

HEALTHY FOOD | HAPPY PEOPLE



**2020 | 2021**

# ANNUAL REPORT

**chep**   
good food inc.

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# LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Tansi (tawn-SAY), welcome everyone, we are grateful to be sharing this space and time together now.

In this gratitude we are mindful of the ways this land has cared for many generations and that we are all connected here and now by the land of Treaty 6 territory. The spirit of the land that holds us all with such generous hospitality, for all those who have and will call this place home - Cree, Anishnaabeg (Ah-NISH-naa-bay) , Lakota, Dakota, Nakota, Dene (de-NE), the Metis homeland, settler people, and newcomers.

In a spirit of reconciliation, we acknowledge this has not always been walked in a good way. Would we all be reconciled to and with each other, the land, water, air, and all our non-human relatives in a good way.

Would all the ancestors of these lands be honoured by our mindfulness and intentions in this place because much as we are hosting you, we are always being hosted by the land. For we are all treaty people, as long as the grass grows, the water flows, and the wind blows.

All my relations - Hiy Hiy (hi-hi) or  
Kahkiyomihwakomakanahk  
(Kah-keeyo-me-wahko-mahk-anahk)



“

**MANY OF OUR STUDENTS  
LIVE IN CONDITIONS OF  
POVERTY.  
YOUR GENEROSITY HELPS  
PROVIDE ESSENTIAL  
HEALTHY FOOD TO FEED  
THEIR BODIES AND MINDS.  
THANK YOU FOR HELPING US  
BRING SMILES AND  
SUSTENANCE TO THE  
CHILDREN IN OUR SCHOOL.**

”

**On behalf of staff and students from Saskatoon  
Public Schools - community schools**



## MISSION

CHEP works with children, families, and communities to improve access to good food and promote food security.

## VISION

CHEPs vision is for a food secure community. A global and local situation in which:

- Everyone has assured access to adequate, appropriate, and personally acceptable food in a way that promotes health, respect, and dignity.
- People are able to earn a living wage by growing, producing, processing, handling, retailing, and serving food.
- The quality of land, air, and water is maintained and enhanced for future generations.
- Food is celebrated as central to community and cultural integrity.

## OUR BOARD

**Bryn Rawlyk** - Chair  
**Colleen Hamilton** - Vice Chair  
**Jamie McCrory** - Past Chair  
**Susan Whiting** - Secretary  
**Megan Piché** - Treasurer  
**Carolyn Chu**  
**Siobhan Morgan**  
**Val Veillard**

**Amy Rederburg**  
**Kate Fast** - SHA rep  
**Donna Nelson** - SHA rep  
**Ken Okanee** - SPSP rep  
**Jenni Lessard**  
**Crystal Chan**  
**Erin Grant**  
**Lucy Pereira**

## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

CHEP has been operating for over a year within the climate of the COVID-19 global pandemic that has impacted everyone in the Saskatoon community in a myriad of ways. These new challenges were met head on by the Executive Director and staff as they continued to work with children, families, and communities by reimagining the delivery of existing programs and services and continuing to find ways of promoting food security and improving access to good food in our city.

Annual events like our *Empty Bowls* fundraiser, for example, was a tremendous success notwithstanding the new online format raising \$13,050 in net profit to invest back into our work for the community. Events like this and the day-to-day operations are only possible through the dedication of staff and volunteers. Thank you all for your creative and important work throughout the year.

This year has seen organizational changes with Jean Goerzen leaving her interim role as Executive Director in October and Gord Androsoff appointed the position's successor. Welcome Gord and thank you Jean for your invaluable contributions.

In the coming 2021 - 2022 year, the Board will be working on strategic planning and revisiting our guiding principles. We will be looking to update the language in an effort to refocus goals and incorporate a thoughtful cultural perspective towards food access. This is work that we as a Board are excited to take on.

Fortunately, much of our programming is returning to varying degrees of normality. All people deserve the right to accessible healthy food and CHEP as an organization continues to work in dynamic ways to build food security in our community.

