



**Connecting People
Changing Communities**

**The Living Edge Community
provides nutritious, free, fresh
food to working families, single
parents and others through
vibrant, community-focused,
farmer-style markets in the city
and suburbs of Victoria.
All are welcome!**

AGM

**MARCH 24th, 2021
Victoria, BC
Via Zoom**



**CRA# 82625 6539 RR0001
BC Society # S-0060921**

**www.livingedge.ngo
info@livingedge.ngo**

March 24th, 2021, 7 - 8pm Via Zoom
A G E N D A

Celebrating What God Has and Is Doing Through Living Edge Markets!

Welcome, opening prayer	Rev. Sharon Hayton
Introduce meeting dynamics regarding Zoom	Rev. Sharon Hayton
Record of Number of Voting Members Present.	
Acceptance of Agenda	Rev. Sharon Hayton
Acceptance of Minutes from AGM 2020	
President's Report	Rev. Sharon Hayton
Testimony	
Executive Director's Report	Rev. Neil van Heerden
Testimony	
Treasurer's Report	Matt Dodd
Acceptance of Financial Statement 2020	
Proposed Budget 2021/2022/ acceptance	Rev. Neil van Heerden & Matt
Introduction of Directors for 2021	Rev. Neil van Heerden
Testimony	
Closing Prayer & Blessing	



Minutes LIVING EDGE AGM Wednesday, July 15, 2020
ZOOM meeting, Victoria, BC, 7pm

Celebrating what God has and is doing through Living Edge Markets!

Welcome, Introductions to Zoom meeting, Opening prayer:

Rev. Sharon Hayton

Number of voting members present:

11 members

Acceptance of Agenda:

Motion to accept Bryan Wilson/ Seconded by Robbie May/All in favour

Acceptance of Minutes from AGM (March 3, 2019):

Motion to accept Rev. Neil van Heerden/Seconded by Maxine Campbell /All in favour

Matters arising from minutes of 2019 AGM: Addressed by Rev. Neil van Heerden

- Board meetings are being held monthly Neil is now working part-time effective January 1st
- Financial statements are now being reviewed monthly by the board – expenses have been reduced considerably

Presidents Report:

Rev. Sharon Hayton

- 2019 was year of huge changes with the closure of dinners at Quadra Village
- In spite of efforts to find an alternate location the dinner ministry had to end due to rising costs, deteriorating building, loss of the children's ministry
- Losing the dinners was hard for everyone – it was such a beloved ministry. Through the dinners a strong sense of community was built, the gospel was preached, good food was served and relationships were developed between volunteers and recipients.
- The focus of Living Edge is now food distribution with the development of neighbourhood markets.
- We now have 10 locations hosted by various churches and organizations throughout the city.
- We are able to reach hundreds of people every single week through these host sites working together with LE. What a testimony!
- The board held a successful Strategic Planning day in order to prioritize the way forward.
- A luncheon was hosted, bringing leaders from each location together. We heard amazing testimonies of a myriad of opportunities to share the Gospel on site. At each of the Neighbourhood Markets the Gospel is being seen and heard. We have much to celebrate!
- We give thanks to all who support this ministry. For food provided, churches and organizations working together, our volunteers, for those who give financially and for those who remember us in prayer
- May Living Edge continue to flourish on into the future - to the Glory of God!

Testimony by Terrance of Harbourview Church



Minutes LIVING EDGE AGM Wednesday, July 15, 2020
ZOOM meeting, Victoria, BC, 7pm



Executive Directors Report:

