

## MEDIA ADVISORY



### **Onkel Hans Food Drive – Stuff a Bus to Support the Food Bank**

**October 12, 2023 – KITCHENER, ON** – [Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest](#), the [Kitchener Rangers](#), [CTV Kitchener](#) and [Grand River Transit](#) invite you to stuff a bus with them on Saturday, October 14<sup>th</sup> as part of the Onkel Hans Food Drive in support of the [Food Bank of Waterloo Region](#).

Drop off your nonperishable food items or donations between 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. at the Laurentian Zehrs located at 750 Ottawa Street South in Kitchener. Onsite entertainment with Oktoberfest's Wunderwagen for all to enjoy.

"With the cost of food so high now, there are more community neighbours who need our help," shares Tracy Van Kalsbeek, Executive Director of Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest. "During the Oktoberfest Thanksgiving Day parade this past Monday, we collected \$5,040.50 and 4,380 pounds for 13,503 meals. While the contributions are greatly appreciated, these numbers are lower than in previous years – please consider stopping by to visit us this Saturday!"

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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](#).

#### **Media Contacts:**

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