

CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF FOOD AND TOY DRIVES PARKSVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

- 1998** First food and toy drive for the Parksville Volunteer Fire Department was held to help stock the Salvation Army's shelves for Christmas. In the inaugural year, 5,000 pounds of food collected.
- 1999** 9,200 pounds of food collected by Parksville Volunteer fire Department.
- 2000** 12,182 pounds of food collected with the bulk of the donations used for Christmas hampers at the SOS and the remaining contributions used in the food bank and soup kitchen.
- 2001** 26,000 pounds of food collected by Parksville, Qualicum Beach and Dashwood Volunteer Fire Departments.
- 2002** 11,000 pounds of food collected by PVFD.
- 2003** 10,000 pounds of food collected by PVFD.
- 2004** 10,500 pounds of food collected by PVFD. The Salvation Army was able to provide 600 Christmas hampers helping over 1,400 men, women and children in the community.
- 2005** 9,500 pounds of food collected by PVFD.
- 2006** 10,000 pounds of food collected by PVFD.
- 2007** 16,860 pounds of food collected by PVFD, a significant increase in donations and the best year to date. The Salvation Army donated breakfast for volunteers collecting donations door to door; now a tradition.
- 2008** 17,229 pounds of food collected by PVFD. Arrowsmith Search & Rescue joined the event.
- 2009** 23,000 pounds of food collected by PVFD and a new record.
- 2010** no records
- 2011** 18,300 pounds collected by PVFD.
- 2012** 21,080 pounds collected by PVFD. This was the first year Craig Bay Residents Association did their own collection as part of the drive, collecting over 3,000 pounds of food.
- 2013** 25,500 pounds of food collected by PVFD with significant cash donations of \$4,500.
- 2014** 23,300 pounds of food collected by PVFD and cash donations increased to \$ 5,000.
- 2015** Record year with 27,000 pounds of food and cash donations of \$10,525. The cash donations go a long way to stocking shelves at the Salvation Army food bank. Quality Foods has been a huge supporter of the food drive since its inception doubled the value of the cash in-store when the food bank purchases food at their stores with the donated cash.
- 2016** 22,000 pounds of food collected and \$12,000 in cash.



- 2017** By far the most successful food and toy drive in PVFD history with 38,870 pounds of food and \$21,000 in cash. The efforts over the past three years to get stratas and apartments involved proved to be instrumental to the increasing success.
- 2018** 26,720 pounds of food and \$27,217 cash collected by firefighters, honorary members and volunteers door to door with the single largest donation from the Craig Bay Residents Association, contributing 2,600 pounds of food and \$15,000 in cash.
- 2019** Volunteer members with help from families and friends, collected 29,500 pounds of food and \$34,073 cash. Largest donation came from Craig Bay Residents Association, \$20,559 in cash and 2,300 pounds of food. Volunteer time over the two days totalled 2,528 person hours.
- 2020** Due to the pandemic, physically distanced and masked firefighters from six departments raised 1,084 pounds of food and an incredible \$93,051 in cash for the Salvation Army foodbank. Participating fire departments were Coombs Hilliers, Dashwood, Deep Bay, Errington, Parksville, and Qualicum Beach.
- 2021** Physically distanced and masked firefighters at locations throughout Parksville asked residents to fill the boots for food, collecting \$93,464 cash along with new unwrapped toys for the Society of Organized Services. Craig Bay residents donated \$58,635 and 3,676 pounds of food.
- 2022** Fill the Boots for Food drive at locations in Parksville collected \$85,353 in cash for the Salvation Army food bank along with new unwrapped toys for the Society of Organized Services. Craig Bay residents stepped up again donating \$55,355 in cash and 2,692 pounds of food.