Rev. Neil van Heerden

- 2019 was a year of change for Living Edge as we adapted to our support, needs, supplies and results.
- Individual support was lost during the year due to the closing of the Sunday dinners & our primary supporter reduced their funding by 50%
- Thanks to Matt Dodd, Deborah Price and Sharon Klein for working so hard to keep us afloat during this difficult time
- Living Edge is now doing well financially and the future looks very bright
- We have ensured that the Market Places get as much variation and produce as possible, even during the tough times. Thank you to our Market Place manager and staff, Doug, Siobhan, Aubrey and Sandra.
- To our many volunteers (over 118 of you) who faithfully turn up rain, snow and wind to organize and run the market places. You make it possible to feed over 5,000 food deprived families and individuals each month. Without you this would not be possible.
- Thank you to our Market Place hosts: Saanich Baptist; Gateway Baptist; Church of Our Lord; Quadra Community Centre, UVIC Family Centre; Open Gate Church; Harbourview Church; First Baptist; Central Baptist; Emmanuel Baptist; The Table Peninsula: Rainbow Kitchen; Lambrick Park Church; Saanichton Bible Fellowship; University Christian Ministries; Friendship Community Church
- Thank you to our board and to Rev. Sharon Hayton for leading us

Treasurer's Report:

Matt Dodd

- Thank you to Sharon Klein for doing all the grant proposals
- Online giving has gone up – CHIMPS & FACEBOOK – thanks to Deb and Sharon
- Thanks to Jan for doing the books
- Revenue for 2019 was \$189,210
- Church of Our Lord blessed us with significant support (\$46,062)
- Partner churches and organizations in Greater Victoria contributed (\$41,470)
- Offerings received from our faithful supporters (\$63,691)
- Victoria Foundation (\$15,000)
- City of Victoria (\$10,000)
- Anglican Network in Canada (\$500)
- Fundraising: Ride for Refuge (\$2,759) and Soul Source Community R&B Band (\$3,600)
- Total revenue was below budgeted amount by \$60,000 due to a reduction in giving from various sources and lack of significant fundraising activities.
- Expenses of \$189,034 were \$60,266 below budget which is comparable to the shortfall in revenue
- Reduction in expenses were due to the discontinuation of Sunday dinners
- 2019 ended with a net income of \$175
- Thrifty Foods Smile Card program (which is earmarked for Van replacement) had a balance of \$6,874 at year end
- On December 31, 2019 Living Edge had assets of \$14,669.74 in our Society name at VanCity and the remainder in our general account

Motion to accept 2019 Financial Statements as presented Matt Dodd/ Seconded by Frank May/All in favour

Minutes LIVING EDGE AGM Wednesday, July 15, 2020
ZOOM meeting, Victoria, BC, 7pm

Proposed Budget 2020/2021:

Matt Dodd/Rev. Neil Van Heerden

- Proposed Revenue is \$148,100 which includes Offerings, Special Giving, Fundraisers, Grants and Donations and funding from Cool and Market Churches
- Proposed Expenses are \$148,100 which includes staffing costs, ANIC tithe, rent, administration and development and discretionary allowance
- This is a realistic and lean budget for 2020 that includes historical expenses and proven donor revenues
- We have applied for \$15,000 from the Victoria Foundation and \$10,000 from the City of Victoria. It will not be known until June 2020 if we were successful with either grant.
- Due to COVID there is \$7,000 lost income for fundraising
- Victoria Foundation awarded a grant for \$35,000
- The budget is in a good position – we are doing well
- On-line giving is on track – good work to Deborah and Sharon
- Market churches are being extremely faithful in sending their cheques every month

Questions:

- Maxine Campbell & Bryan Wilson enquired about the Thrifty Card program
- Response by Matt: We have received approval for this year for the Thrifty card program. Proceeds are to be directed to a Van replacement fund. We were given a van by Shelbourne Church and need to get it wrapped and updated on the outside – it's a big van that we use for the larger deliveries
- It was put forward that the Board ensure the Thrifty Cards Program is promoted and more cards are distributed for use
- Discussion about hours for drivers – Matt confirmed that driving hours have been increased
- Request to explain the \$13,600 recycling costs – any leftover food from the Markets has to be taken to Alpine recycling. LE is billed by Alpine as unused food is taken there daily. There is a large volume of food.
- Terrance from Harbourview Church stated that the Saturday market has to dispose of cardboard and food waste – they have only had to pay once or twice for disposal
- Bryan Wilson mentioned that there was a CRD program that gave a rebate for recycling – Sharon Klein was taking care of that
- Frank May mentioned that Shivonne takes Quadra Market cardboard weekly – why can't the same happen with Saanich Baptist Market? – Neil did not have an answer and it was suggested that the Board review the process of cardboard recycling at the Markets
- Rev. Neil to review recycling routine with Rick and Doug