Bryn Rawlyk  
Board Chair

NEW NORMAL  
PIVOT BUBBLE  
STAY SAFE ZOOM  
UNPRECEDENTED  
VIRTUAL



## OUR STAFF

TOP TO BOTTOM | LEFT TO RIGHT

**Gord Androsoff** - Executive Director

**Shelby Anderson** - Food Access Assistant (Community Markets/Volunteers)

**Zoe Arnold** - Urban Agriculture Coordinator

**Katie Crawford** - Centralized Purchaser

**Kevin Crickett** - Driver's Assistant

**Della Harder** - Centralized Kitchen

**Dale Jack** - Driver, Community Markets

**Cory Lang** - Food Access Coordinator (Good Food Box)

**Ali Lewis** - Community Nutritionist (Registered Dietitian)

**Jordan Morton** - Indigenous Food Sovereignty Facilitator

**Janet Phillips** - Collective Kitchens, Seniors Nutrition Coordinator

**Sandra Schweder** - Community Gardens Educator

**Rita Stalker** - Centralized Kitchen

**Henry Wolf** - Driver, Community Markets, Merchandising

**Barb Zintel** - Accounts Coordinator

Missing

**Eduardo Nunez** - Driver, Community Markets

Staff that have moved on this year:

Monica Brescia, Jasmin Fookes, Jean Goerzen, Jaci Hutton, Oiza Rufai, and Michayla van de Velde

“

**THANK YOU SO  
MUCH, THIS  
MEANS A LOT, ME  
AND MY BROTHER  
JUST MOVED  
INTO OUR OWN  
PLACE AND WE  
HAVE NOTHING  
RIGHT NOW.**

”

**Community member who received CHEP market coupons from a community partner agency.**



## FOOD ACCESS

### CENTRALIZED PURCHASING

Centralized purchasing anchors all of our food programs. In a much-shortened pandemic year we still purchased \$10,000 in local produce for the Good Food Box and Community Markets. An additional \$305,100 in produce, bread, milk, and eggs were purchased to support vulnerable community members during an uncertain and ongoing pandemic period. A large shift for the centralized purchasing program at the beginning of the pandemic and subsequent provincial lockdown was to support the emergency Good Food Delivery (supporting people who had to stay home) and School Family Lunch (families affected by school closures) programs that provided no-contact deliveries to homes.

The global COVID-19 pandemic has affected all of CHEPs programs and services to varying degrees.

Most programs shut down or slowed from mid-March 2020 until September 2020 when some restrictions were lifted. Whilst challenges appeared so did opportunity to modify programs, services, and incorporate short-term programs in an effort to adapt to the pandemic landscape and beyond.

### GOOD FOOD BOX

The Good Food Box program restarted in September. Although the number of depot locations is reduced at this time, the program is regaining traction and approaching the pre-COVID numbers of 200 boxes biweekly even surpassing this number at times.

### SENIOR'S STORES

The senior's stores program shifted from a walk-up market model to a boxed seniors nutrition delivery program that runs much like the Good Food Box but tailored for seniors and elders. We will be evaluating the mechanics of senior's food programming as pandemic conditions subside.

## CHILDREN'S NUTRITION

Our core school children's nutrition programs, bulk buying, and centralized kitchen, paused from mid-March until the end of June. These programs started back up in September when schools re-opened for the 2020-21 school year. The bulk buying program supported school nutrition programs in 17 elementary and secondary schools from September until the end of March providing food for 360,500 breakfast and lunches. In the same period 10,140 school lunches were prepared and delivered to 23 elementary schools without nutrition programs.

## EMERGENCY FOOD

CHEP pivoted to an emergency food model from mid-March through the summer of 2020 before returning to our traditional programming. Since the fall of 2020 emergency food programming has continued as we provide support for vulnerable community members affected by COVID-19 isolation requirements. This includes school families, seniors, elders, and referrals by Saskatchewan Health Authority (SHA) Social Workers.

## COMMUNITY MARKETS

The community fresh food market at Station 20 West re-opened in September. In early December we decided to run this market location Monday through Friday which has been well received by the community. We will run mobile market locations in the summer of 2021 and explore ways to restart additional weekly offsite locations, later in the year.





