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Fall 2005

Canadian Farmers Deserve a Big Thank You

By Jim Cornelius, Executive Director

Canadian Foodgrains Bank welcomes a recent announcement by the federal government of a change in its regulation governing the procurement of Canadian food aid. Support from Canadian farmers and other concerned citizens for changes in these federal food aid procurement rules deserves a big thank you. The federal government will now allow up to 50 percent of government funded food aid to be purchased from developing country farmers. Previously, only 10 percent could be purchased outside of Canada.

This increased flexibility will enable organizations such as Canadian Foodgrains Bank to save money on expensive transportation, supply more food to hungry people, deliver food more quickly, deliver the most

appropriate food, and support developing country farmers. While there are still many instances where it makes good sense to purchase and supply Canadian food products, the flexibility to purchase food from developing country farmers in other circumstances significantly increases the effectiveness of our aid program.

An example of how this change helps is a current food distribution project in a part of Zambia suffering from a very serious drought. We have been able to purchase maize from surplus producing areas in the region at a very good price for distribution to the drought affected area. It would have cost us twice as much to supply corn from Canada because of the very high transportation costs involved. We also were

able to begin food distributions more quickly.

The many letters from supporters of Canadian Foodgrains Bank, particularly letters from farmers, to their Members of Parliament and federal ministers urging a change in food aid procurement policy was critical in persuading the government to make this change. Support also came from farm groups such as Canadian Federation of Agriculture, Western Canadian Wheat Growers Association, and Western Canadian Barley Growers Association.

We are very grateful that these farmers and farm groups have a bigger view of the world and can see beyond their own interests.

THANK YOU.

Your Views Matter

The Board of Directors has initiated a visioning and strategic planning process for the Foodgrains Bank. We are soliciting input from supporters through a survey to help us with this planning process. We would appreciate it if supporters would complete the survey on-line at www.foodgrainsbank.ca (link on the front page) or complete the enclosed survey and mail it back to us. Your comments will be fed into a larger process along with comments from our member agencies, overseas partners, staff, and others. We appreciate your help in this endeavor.

Resources

The Frankford Community Growing Project in Ontario has been growing crops to donate to Canadian Foodgrains Bank for the past 10 years. However, they haven't limited their fundraising efforts to farming. Over the years, they have used their imagination to raise funds and awareness of the Foodgrains Bank in their community. In the early years, there were summer ball tournaments and yard sales. Later on, Gospel & Grain in the Park was conceived as a day of food, fellowship, gospel music, ball tournament and auction.

The most recent venture of the Frankford project is a weekend event called the Fiddlers on the Trent Festival. The weekend evolved from an afternoon event organized by Rev. Tom Walton who was looking for something to reinvigorate or replace Gospel & Grain in the Park. In 2003, he arranged for the Scottish Strathspey and Reel Society of Scotland to perform a concert along with another local fiddling group.

The afternoon was such a success that they decided to make it a full weekend event. Held on Father's Day weekend, it is packed full of activities including a BBQ dinner, Youth Night Concert, canoe run, pancake breakfast, fiddle jam and an ecumenical fiddle service. The highlight of the weekend is the Saturday afternoon concert that features well-known Canadian Fiddle entertainers.

"I'm amazed to see how the community comes together to support hungry people on the other side of

the world through the Canadian Foodgrains Bank. The Fiddlers on the Trent Festival has been a catalyst that allows people to enjoy themselves while working together to help others less fortunate," comments committee member, Gary Richard.

This year's event saw the addition of a canoe paddle art auction that itself raised close to \$3,000!



FIDDLERS ON THE TRENT FESTIVAL

The festival is scheduled again for **Father's Day Weekend 2006** and you can get more information by going to www.fiddlersonthetrent.150m.com.

KERNEL

CFGB Representatives visit Hong Kong for WTO Talks

December 13 - 18, 2005, the World Trade Organization will meet in Hong Kong. At this, the sixth "Ministerial Conference" of the WTO, countries from around the globe will gather in an attempt to create rules for how trade is carried out. Critical to this discussion are the rules for agriculture and their impact on small farmers in the global south. Stu Clark and Kenton Lobe will attend the meeting. Visit <http://cfgbhongkong2005.blogspot.com> for their reflections before and during the meetings, and consider how you can help Make Poverty History.