Motion that 2020 budget as presented be accepted – Matt Dodd/Seconded by Cathy Wilson/All in favour

Testimony by Rick Boomer of Saanich Baptist Church

Introduction of Directors for 2020:

Rev. Neil van Heerden

- Rev. Sharon Hayton - Chair
- Rev. Neil van Heerden – Executive Director
- Matt Dodd - Treasurer
- Sue van der Merwe - Secretary
- Rev. David Dawson – Member at large

Closing Prayer & Blessing



2020 Board of Directors

Rev. Sharon Hayton
President & Chair

Matt Dodd
Treasurer

Sue Van Der Merwe
Secretary

Brian Dunn
Member at Large

David Dawson
Member at Large

Rev. Neil van Heerden
Executive Director



2020 will be remembered as the year of the pandemic which has affected all of life in one way or another.

In spite of the challenges of Covid 19, 2020 was a very good year for Living Edge. At a time when there are more and more people needing help with the basics of life, we were able to provide adequate food for 90,000 people. Truly amazing!

The question was, how to continue the Markets successfully while assuring that they would not become a hub for the spread of Covid. Ideally, the Markets are a place of face to face contact and connections. Therefore, it was necessary to provide protocols to ensure safety for all. The volunteers and leaders at the various Market Places were keen to make it work. They took it upon themselves to organize the best ways to manage distribution without close contact in the midst of the pandemic and it has worked well. I am continually amazed by the dedication of our staff and volunteers. They rise to the challenges and do extraordinary work.

With the move to the Esquimalt location, we are now more centralized than we have ever been. This is so much better for operations. A hearty thanks to Harbourview Church who brought this place/space to our attention.

As you will see from our financial reports, we have not fallen behind. This too is so encouraging!

A huge shout out to our administration team. Sharon Klein and Deborah Price who do a great job, particularly in communications and fund development. They have a love for the ministry which shines through.

Thank you to all who continue to support this ministry which has become more and more essential in our communities. We are grateful for the churches and organizations working together throughout the city.

Thank you to those who give financially and to those who pray faithfully.

Thank you to our amazing staff and volunteers who give of themselves for the good of others.

We are grateful for our leader, Rev. Neil Van Heerden who does an amazing job of keeping it all working well! He has a gift of connecting with people of every stripe and makes each one feel valued. No wonder he has church leaders asking if they too can start a Living Edge Neighborhood Market.

May Living Edge continue to flourish - all to the Glory of God!

Respectfully,

Rev. Sharon Hayton



What a year we have had! Initially I thought things would slow down for us due to COVID, however, it didn't take long for the workload to get back to normal and then some.

It was amazing to see most of the markets open for the entire year. I was astounded at how each site adapted and changed strategies to fit in with government requirements. Not only were we sustaining our regular operations but improving on effectiveness at many of the sites. I think we all share the feeling of fulfilment with great work done in a time of need.

Thank you to all our staff, partners, volunteers and board for keeping on and making everything possible. Without you it would not have happened. Thank-you to our wonderful clients and friends who patiently waited for their turn to be served, we know sometimes it was confusing and stressful, thank-you for trusting us.

This year we don't exactly know where life is taking us, but I am confident that together we will make it work again. Let us remember that we may not be able to change the entire world, but we can change a single person's world by making life easier for them and their family.



Gratefully Submitted,

Rev. Neil van Heerden
Exec. Director

LIVING EDGE COMMUNITY CHURCH

FINANCIAL REPORT

A. 2020 Operating Results

The revenue for Living Edge received in the general fund in 2020 was \$ 184,765. As with the previous years we were blessed by significant support from our Church Partners and Community Organizations in Greater Victoria including Church of Our Lord, Gateway Baptist Church, Harbour View Community Church, Esquimalt Neighbourhood House, The Open Gate Church, Central Baptist Church, Emmanuel Baptist Church, Friendship Community Church, Saanich Baptist Fellowship, Saanichton Bible Fellowship and Connection Life Centre (\$70,700); offerings from our faithful supporters (\$60,928); Victoria Foundation (\$35,100); and the City of Victoria (\$7,750. On-line performances by the Soul Source Community R&B Band raised \$1700. The total revenue exceeded the budget by \$36,665.

