



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 1, 2025

Contact: Stephanie Mikos

Marketing & Communications Manager

204-982-3677

smikos@harvestmanitoba.ca

Harvest Manitoba and FCC Invest in a Solution to Food Waste and Food Security

Winnipeg, MB – Tens of thousands of Manitobans will benefit from a significant investment by Farm Credit Canada (FCC) to expand food rescue and distribution efforts across the province.

The **\$500,000 in funding** will support facility layout optimization, technology upgrades and cold storage expansion, laying the groundwork for a food transformation and distribution centre, helping to increase the amount of food available to families across the province, improve its nutritional value, and ensure it reaches them more quickly.

FCC has been instrumental in developing a proof-of-concept for food transformation in Manitoba. The new facility will take edible food that is leaking out of the supply chain and ensure it's used to feed Manitoba families.

It will dramatically cut down on food waste and increase food security.

This investment will enable Harvest Manitoba to move more nutritious food, more efficiently, to people who need it most. Improvements to warehouse infrastructure, upgrades to inventory systems, and essential new equipment will boost capacity and set the stage for stronger partnerships throughout Manitoba's food value chain—from local producers to retailers to community organizations.

"FCC's support is helping us reach farther and respond faster," said Vince Barletta, President & CEO of Harvest Manitoba. "With this investment, more people will have local fresh food. They'll also have a safety net they can count on. Partnerships like this are how we build a food system that truly serves our communities. The more food people have, the less is wasted and the better for the environment. With this project, everybody wins."

In the past year, Harvest Manitoba rescued 8.7 million pounds of surplus food—valued at over \$31 million—and redirected it to food banks and community programs, providing immediate relief for families facing food insecurity. These efforts have also brought together partners from across the province, strengthening Manitoba's shared commitment to helping neighbors in need.

FCC's support will help scale these efforts even further by bringing more fresh food into more homes, particularly in underserved communities.

— more —

"Harvest Manitoba's dedication to rescuing surplus food and distributing it to those in need is truly inspiring," said Justine Hendricks, FCC President and CEO. "This new facility will enable staff and volunteers to move more nutritious food efficiently, ensuring that no family is left behind; and FCC is proud to be a part of this effort. Together, we are building a stronger, more resilient Manitoba, where everyone can have access to the food they need."

With more Manitobans struggling to afford groceries, this timely investment will be transformative in how nutritious food reaches those who need it most.

"This partnership with FCC is just the beginning. With this first critical investment, we're not only expanding our reach—we're also investing in research, innovation and careful planning to ensure every dollar delivers maximum impact," said Vince Barletta, President & CEO of Harvest Manitoba. "As we lay the groundwork for a province-wide transformation in food rescue and security, we invite others to join us. With the right support and a shared commitment, we can build a stronger, more resilient Manitoba—one where no family is left behind."

Members of the media are welcome to attend the announcement today, October 1st, at 10:00 a.m. at Harvest Manitoba (1085 Winnipeg Avenue). Vince Barletta, President & CEO of Harvest Manitoba, and Barry Watson, Area Vice-President, Corporate Financing and Senior Accounts - Western Canada for Farm Credit Canada will be available for interviews on site.

– 30 –

About Harvest Manitoba

Harvest Manitoba ("Harvest") is a charitable organization dedicated to nourishing our communities and our sense of community so that no Manitoban goes hungry. We collect 13 million pounds of food every year, which is sorted and packed largely by volunteers into Harvest Hampers and distributed to Manitobans through our Community Food Network of more than 400 food banks and agencies in Winnipeg, rural, northern and First Nations communities. Right now, we feed over 50,000 Manitobans who rely on using a food bank every month, and nearly half are children. Our Food Distribution Centre, which includes our Emergency Food Support Assistance Line and Warehouse, are in our Winnipeg Headquarters. To learn more or donate, please visit: [HarvestManitoba.ca](https://www.harvestmanitoba.ca).

About FCC

FCC is proud to be 100 per cent invested in Canadian agriculture and food. The organization's employees are committed to the long-standing success of those who produce and process Canadian food. FCC provides flexible financing and capital solutions, while creating value through data, knowledge, relationships and expertise. FCC offers a complement of financial and non-financial products and services designed to support the complex and evolving needs of the industry. As a commercial Crown corporation, FCC is a stable partner that reinvests profits back into the industry and communities it serves. For more information, visit [fcc.ca](https://www.fcc.ca).