KERNEL

Food Study Tours

There is still room for youth (ages 18-24) to go on the Youth Discovery Tour to Honduras February 10-25, 2006. Download an application from the website or contact the Foodgrains Bank office for more information.

Coming in Winter 2007 – there will be Food Study Tours to South Asia (India and Bangladesh) and Africa (countries to be determined).

Staff Updates

We are pleased to welcome Kate Bolton to the Foodgrains Bank staff as our new Program Assistant.

Programming

As a follow-up to sending 10,000 mt of wheat and 1,320 mt of soybeans, Joan Barkman Azar and Willie Reimer visited North Korea this past August to get a better sense of the current food needs in the country.

The donations were focused to the most vulnerable beneficiaries as targeted by the World Food Programme (WFP); children under 5 years and pregnant and nursing women. The food came at a very opportune time as harvest was still a few months away and food stocks were getting low. In addition, WFP's stocks were running out and the resources from the

Foodgrains Bank allowed them to continue their programs.

As far as the food situation goes, it was a hopeful time of year, the crops were in good condition and a good harvest was expected. DPRK has only 15-20% arable land and although they are working hard to make the little land they have as efficient as possible, experts agree that this is not enough for DPRK to become food self-sufficient. Despite this, the DPRK government has decided that by the end of 2005 they will no longer request food assistance from the international community.

Although there is no doubt that our response will need to be greatly downsized, CFGB supporters have been enthusiastic about maintaining linkages to North Korea and we trust that we can maintain and build on the connections that have been made over the years.

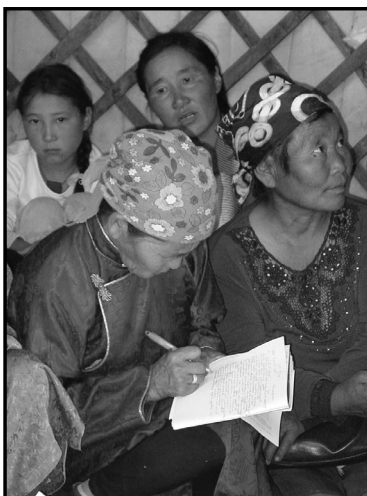
Editor's note: Joan Barkman Azar is a CFGB Program Officer and Willie Reimer is a MCC Representative and Chair of the CFGB DPRK Steering Committee.

CANADIAN FOODGRAINS BANK Overview of 2005/2006 Program Year April 1, 2005 - September 30, 2005						
	2004/2005 Food and Seed Programs					Food Security & Nutrition*
	% of Total MT	Direct and Swap	Local Purchase		Total MT	
			Food	Seeds		
AFRICA	51%					
Burkina Faso		76			76	
Eritrea		3,147	615		3,762	
Ethiopia		346	500		846	\$564,844
Kenya					0	\$294,772
Liberia					0	\$529,074
Malawi		350	1,782	2	2,134	\$79,899
Mali			363		363	
Niger			126		126	
Sudan		2,001	14		2,015	\$1,591,174
Zambia		438	3,608	520	4,566	
ASIA	49%					
Bangladesh			123	4	127	\$55,960
DPR Korea		11,307			11,307	
India			1,783		1,783	\$30,000
Sri Lanka					0	\$18,650
TOTAL	100%	17,664	8,913	526	27,103	\$3,164,373

* Budgeted amounts committed in fiscal year 2005-2006

Fall Information Meetings

Canadian Foodgrains Bank's annual Fall Information Meetings will be held in Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Ontario during November and December. Please visit www.foodgrainbank.ca for more information or call your regional coordinator.



ADRA Mongolia: Responding to dzud conditions

What is a dzud? A dzud is a summer drought followed by early and heavy snowstorms with temperatures falling way below average. For Mongolian herders who depend on their herds for their livelihood, a dzud can be devastating. With four consecutive dzuds, large numbers of animals have died leaving many herder families almost destitute.