The total expenses of \$149,938 exceeded our revenue resulting in a net income of \$34,826.

The current Thrifty Foods Smile Card program which is earmarked for a replacement van for the food distribution program had a balance of \$8730 at the end of the year.

B. 2021 Budget

We are proposing a balanced budget of \$170,250. This will be presented at the AGM.

C. Balance Sheet and Cash Flow

On December 31, 2020, Living Edge had assets of \$14,669.74 in our Society's name at VanCity as presented in the attached balance sheet.

Respectfully submitted

Matt Dodd, Treasurer



LIVING EDGE COMMUNITY - 2020 AGM REPORT

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Living Edge Financial Statement for 2020

Year-end accrual basis		TOTAL	BUDGET	VARIANCE
Heading	Account name	2020 YTD	2020 YTD	2020 YTD
Revenue				
Offerings	Offerings - receiptable	15,097	30,000	(14,903)
	Offerings - non-receiptable	36,890	15,000	21,890
	Offerings - match (Rec.)	-	-	-
	Offerings - match (no rec.)	-	-	-
Special giving	In-kind giving	7,941	5,300	2,641
	Other giving	1,000	1,000	-
Fundraisers	Fundraisers - tickets	-	-	-
	Fundraisers - other (rec)	1,713	4,000	(2,287)
	Fundraisers - match (rec)	-	-	-
	Fundraisers - other (no rec.)	817	8,000	(7,183)
	Fundraisers - match (no. rec)	-	-	-
Sponsorships and other	Sponsorships - match (no rec.) tshirt	-	-	-
	Sponsorships - match (rec.)	-	-	-
	Sponsorships and other (rec.)	7,026	-	7,026
	Sponsorships and other (no rec.)	-	-	-
Donations and grants	Grocery cards	236	200	36
	Grants	42,850	25,000	17,850
	Other Donations	2,283	-	2,283
Other funding	COOL	20,947	20,000	947
	Other churches	47,953	39,550	8,403
	ANiC/ACNA	-	-	-
Interest	Interest revenue	13	50	(37)
Total revenue	TOTAL REVENUE	184,765	148,100	36,665
Expense				
Staffing	Pastor salary	32,897	30,000	2,897
	Pastor benefits	9,955	-	9,955
	ANiC Synod	-	-	-
	Worksafe premiums	135	200	(65)
	Ministry workers - distribution	37,735	37,200	535
	Ministry workers - admin.	8,400	14,400	(6,000)

LIVING EDGE COMMUNITY - 2020 AGM REPORT

FINANCIAL STATEMENT continued

ANiC Contribution	Diocesan tithe	-	1,200	(1,200)
Rent	CDI college	-	1,800	(1,800)
	Quadra Village Community Centre	6,750	10,400	(3,650)
	Esquimalt Office	2,625	-	2,625
	Maintenance and Repairs - Office	4,504	-	4,504
Admin. and Developmen	Bank fees	1,084	500	584
	Fundraising expenses		200	(200)
	Education and training		3,211	(3,211)
	Insurance	1,826	2,000	(174)
	Licenses, Memberships, and Dues	65	300	(235)
	Materials and Supplies	248	2,000	(1,752)
	Miscellaneous	335	2,000	(1,665)
	Promotional expenses	12,133	1,500	10,633
	Telecommunications	804	1,500	(696)
	T-shirt expenses (recoveries)		100	(100)
	Travel		1,000	(1,000)
	Website and software	330	1,500	(1,170)
	Interest and other expenses	199	200	(1)
Ministry Expense	Food expense - paid		-	-
	Food expense - in kind	673	-	673
	Kitchen and service supplies	8,361	13,589	(5,228)
	Kitchen and service supplies - in kind	2,935	-	2,935
	Client survey	500	2,000	(1,500)
	Van - insurance and license	4,217	4,500	(283)
	Van - gas	7,585	10,000	(2,415)
	Van - maintenance and other	1,444	2,000	(556)
Ministry - Other	Service expenses		-	-
	Other programs		-	-
	Benevolence		-	-
	Pastor's discretionary expenses	4,200	4,800	(600)
Total expense		149,938	148,100	1,838
Surplus (deficit)	Net Income	34,827	-	34,827