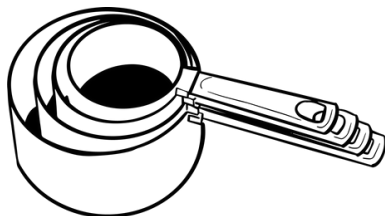
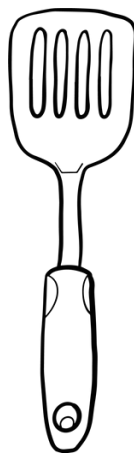
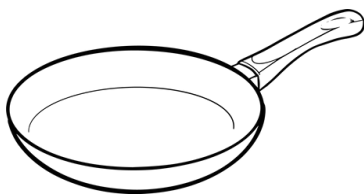
## FOOD SKILLS & EDUCATION

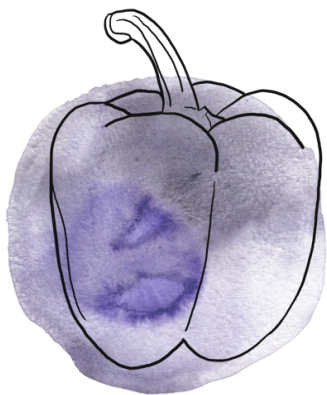
Food skills and education programs have been impacted significantly by pandemic restrictions as they incorporated in-person activities. The Collective Kitchen and Chefs in Training programs have paused as we learn how to deliver content in an online format.

The GRO Food (Growing Relationships Over Food) programming has been delivered by online video as we acquire skills and equipment necessary. We look forward to delivering a blend of in-person and online education when pandemic conditions subside.

In looking for innovative ways to engage the community, we have started a YouTube channel to house created content. This has been a learning opportunity for both CHEP and the community.

Our Community Nutritionist continues to deliver online presentations by request from the community and the demand for this has remained consistent.





## SOCIAL ENTERPRISE

### the askîy program

The askîy internship program did not run with the traditional educational approach in 2020 because of Public Health guidelines and instead focused on food production for community sales.

In 2021 the program acquired a second growing location at the former Riversdale Lawn Bowling site and four interns are in place this season working and learning within the urban agriculture internship and social enterprise model that has been established.

2021 Interns T to B:  
Marian De Los Reyes, Heather Jackle, Racheal Sapp, and Madelaine Enns

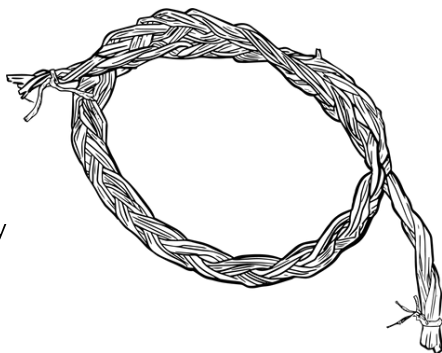


# SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEMS

## COMMUNITY GARDENS

We continued to support 53 community gardens in the city during the pandemic. In 2020 this included working within Public Health and municipal health and safety guidelines.

Our role in the current season has shifted to an educational focus supported by a Community Garden Educator.



## INDIGENOUS FOOD SOVEREIGNTY

An Indigenous Food Sovereignty Facilitator position was established in January. This position cultivates partnerships with Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities, organizations, and other entities pursuing Indigenous Food Sovereignty.

Building capacity, networks, advocacy, and support for Indigenous Food Sovereignty in a way that reduces harm and aligns with a decolonial approach is at the core of this role.

Additionally, this position will support the askiy internship program through mentorship.



# STRONG PARTNERSHIPS

## DONATIONS

Donations from individuals and organizations have increased significantly through the pandemic, as the community responded to higher levels of food insecurity created and highlighted by the pandemic.

## VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers, mostly drivers, were a large and important part of the Good Food Delivery and School Family Lunch programs in spring 2020. We have subsequently limited the use of volunteers, for COVID-19 best practices with the exception of Good Food Box packing days, the Station 20 community market, and Good Food Box depots. This small base of consistent and dedicated volunteers are much needed and appreciated.

## SASKATOON COVID-19 INTER-AGENCY RESPONSE

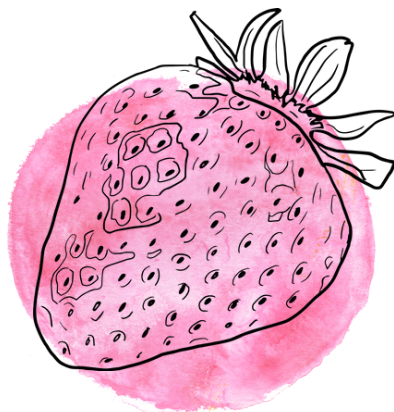
This initiative came together early in the pandemic, brokering partnerships across our community support system and enabled us to work together in solving problems. While this strong initiative has not developed in all communities, this model will undoubtedly continue in some fashion as we work towards assisting under-resourced and vulnerable citizens in our community.