Mongolian herder families depend on their goats, sheep, camels, yaks and horses for their livelihood and particularly for their food (meat and milk). As an alternative food source, ADRA Mongolia through the Foodgrains Bank has introduced vegetable gardening among herder families living on the edge of the Gobi Desert. Since the growing season is shorter than the Canadian prairie growing season, there is a particular focus on vegetable preservation by canning or storing in root cellars under the ger (round house).

At a recent training session, one of the vegetable growers (pictured left) took copious notes on how to preserve cucumbers and other vegetables for the winter season. As one of many herder families who had been affected by the dzuds and as a first time gardener, she was keenly interested in an opportunity to access alternative food sources for her family.

CFG B Supporter Survey

We'd appreciate your input into our visioning and strategic planning process.
Please fill this out and mail it back to us in the envelope provided,
or fill out the electronic version available on-line at www.foodgrainsbank.ca.

1 What gender are you?

- Male
- Female

2 What age group do you fall under?

- Under 25
- 25-44
- 45-64
- 65 and over

3 Which of the following best describes you?

- A rural resident?
- An urban resident?
- Other, Please Specify

4 If you or your church are affiliated with any of our member agencies, please specify which one by selecting from the list below.

If you are affiliated with a church denomination or agency that is not listed, please identify which one in the space provided at the end of the list.

- Adventist Development & Relief Agency
 - Canadian Baptist Ministries
 - Canadian Lutheran World Relief
 - Christian and Missionary Alliance
 - Christian Reformed World Relief Committee of Canada
 - Evangelical Missionary Church of Canada
 - Mennonite Central Committee Canada
 - Nazarene Compassionate Ministries
 - Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada
 - Presbyterian World Service and Development
 - The Salvation Army
 - United Church of Canada
 - World Relief Canada
 - Other, Please Specify
-
-

5 There are several reasons for supporting the Canadian Foodgrains Bank listed below. Please assess each reason in terms of how important it is for you.

1 — Not at all important for me
3 — Somewhat important for me
5 — Very important for me

- It allows me to live out my Christian faith
 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
 - It builds a sense of community
 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
 - It connects me to other churches and their congregations
 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
 - I get involved in a "hands on" project that helps people
 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
 - My financial contribution is matched by government funds
 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
 - I can contribute to alleviating hunger
 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
- 6 If there is another reason why you get involved with Canadian Foodgrains Bank that is not listed above, please tell us what it is.
-
-

7 In your opinion, rate the importance of the following items which represent current or potential directions of the Foodgrains Bank.

- Providing food for hungry people overseas
 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
- Reducing malnutrition among children
 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

CFG B Supporter Survey

- Helping people in developing countries feed themselves
 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
- Supporting agricultural development overseas
 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
- Educating Canadians about hunger and its causes
 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
- Responding to domestic hunger (within Canada)
 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
- Advocating for national and international policies that reduce hunger
 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
- Encouraging and empowering supporters to engage in letter-writing campaigns and other advocacy work
 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
- Providing a rapid response to emergency food crises
 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
- Strengthening the Canadian church's ability to respond to hunger
 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
- Building community between Canadians and people in developing countries
 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
- Maintaining outreach and a support base in rural communities across Canada
 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
- Increasing outreach and a support base in urban centres across Canada
 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
- Increasing outreach and a support base beyond Canadian churches
 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

8 *What do you think are the main strengths of the Canadian Foodgrains Bank?*

9 *What do you think are the areas that require improvement in the Foodgrains Bank program either within or outside of Canada?*

10 *Do you think Canadian Foodgrains Bank's name and logo sufficiently communicate the mandate and mission?*

Yes, No

If no, please explain.

11 *There will be some opportunities for discussion about these issues at Fall information meetings. If you would be available for possible further consultation, please indicate your interest by entering contact information below. If you wish to participate but remain anonymous, please send your contact information to:*

h_plett@foodgrainsbank.ca.

Yes, No

Name:

Address:

Tel:

E-mail:

When you have completed this survey, please mail it to—in the envelope provided:

Canadian Foodgrains Bank
P.O. Box 767, 400-280 Smith Street
Winnipeg, MB R3C 2L4

Your participation is appreciated. Thank You.

