



## **STONY PLAIN AND WEST PARKLAND**

# ***CHRISTMAS HAMPERS 2024***

October 2024

Dear Christmas Hamper Champions,

For the 46th year, the Stony Plain Kinsmen are preparing for the Hamper community initiative for Stony Plain & West Parkland residents to help make Christmas brighter for local families struggling with a limited income. Our goal is to support local families in need with food and gifts over the holidays, and last year our community assisted 710 families in our area and supported over 1900 residents!

Your school community is so important in this social justice project. Many of the boys and girls who receive help are likely sitting right in your classrooms. No one needs to know who they are, it's enough to know that your friends and neighbours received a gift to open at Christmas. You make a difference!

As in years past, the Parkland Food Bank will administer the distribution of the food portion of the Christmas Hampers in the form of an 'upsized' December hamper for all clients. **The Kinsmen will also accept non-perishable food donations from schools only.** Kinsmen volunteers will deliver food donations to the Parkland Food Bank. Additionally, we will continue to support the Parkland Food Bank with gift cards for food to contribute to the upsized December hamper. Last year, we provided over \$100,000 in grocery gift cards and meat certificates to hamper recipients! It's important that everyone has enough to eat and a little extra something special at Christmas.

The gift portion of the Christmas Hamper program will again run separately from the food. The Kinsmen will collect and distribute gifts and gift cards to all children 17 and under. Last year, you helped provide gifts for 959 children in our area!

**YOU CAN HELP** us reach our goals and support your community at Christmas by **DONATING**:

- Monetary donations or local grocery store gift cards will go toward a family's 'upsized' December food hamper. Denominations of \$25 work best.
- New, unwrapped gifts for children 9 and under.
- Local gift cards are ideal for ages 10-17.

***Gift donation pickup day is Monday, December 16***



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### **HOW TO DONATE:**

- Donate at school – challenge your friends and classmates
- Donate at any of the 70 official depot locations in and around Stony Plain
- Donate on the weekends at Red Apple Store, Ferson Bros, and Safeway in Stony Plain
- E-transfer to [spkhampers@gmail.com](mailto:spkhampers@gmail.com)
- Online donations (Donorbox) gratefully accepted at [www.stonyplainkinsmen.ca](http://www.stonyplainkinsmen.ca)
- Cheques may be mailed to Box 2231, Stony Plain, AB T7Z1X7 or can be picked up by one of our volunteers. Please make cheques payable to *Stony Plain Kinsmen Christmas Hampers*

If you know anyone in need of assistance, please encourage them to reach out to the Parkland Foodbank in person or call (780) 962-4565 to apply for a Christmas Hamper. For additional information, visit [www.stonyplainkinsmen.ca](http://www.stonyplainkinsmen.ca) or call the Kinsmen phone at (780) 915-6934.

Have a safe, happy, and healthy holiday season and THANK YOU for your incredible past support. Our schools are THE BEST!

Get creative with ways to encourage donations to support our local families this year! Please tag us with your fundraising initiatives on social media @Stony Plain Kinsmen. We would be thrilled to share with our community.

### **A FEW FUNDRAISING IDEAS:**

Toy mountain - a visual way to show support for our community	Staff raffle for 'perks'- 1 extra prep, 1 lunch supervision, get snow brushed off your car, etc
Gift card collection/challenge	Students raffle off an item - sell tickets
In lieu of staff gift exchange - gift giving to hampers for kids	Silent Auction- gift baskets, items, experiences
Donation collection box	Candy jar guess - minimum donation per guess

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