LIVING EDGE COMMUNITY - 2020 AGM REPORT

BALANCE SHEET

Living Edge Community Balance Sheet As at 31/12/2020

ASSET

Current Assets

Bank e-Transfers	\$	2,518.36	
Unallocated Deposits	\$	3,695.25	
Bank - General	\$	56,983.84	
Bank - Van & Chair Replacement Fund	\$	7,091.23	
Total Cash			\$ 70,288.68
Century 21 Deposit	\$	1,125.00	
Key Deposit	\$	60.00	
Total Receivable			\$ 1,185.00
Advances - Gas		33.59	
Total Advances			\$ 33.59
Total Current Assets			\$ 71,507.27

TOTAL ASSET \$ 71,507.27

LIABILITY

Current Liabilities

Advance Received Grants	\$	32,750.00	
Accounts Payable Linked	\$	849.17	
Total Payable			\$ 33,599.17
GST Paid on Purchases	\$	(698.36)	
GST Refund			\$ (698.36)
Total Current Liabilities			\$ 32,900.81

TOTAL LIABILITY \$ 32,900.81

EQUITY

Van Replacement Fund

VRF - Revenue	\$	18,858.80	
VRF - Interest	\$	136.98	
VRF - Expenses	\$	(10,265.62)	
Van Replacement Fund			\$ 8,730.16
Van Replacement Fund			\$ 8,730.16

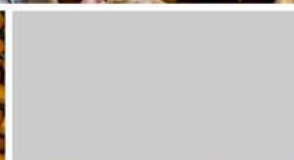
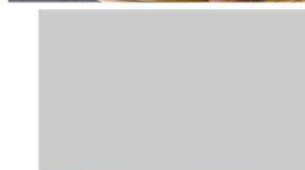
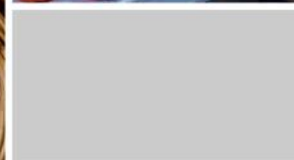
Retained Earnings

Retained Earnings - Previous Year	\$	(4,950.30)	
Current Earnings	\$	34,826.60	
Total Equity			\$ 29,876.30

TOTAL EQUITY \$ 38,606.46

LIABILITIES AND EQUITY \$ 71,507.27

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LIVING EDGE COMMUNITY - 2020 AGM REPORT PROPOSED BUDGET 2021

Living Edge Community Food Program

Proposed Budget 2021

LE Food Program Proposed Budget /21		
REVENUE		
Revenue		
Offerings - (Receipt)	\$ 12,000.00	
Canada Helps/Chimp Offerings - N/R	\$ 35,000.00	
Offerings		\$ 47,000.00
Rental support (Receipt)	\$ 4,500.00	
In-Kind Giving - (Receipt)	\$ 6,000.00	
Other Giving	\$ 1,000.00	
Special Giving		\$ 11,500.00
Fundraisers - Other (Receipt)	\$ 600.00	
Fundraiser - Online	\$ -	
Fundraisers - Other (No Receipt)	\$ 550.00	
Sponsorships - (Receipt)	\$ 5,000.00	
Fundraisers		\$ 6,150.00
Grocery Cards	\$ 200.00	
Grants	\$ 60,350.00	
Other Donations	\$ 3,000.00	
Donations & Grants		\$ 63,550.00
Funding from COOL	\$ 5,000.00	
Funding from Other Churches	\$ 37,000.00	
Interest & Other Revenue	\$ 50.00	
Other Funding		\$ 42,050.00
Total Revenue		\$ 170,250.00
TOTAL REVENUE		
EXPENSE		
General & Administrative Expenses		
Staffing/Contract costs: Exec Dir.	\$ 36,000.00	