## NEW INITIATIVES

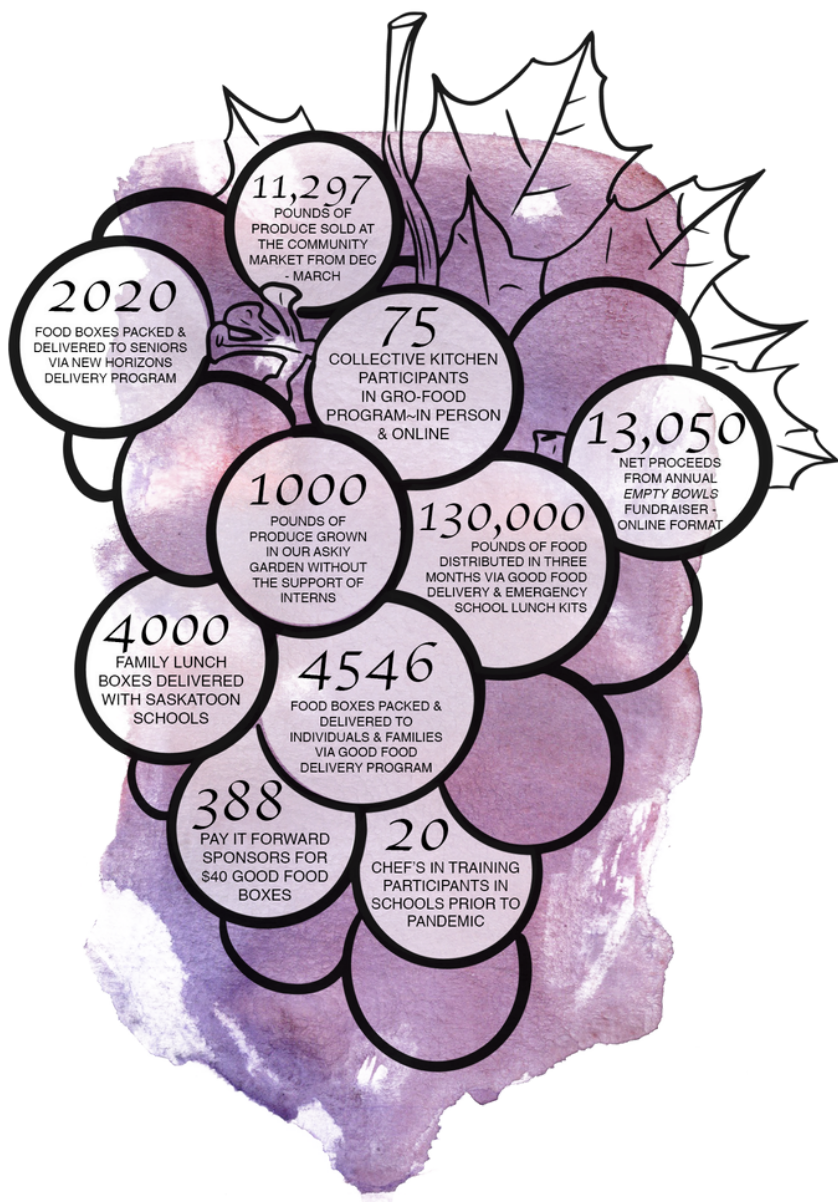
Participation in a two year University of Saskatchewan (UofS) led research intervention to study and model a Universal School Lunch Program in Saskatoon elementary schools.

Becoming a founding member of a community collective partnering with the City of Saskatoon to rebuild and operate a community centre in Victoria Park.

A community partner in the Saskatchewan Team (Saskatchewan Health Authority, UofS, and CHEP) which is one of seven 2021 - 2023 'Nourish Anchor Collaboratives' selected from across Canada to experiment with opportunities around food as medicine.

