

For Immediate Release

IGA Stores of BC Donates Two Million Meals in British Columbia in partnership with FoodMesh

Distributing food to families in need essential with food insecurity at all time high

August 12, 2025, həṅqəminəm and Skwxwú7mesh traditional territory / Burnaby, B.C. - IGA Stores of British Columbia is proud to announce a major milestone in its ongoing efforts to combat food waste and support local communities. Through its five-year partnership with FoodMesh, IGA has now diverted surplus edible food into the equivalent of two million meals, benefitting charities and individuals across the province.

"There is enormous need to supply families facing food insecurity with nutritious wholesome foods in communities across British Columbia and IGA is proud to support these essential efforts thanks to our incredible partnership with FoodMesh and a multitude of charitable partners," said Tom Truchan, Director, Health & Food Safety, Sustainability & Logistics, IGA.

Since joining forces with FoodMesh in April 2020, IGA Stores of BC have steadily ramped up its food recovery efforts providing quality fresh produce, dairy, meat, seafood, bakery and deli items to a *long list of charitable partners.

Statistics Canada reported that in 2024 over <u>25% of people living in Canada were foodinsecure</u> – an all time high over the last 20 years. The report shows the percentage of people living in food-insecure households rose and established new record highs in almost every province, including British Columbia.

FoodMesh connects grocers with networks of local hunger-relief organizations to ensure their surplus food is quickly and safely redirected to those who need it most.

"We're thrilled to celebrate this two million meal milestone alongside IGA," said Jessica Regan, CEO and Co-Founder of FoodMesh. "They've shown real leadership by turning excess food into impactful meals, helping to fight hunger while diverting waste from landfills."

*Charities picking up food weekly from IGA's 21 stores include:

Langley Food Bank
Cedar Feast House
Loaves and Fishes Community Food Bank



Food Link Society

Potter's Place Mission

Food Stash Foundation

Salvation Army Harvest of Hope Food Bank

Pender Harbour Seniors Housing Outreach Healthy Meal Program

Central Okanagan Food Bank

Peachland Food Bank

Penticton Soupateria

Lake Country Food Assistance Society

Valemount Food Bank

Summerland Food Bank

Penticton Soupateria

Enderby & District Community Resource Centre

Feed Enderby and District Food Bank

More information on how IGA and FoodMesh support families and charities can be found here: https://foodmesh.ca/how-iga-of-bc-turns-its-surplus-food-into-2-million-meals-of-impact/

About IGA

Since 1955, proudly Canadian IGA has become more than a grocery store. It's a name that's built around community, and a gathering place where fresh has always been fresh and business has always been done with a handshake. Some things have changed over the years, but the quality of our products and our commitment to creating an inviting local shopping experience has stayed the same.

About FoodMesh

Mesh Exchange (dba FoodMesh) is a Vancouver-based Certified B Corporation, dedicated to reducing unnecessary food waste and feeding more. It provides digital solutions that unite all elements of the food supply chain to help organizations quickly and easily divert their surplus food to the people in our communities who need it most. Learn more at foodmesh.ca

For more information, interview and filming opportunities, please contact:

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