LIVING EDGE COMMUNITY - 2020 AGM REPORT

PROPOSED BUDGET 2021

continued

Staffing: Admin	\$ 21,600.00	
Staffing: Distribution	\$ 49,200.00	
WorkSafe Premiums	\$ 300.00	
Staffing & Contract Staff		\$ 107,100.00
Esquimalt Office	\$ 9,000.00	
Quadra Site	\$ 2,400.00	
Hydro - Esquimalt	\$ 4,200.00	
Maintenance and Repairs - Leasehold	\$ 3,980.00	
Total Rent and Facilities		\$ 19,580.00
Bank Fees	\$ 700.00	
Insurance	\$ 2,000.00	
Licenses, Memberships & Dues	\$ 300.00	
Materials & Supplies	\$ 600.00	
Food Share Nework	\$ 2,400.00	
Promotional Expenses	\$ 3,000.00	
Telecommunications/Web	\$ 870.00	
Website & Software	\$ 4,350.00	
Admin & Development Expenses		\$ 14,220.00
Distribution Supplies & Recycling Costs	\$ 5,000.00	
COVID Supplies	\$ 3,150.00	
Client Survey	\$ 1,000.00	
Van - Insurance & License	\$ 5,000.00	
Van - Gas	\$ 8,500.00	
Van - Maintenance & Other	\$ 3,000.00	
Other Program Expenses		\$ 25,650.00
E.D. Discretionary Expenses	\$ 3,500.00	
Ministry - Other		\$ 3,500.00
Interest and Other Expenses	\$ 200.00	
Interest & Other Expenses		\$ 200.00
Total General & Admin. Expenses		\$ 170,250.00
TOTAL EXPENSE		\$ 170,250.00

NET INCOME		\$ (0.00)

The onset of the pandemic in 2020, has been devastating to fundraising for non-profits, as stated by Imagine Canada.

Charities face billions in lost revenue, drastic service disruption to essential community services and massive layoffs disproportionately impacting women. A worst-case scenario involving six months of enforced isolation, and the more severe economic downturn that would result, means the sector is projected to lose \$15.6 billion in revenue and about 194,000 employees.

Not only did it impact revenue, but our own volunteer resources and capacity to operate markets in the CRD while abiding by COVID health regulations! It is truly amazing that seven markets continued operation in 2020, helping over 60,000+ food-deprived families! Our volunteers are a miraculous blessing to so many people!

The government of Canada and other organizations released funds to help non-profits to assist them through the Pandemic. We received a grant in the amount of \$35,000 from the Rapid Relief Fund, Victoria Foundation. This Fund raised over \$6M in support of South Vancouver Island COVID-19 relief efforts, supporting front-line organizations serving those who are less prepared to deal with the health, social and economic impacts of COVID-19 crisis. Funds also began to trickle in through our social media, Church of Our Lord and market host churches, providing solid support for our food program.

Thank you to our sustaining sponsors and other supporters for your generosity enabling Living Edge to bring food equality to persons living in the Capital Regional District.

SUSTAINING SPONSORS



Anglican Network
in Canada



VICTORIA
FOUNDATION



CHURCH OF OUR LORD



THE CITY OF
VICTORIA



RAYMOND JAMES®
CANADA FOUNDATION

SUPPORTERS

CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH * CONNECTION LIFE CENTRE * EMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH *
ESQUIMALT NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE * FRIENDSHIP COMMUNITY CHURCH * GATEWAY CHURCH *
HARBOUR VIEW COMMUNITY CHURCH * SAANICH BAPTIST CHURCH * SAANICHTON BIBLE
FELLOWSHIP * THE OPEN GATE CHURCH * CITY OF VICTORIA * DINAH MASTINE * JOYCE MCCOWAN
* MARIAN DUSTAN * DAVID VUCKSON * MATT DODD * UNITED WAY OF GREATER VICTORIA * JOANNE
BALLENTINE * COLIN TURNER * GLENN AND DONALD TRAVERS * JAN MOTT * DOROTHY COUTURE *
MAXINE CAMPBELL * JACK & MARJORIE DOELL * LGS THE LOCAL GENERAL STORE * FAIRWAY
MARKET * STEVEN BARRE * TEN MILE SUPPLY LTD * ESTATE OF LAWRENCE WALTON * GREG &
ELAINE La RIVIERE * BENEVITY COMMUNITY IMPACT FUND * LYNN B KLEIN * GIFT FUNDS CANADA *
SHERYL CRAIG-MERRETT HOME GROUP * SHARON HAWES * ANGELA PETERSON * BARRY LOWE
& REBECCA BRIGHAM-LOWE * VICTORIA TRUTH CENTRE * BRIAN & KATHY WILSON * BRIAN &
SYLVIA BLENKIN * NICK La RIVIERE AND THE SOUL SOURCE COMMUNITY R&B BAND * VAN ISLE
WINDOWS * SOAP FOR HOPE CANADA * JASON AUSTIN * BRIAN HIGGINS * EDELE BONNAIG *
CANADA HELPS * CHIMP *

