event. Thank you also to everyone who sponsored the runners which resulted in us raising over \$20,000.



*A group of BWFB 5K walkers crossing the finish line.*

## Street Party



The residents of Humber Trail hosted a Street Party in support of the Bloor West Food Bank. It was sponsored by Sanagan's Meat Locker and all proceeds raised went to our food bank.



*5K Start and Mary Anne at the 13K mark of the full marathon.*



*Many of the Bloor West Team after the 5K run/walk.*



## Volunteer SPOTLIGHT



Peter has been with Bloor West Food Bank since day 1 and has worked each and every Thursday and Friday since! Unloading trucks, packing produce and breaking down endless cardboard boxes are among Peter's many roles. With a smile and greeting for everyone, he is an integral part of our team.

**Thank you Peter!**

## Soup, Soup and more Soup!

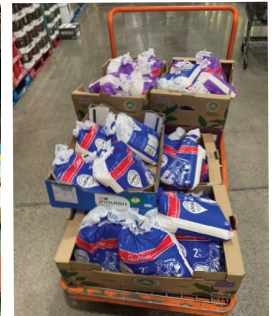


Since last February, we receive over 400 servings of delicious, nutritious homemade soup each week from the amazing **Runnymede United Church Food Outreach Program**. This locally made soup is a popular addition to our offerings at Bloor West Food Bank, helping us provide another full meal to the 300+ families we serve.

*Anna and Heather from the Food Outreach Program at Runnymede United Church.*

## Shopping Committee

Last winter we created a Shopping Committee to help us purchase additional items we need for our food bank. This amazing group of volunteers has taken a lot of pressure off of Karen and Maggie (who had previously done most of the needed shopping). Everything from milk, eggs, yogurt, diapers, tea and coffee, oatmeal and other staples are purchased regularly. The fundraising efforts in place allow us to make these kinds of purchases.



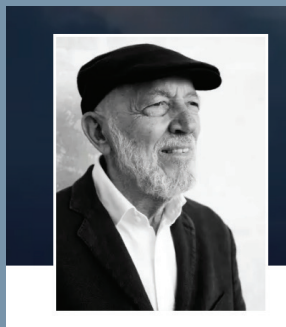
*Oats, milk, meat, diapers, tuna and soup. Some of the many items our shoppers purchase for us.*

## In Memoriam

We were very saddened at the passing of three of our amazing volunteers Pat Rae, Tony Cianciotta and Laura Arsie. We remember all these volunteers for their lovely natures and the hard work they put into volunteering with us. But it was humbling to learn upon their passing what remarkable lives they had all led. Pat was a biochemist and then a successful lawyer. Tony enjoyed a celebrated career in film making. Laura was a very successful photographer and educator. We were better for having them with us and miss their presence.



**Pat**



**Tony**



**Laura**



# Thank you to all of our Supporters!



*Church of St. Martin's  
in the Fields*



*Bloor Meat Market*



*Rotary Club Parkdale  
High Park Humber*



*Nature's Path Foods*

St. Pius X Catholic Church  
Rotary Club of Parkdale High Park Humber  
Cobs Bread Bakery  
The Grumpy Gourmet  
Meaty Eats Bloor West  
Runnymede United Church  
Ruffin's Pet Centre  
Bloor West Village BIA  
St. Olave's Anglican Church  
Nicholson's No Frills  
Royal LePage Bloor West  
Crocker Web Design  
St. Pius X Catholic School  
Humberson Collegiate Institute  
St. Pius X Catholic Women's League  
Church of St. Martin's in the Fields  
The Village Players  
West Toronto KEYS to Inclusion  
Nature's Path  
Sweet and Elegant  
Collected Joy  
Hacienda  
The Body Shop  
Orange Theory Fitness  
Atlas Ink  
The Period Purse  
MAD Elevator Inc.  
The Coffee Boutique  
Acart  
Fresh Avenue  
Bloor Meat Market  
Sanagan's Meat Locker  
Bloor West Dental  
85th Toronto Scouts  
Ready Set Recycle  
Power4Teens  
Capucci Salon and Spa  
Red Label Hair Company  
JC Salons  
Bluestein Charitable Foundation  
Cheese Boutique  
Keller Williams  
Bloor Animal Hospital  
Snappers  
Sport Chek Stockyards  
Starline Production Rentals  
Meridian Credit Union - Bloor West Branch  
Capital One  
Bank of Montreal  
Wiseacre Rentals



*The Period Purse*



*Bloor West Village BIA*



*West Toronto KEYS to  
Inclusion*



*Meaty Eats*



*Acart*



*The Body Shop  
Bloor West*



*Cobs Bread Bloor West*

## Contact Us!

For more information about  
our work, to volunteer or to  
arrange a food donation:

[www.bwfb.ca](http://www.bwfb.ca)  
[info@bwfb.ca](mailto:info@bwfb.ca)

**Thank you to our volunteers and the many individuals who  
have donated funds and food to support our efforts.**