

July 2014

Annual Open House

Our Open House on June 7 was a great success with many visitors touring our facility for the first time.



Good company & food

Both the Medicine Hat News and CHAT TV covered our event. The television station also filmed a feature story of our work for broadcast the following week showcasing some of our volunteers and vegetable suppliers. We have enjoyed many positive comments from local viewers on the news clip with new volunteers being inspired to join us as a result of seeing the presentation. We can always benefit from more volunteers, having no shortage of vegetables coming into our cooler every week.



Report from the Philippines

We were able to ship a large amount of food aid to the Philippines shortly after Typhoon Haiyan pummeled parts of that country last November. We shipped approximately 1.3 million servings on one of the coldest days of the year. Over the past few months we have been getting reports and photos and expressions of thanks from several different areas of the Philippines archipelago where our vegetable mix was distributed. It is always very rewarding to hear from the beneficiaries of our efforts. Thank you to all our volunteers, suppliers and supporters.

The photo below shows a group of children gathered around to receive a serving of Prairie Gleaners vegetable mix. One package of our dehydrated mix, with the addition of some rice would have been cooked in the large pot shown.



Similar group feedings occurred in many locations hit by the typhoon. We trust and pray that lives will continue to progress back to normal after such destruction and loss.

Federal Government & food waste

Last month our Board President was invited to speak, on behalf of all the Gleaners in Canada, to the House of Commons Standing Committee for Agriculture. The Committee is studying the issue of food waste in Canada and what can be done to help alleviate the problem. The amount of food that is wasted is massive, estimated to be about 40% of all the food we produce. With approximately one billion undernourished people in the world our ability to redistribute thousands of tons of good food, which would otherwise go to waste, all with volunteer labour, seemed to impress the members of parliament. They asked many questions and expressed a hope to see more Gleaner operations established in other parts of Canada.

*The Prairie Gleaners accepts its mandate from **Isaiah 58:10** - If you give food to the hungry and satisfy those who are in need, then the darkness around you will turn to the brightness of noon.*

We are a charitable not-for-profit society
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