

The 14th Annual Mission Breakfast is being held on Saturday, October 17th at 9am - the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty. While we hope this event will create an opportunity to open meaningful dialogues about poverty, we also recognize the need to take a moment and laugh. 2020 has been a difficult year so please join us to laugh, learn and connect with others in our community.

Tickets are \$100 each and can be purchased by visiting our website or call us at 902-423-4605.



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With special guest Ron James



Brunswick Street Mission

*Newsletter
Fall 2020*



Renovation Update

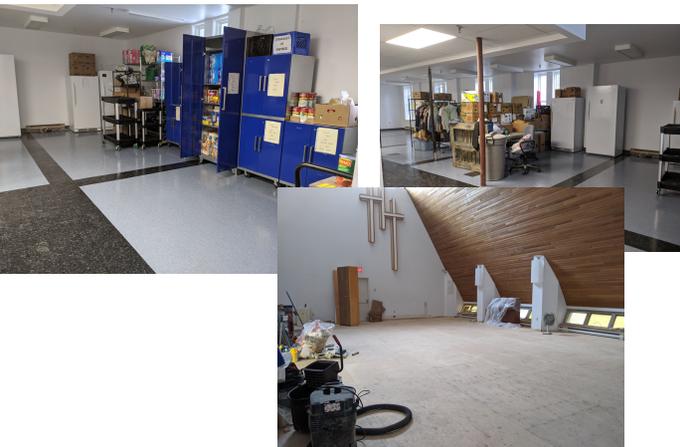
The COVID pandemic has been difficult for everyone. While it has been challenging to continue to run our programs, it has allowed us to move forward with renovations.

We have created a large working area on the main floor, equipped with rolling storage so we can easily move things around to best support our clients. This means no more stairs each day for our clothing bank volunteers and for those who need to access the program. Additionally, the sanctuary will feature an updated kitchenette and a second accessible washroom.

These upgrades allow our Clothing Bank to be housed with our Food Bank, Trusteeship and Outreach Programs. Due to space our professional kitchen and breakfast program will remain on our lower level. This new space will be warm, bright and open and give us, even during COVID-19, more room to increase our services and support even more people.

Thanks go out to the City of Halifax, Province of Nova Scotia granting programs, UCC Seeds of Hope and Legacy Funds Grants Program for funding our upgrades.

Thanks to Food Bank Canada whose funding has allowed us to purchase additional shelving as well as new freezers for the food bank program.



COVID Response

Our spring 2020 newsletter outlined our response to COVID-19. It was essential that we kept our kitchen open to serve meals as well as continue our food bank and, with a handful of volunteers, fill clothing requests for people struggling with poverty.

This is a year that has shown us the power of volunteering. While our amazing core volunteers worked from their homes to help answer voicemail, book appointments and check email, a new group of volunteers stepped up to help in the kitchen.

As we move forward, appointments and curb-side pick-up procedures remain in place along with cleaning safety measures so our clients, volunteers and Feed Nova Scotia remain safe.

Clothing Donations

Due to limited space during construction and concerns about COVID-19 we have not been able to open our doors to donations.

We know this is hard for the folks who want to give to a charity that gives it to people in need but, the closure has allowed us to look at all our programs; what we do to support people and how we do it. We have realized that accepting any and all donations isn't working. We often end up with items we cannot give away and with limited storage we have realized we need to make changes to better serve everyone.

When we re-open, in addition to making sure we have a quarantine area set-up to keep our volunteers safe, we must make sure we have what our client needs in mind. We will be creating a Needs List, based on necessities, the season and items being requested.

Thanks to everyone who has called and are waiting for us to open. When we are ready we will make sure the Needs List for our clients is posted and shared.



Our Appreciation

The need for our food bank has increased by 18% over this time last year. COVID has changed the landscape of who is struggling and reaching out for help. Nova Scotia is not alone as Food Banks Canada has reported seeing an average jump in demand of 20% across our provinces.

Through all of this we have seen incredible generosity from our donors, making it possible for us to keep helping people. Thank you for stepping up and thank you, in advance, for your continued support as we navigate the remainder of 2020, and beyond.

We would like to thank:

- Feed Nova Scotia
- Scanway Catering
- East Coast Living
- Our Kitchen Volunteers
- Our Front Desk Volunteers
- Our Food Bank Volunteers
- All donors, funders and supporters

If we have forgotten to thank anyone please know that your commitment to supporting people living in poverty has not gone unnoticed. We cannot do our work without each and every one of you.

Thank you!