Respectfully submitted,
Sharon Klein, Fund Development Coordinator

LIVING EDGE COMMUNITY - 2020 AGM REPORT

RESCUED FOOD & DISTRIBUTION

Well, 2020 was an interesting year for the Living Edge Neighbourhood Markets! The Coronavirus Pandemic created many challenges for our daily operation of donated food collection for the markets: sourcing all of the personal protection of face masks, gloves, sanitizers & cleaners; creating & implementing protocols for how each market needed to keep everybody safe from the spreading virus; dealing with restricted access to food sources; and cleaning, sanitizing, cleaning, sanitizing, cleaning, & sanitizing. Thanks to our meticulous pick-up & delivery van drivers Siobhan and Rob for keeping everything clean through our operations (as I was the other van driver, I know how much extra work this was!)

This year, our Thursday Marketplace at the Quadra Community Centre had to transition to a totally outdoor operation, as Living Edge ended the lease of the indoor space and moved all of our cold storage and dry storage to the fabulous Constance Avenue location. Many thanks to Sandra Fraser, our Quadra Village market director, who kept the distribution and staff safe and happy.

All of our other Marketplaces seemed to adapt to the Covid-19 restrictions fairly well - all of them changing the way they distributed to the clients and keeping their facilities clean and safe. We tried to keep the communication between the Marketplace leaders easily available - to help each of them to adhere to any provincial health orders.

Food supply fluctuations over the year seemed fairly consistent to previous years. We did encounter rare abundances of certain items, as a result of restaurant closures, such as eggs, fish, cheese, and chicken. These extras were amazing bonuses that all of the markets greatly appreciated. The produce from the stores, as well as the Food Share Network, seemed to keep up with our Marketplace demands, except for the odd week when food sourcing was low. We did lose our Saturday food supply from a couple of major sources, so our Harbourview Esquimalt Marketplace suffered in 2020, as their day to give is on Saturdays.

I think that in 2021, we will see an increase in food accessibility for all of the Marketplaces as Living Edge visibility has increased and more sources are beginning to call us.

Thank you to Soap for Hope for their generous donations in 2020 and for continuing into 2021!

Submitted by Doug Sunray, Neighbourhood Market Coordinator



LIVING EDGE COMMUNITY - 2020 AGM REPORT NEIGHBOURHOOD MARKETS

Our faithful volunteers and suppliers rose to the challenges of 2020 and made it a year to remember.

We started the year as usual but, when Canada went into lockdown due to COVID 19 in mid-March, our Neighbourhood Markets all closed. Our market teams quickly modified their procedures to comply with the essential services regulations and re-opened as soon as they were able. Numbers were down for only a couple of weeks as folks navigated the unprecedented circumstances in their own lives. Once clients found their way back to our markets, though, our numbers exceeded all previous counts and have remained higher ever since.

Although Emmanuel and First Baptist Markets were open for only a short time during the last year (site logistics and concern for elderly volunteers placed extra challenges on these markets), all other markets are a bustle of activity and are providing a much-needed blessing to their communities.

In Esquimalt, “Our volunteers all wear masks and gloves. Shoppers wear masks even in line and keep 2 M apart. We have our socially distanced huddle, a short prayer, then volunteers head to their assigned spots to serve out the food. Shopper’s hands are sanitized before they shop. They are not allowed to touch any food but point to what they want. We have a table in front of the food items to maintain a distance.”

