

MEDIA ADVISORY



Onkel Hans Food Drive Totals are In!

October 16, 2023 – KITCHENER, ON – The numbers are in for the 2023 Onkel Hans Food Drive in support of the [Food Bank of Waterloo Region](#). Nonperishable food and cash donations were collected during the Oktoberfest Thanksgiving Day Parade on October 9th and at the Stuff a Bus event this past Saturday.

In total, 9,981 pounds of food and \$6,056.80 in cash was collected, which equates to 19,911 meals. While the contributions are greatly appreciated, these numbers are down from pre-pandemic donations – which typically ranged between 10,000 to 20,000 pounds of food and \$11,000 to \$18,000 in cash/online contributions.

For those who missed making a contribution, there's still time to donate online at:
<https://www.thefoodbank.ca/event/onkel-hans-food-drive/>

Many thanks to the Onkel Hans Food Drive partners: [Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest](#), the [Kitchener Rangers](#), [CTV Kitchener](#), Laurentian Zehrs and [Grand River Transit](#).

PHOTO: LAURA GEDDES, TRACY VAN KALSBECK, SAMANTHA HILD AND JEN KRAMPIEN AT 2023 STUFF A BUS EVENT. PHOTO CREDIT: VIRGIN RADIO KW

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About [Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest](#)

The first Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest was celebrated in 1969 at Concordia Club in Kitchener, organized by a group of dedicated founders. The keg was tapped and history was made. Since then, Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest has developed its own traditions, becoming one of the largest Bavarian festivals outside of Germany. Hundreds of thousands of visitors celebrate annually in our Festhallen, at local restaurants and by attending one of our several family and cultural events, including the annual Willkommen Platz and the Thanksgiving Day Parade. More than just biergartens, Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest is committed to supporting the cultural, economic and social vitality of Waterloo Region, bringing millions of dollars in economic benefit to the region each year. Through the Oktoberfest Cares initiative, the festival supports local charities and other not-for-profit organizations, partners with over 50 local hospitality businesses, and raises funds to donate meals to the Waterloo Region Food Bank through the Onkel Hans Food Drive. For more information visit oktoberfest.ca.

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