



Orangeville Food Bank  
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October 3rd, 2024

Town of Shelburne  
203 Main Street East  
Shelburne, ON  
L9V 3K7

Dear Council

We are requesting support for the Neighbours Market that has been operating since 2023 providing access to affordable fruits and vegetables for the residents of Shelburne. The market is a sliding scale market, meaning that residents can pay it forward to support their fellow community members, paying full price or community members can access a 30% discount or 50% discount on the produce to ensure they can access fruits and vegetables. Originally housed within the Centre Dufferin Recreation Centre the market made the move to Jack Downie Park for the summer of 2024. The move to a more central location was made to increase visibility and access for residents. We know that 1 in 4 Canadians are food insecure and over 1,000,000 Ontarians visited a food bank last year to provide a basic necessity of life, food. Over the course of the last 14 months, we have been able to provide affordable produce to over 1,500 residents of Shelburne. Of the 1,500 number of purchases, 49% have been Paying It Forward, 14% have accessed the 30% discount and 37% have accessed the 50% discount. The Orangeville Food Bank and Dufferin Food Share are striving toward a service that meets residents where they are at, reducing barriers to accessing healthy and nutritious foods. The Neighbours Market program has made a difference to over 2,600 households across the county this year.

As we move into the winter months, we would like to ask the council for use of the second floor of Town Hall and to waive the fees associated with using that space. Specifically, we would like to move the market inside from late October to May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2025, on Wednesday's from 3pm – 7pm.

The Orangeville Food Bank and Dufferin Food Share are primarily funded through donations and do not receive provincial or federal funding.

Thank you for your consideration.

With Gratitude  
Heather Hayes  
Executive Director

*Neighbours helping Neighbours care for our community*