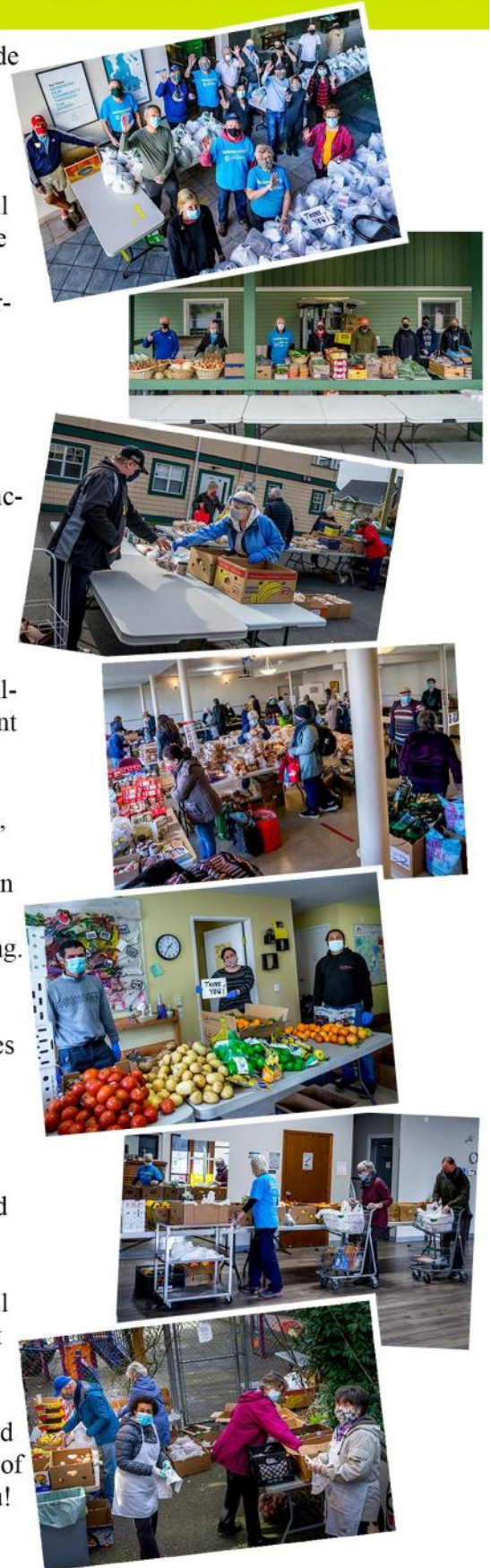
At Quadra Market, “We hand out numbers to clients at 10:30am. Around 11, we randomly call out numbers (groups of 5) for the non-family clients and they line up. The clients wait across the street from us! Family clients wait in a separate area. Clients come along the tables and point to the items they would like from each table and we pass it to them so they can put in their bag. All our volunteers have masks and gloves on.”

In Langford, “Queuing outside the building is guided by high visibility cones which indicate the minimum distance between clients. Before entering the building, there are hand sanitizers available for our clients. All clients wear masks and follow markings on the floor which indicate both direction (arrows) and required separation between persons (red tape). All volunteers wear masks and gloves. The flow of customers through the hall is monitored to prevent crowding.”

At Gateway, “We are pre-bagging all food and distributing it outside. We all wear masks. The guests line up 2 metres apart. We have an ongoing contact tracing list with our guests' names.”

Even with the restrictions and modifications, God has blessed our clients and volunteers alike. It is a pleasure to visit each site and see the hands and feet of Jesus in action! To God be all the glory, and to our volunteers ... Thank You!

Respectfully and gratefully, Deborah Price, Administrative Assistant





Salvation Army
Mustard Seed Food Bank
FoodShare Network
Islands West
Quality Foods
Rainbow Kitchen
Cobs Bread
Hertel Meats
Whole Foods
ColdStar
Peninsula Co-op
Michell's Farms
Soap for Hope Canada
Thrifty's
The Wholesale Club
Country Grocer