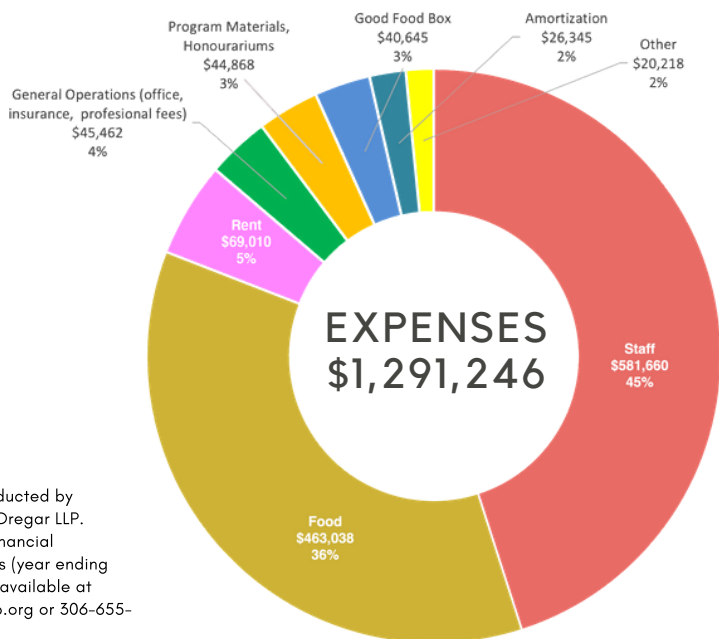
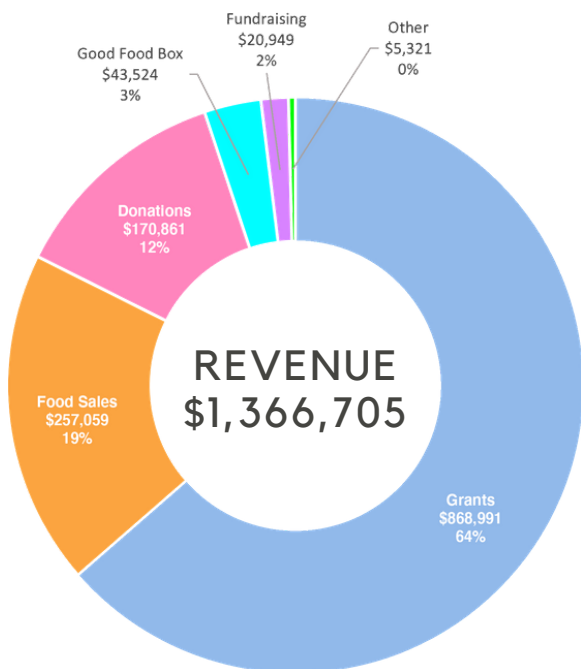


# COMMUNITY IN THE TIME OF COVID-19



# FINANCIALS

APRIL 1, 2020 TO MARCH 31, 2021



Audit conducted by  
Lingard + Dregar LLP.  
Audited financial  
statements (year ending  
March 31) available at  
[www.chep.org](http://www.chep.org) or 306-655-  
4575

# THANK YOU

## Funders & Sponsors

Affinity Credit Union  
 Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada  
 Cameco  
 Cargill  
 City of Saskatoon  
 Co-op Saskatoon  
 Cobs  
 Community Food Centres  
 Community Initiatives Fund  
 D'Lish by Tish  
 Dakota Dunes  
 Food Matters Manitoba  
 Kinsmen Club Saskatoon  
 m.pet productions  
 Mosaic  
 New Horizons for Seniors Programs  
 Nutrien  
 Robertson Stromberg  
 Saskatchewan Cancer Agency  
 Saskatchewan Health Authority  
 Saskatchewan Ministry of Education  
 Saskatoon Community Foundation  
 Saskatoon Potters Guild  
 Saskatoon Public Schools  
 Saskatoon Spinners and Weavers Guild  
 SaskCulture  
 SaskEnergy  
 Service Canada  
 SGI  
 SIGA  
 The Better Good  
 The Grocery People  
 United Way Saskatoon & Area  
 UofS - College of Medicine

“

**AS WE MAKE OUR WAY  
THROUGH THE EB AND FLOW OF  
THE VIRUS...YOU HAVE ALWAYS  
WALKED ALONGSIDE US AT  
VINCENT MASSEY AND WE SEE  
YOU, VALUE YOU, AND  
APPRECIATE YOU...THROUGH IT  
ALL YOU HAVE FOUND A WAY TO  
STILL REMAIN STEADFAST IN  
YOUR COMMITMENT TO SUPPORT  
THE BEST INTERESTS OF KIDS.**

”

**Vincent Massey School - Saskatoon**

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