Resources Available

- ❑ **Brochures (Free)**
 - HIV/AIDS and Hunger
 - Water and Hunger
 - Myths about Hunger - 10 common misperceptions
 - Help Relieve Hunger, Make a Deposit - brief overview of the Foodgrains Bank
- ❑ **Food for All** - a six lesson set for church schools and youth groups interested in world hunger. \$10
- ❑ **In Exile** - Youth refugee experience. \$10
- ❑ **Hunger in a World of Abundance** – an adult study guide. \$10
- ❑ **One Voice: The story of HIV/AIDS and Hunger** – a 6 minute computer-based presentation.

Donations to the Foodgrains Bank can be sent to:
Canadian Foodgrains Bank, Box 767, Winnipeg, MB R3C 2L4
or call 1-800-665-0377 for credit card or pre-authorized payment options.
Donations can also be made online at www.foodgrainsbank.ca.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Head Office

Box 767
Winnipeg, MB R3C 2L4
Ph: 1-800-665-0377 or 204-944-1993
Website: www.foodgrainsbank.ca
Email: cfgb@foodgrainsbank.ca

Alberta/B.C. Coordinator

Contact Head Office

Manitoba Coordinator

Harold Penner
Ph: 1-204-347-5351
harpen@mts.net

Saskatchewan Coordinator

Dave Meier
Ph: 1-306-863-2727
d.emeier@sasktel.net

Ontario Coordinators

David & Kathryn Mayberry
Ph: 1-519-485-3642
mayberry@oxford.net

Atlantic Coordinator

Don Raymer
Ph: 1-902-843-3155
draymercfgb@eastlink.ca

Canadian Foodgrains Bank is a Christian-based charitable organization that facilitates the collection and distribution of cash, grain and other agricultural commodities to the world's hungry through its member agencies. It is owned by 13 church agencies and is a federally incorporated, not-for-profit corporation registered as a charitable organization. Since 1983, Canadian Foodgrains Bank has provided over 944,000 metric tonnes of grain to people in Africa, Asia, the Americas and Eastern Europe.

MEMBER AGENCIES

Adventist Development and Relief Agency

Tel: 905-433-8004
www.adra.ca
Board Members: Oliver Lofton-Brook & Mike Humenny

Canadian Baptist Ministries

Tel: 905-821-3533
www.cbmin.org
Board Members: Brian Malcolm & Bob Webber

Canadian Lutheran World Relief

Tel: 204-694-5602
www.clwr.org
Board Members: Enock Oduro & Denis St. Onge

Christian and Missionary Alliance in Canada

Tel: 416-674-7878
www.cmacan.org
Board Members: Earl Willcox & Gerry Dargatz

Christian Reformed World Relief Committee of Canada

Tel: 905-336-2920
www.crwrc.org
Board Members: Jacob Kramer & George Lubberts

Evangelical Missionary Church of Canada

Tel: 403-250-2759
www.emcc.ca
Board Members: Paul Brander & Jim Noble

Mennonite Central Committee Canada

Tel: 204-261-6381
www.mennonitecc.ca
Board Members: Donald Peters & Wilf Buhler

Nazarene Compassionate Ministries

Tel: 905-846-4220
www.nazarene.ca
Board Members: Elaine Bumstead & Les Dunford

Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada

Tel: 905-542-7400
www.paoc.org
Board Members: Kelvin Honsinger & Calvin King

Presbyterian World Service and Development

Tel: 416-441-1111
www.presbyterian.ca
Board Members: Rick Fee & Donna Wilkinson

The Salvation Army

Tel: 416-422-6212
www.salvationarmy.ca
Board Members: Brian Burditt & David Sefton

United Church of Canada

Tel: 416-231-7680
www.united-church.ca
Board Members: Gary Kenny & Wendy Galloway

World Relief Canada

Tel: 905-415-8181
www.wrcanada.org
Board Members: Bruce Syvret & Isaac Klassen

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Canadian Foodgrains Bank
Box 767
Winnipeg, MB R3C 2L4
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