

# END HUNGER



*A partnership of: Adventist Development and Relief Agency Canada, Canadian Baptist Ministries, Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace, Canadian Lutheran World Relief, Christian and Missionary Alliance in Canada, Christian Reformed World Relief Committee of Canada, Emergency Relief & Development Overseas (Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada), Evangelical Missionary Church of Canada, Mennonite Central Committee Canada, Nazarene Compassionate Ministries Canada, Presbyterian World Service and Development, Primate's World Relief and Development Fund (Anglican Church of Canada), The Salvation Army, United Church of Canada, and World Relief Canada*

## NEWS RELEASE

### **Generosity of Canadians breaks annual record despite recession**

**(Winnipeg – April 15, 2009)** Canadian Foodgrains Bank received \$12.4 million in donations during the 2008-2009 fiscal year, \$4 million more than their previous annual record.

“Despite the recession,” says Jim Cornelius, Executive Director of Canadian Foodgrains Bank, “we’ve seen the generosity of Canadians increase this year. We are pleased and humbled to see so many people committed to the work of ending hunger regardless of the challenges they may face in their own lives.”

Donations to Canadian Foodgrains Bank take the form of both cash and grain. Cash donations have increased by approximately 15%, while the increased value of grain and the higher yields in the Prairie provinces has seen the value of grain donations increase even more significantly.

“It’s been a year of significant growth for us,” continues Cornelius. “We’ve seen increases in all of our funding sources this year. In addition to increases in cash and grain donations, we’ve received more in transfer funds from our 15 member agencies, and we’ve also seen our annual contribution from CIDA (Canadian International Development Agency) increase from \$20 million to \$25 million.”

“Canadian Foodgrains Bank is a strong organization and we’re proud to be one of its members,” says Donald Peters, Executive Director for Mennonite Central Committee Canada and Chair of the Board of Directors for Canadian Foodgrains Bank. “We’ve seen several areas of growth recently. We were happy to welcome the Catholic and Anglican relief and development agencies into our membership in 2007. We’ve also seen an increased interest in hunger issues and the work of the Foodgrains Bank as a response to the global food crisis that’s been in the media this past year. People trust Canadian Foodgrains Bank to put their money to good use in the work of ending hunger.”

In addition to the annual contribution of \$25 million, CIDA also recently approved an additional \$9 million for the Foodgrains Bank’s programs in Zimbabwe and the Democratic Republic of Congo.

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*Canadian Foodgrains Bank is a partnership of Canadian church-based agencies working to end hunger in developing countries by: increasing and deepening the involvement of Canadians in efforts to end hunger; supporting partnerships and activities to reduce hunger on both an immediate and sustainable basis; and influencing changes in public policies necessary to end hunger.*