



## **Member Food Banks Code of Ethical Conduct and Commitment**

Food Banks BC and its members believe, in accordance with the Ethical Foodbanking Code, of Food Banks Canada, that everyone in Canada has the right to physical and economic access, at all times, to sufficient, safe and nutritious food. While Food Banks BC is not a regulatory or supervisory body, it is the expectation of Food Banks BC that, in order for member Food Banks to remain a member in good standing of Food Banks BC, the Code of Ethical Conduct will be upheld throughout their organization as it will be throughout the Food Banks BC organization.

Food Banks BC and our member Food Banks will:

1. Provide food and other assistance to those needing help regardless of race, national or ethnic origin, citizenship, colour, religion, sex, sexual orientation, income source, age or mental or physical ability.
2. Practice equity and access with fairness and transparency for all food bank recipients in the distribution of food.
3. Treat all those who access services with the utmost dignity and respect.
4. Implement best practices in the proper and safe storage and handling of food.
5. Respect the privacy of those served and will maintain the confidentiality of personal information.
6. Not require payment of any kind for donated food or consumer products, at any time, from those assisted by their respective food bank organizations.
7. Acquire and share food in a spirit of cooperation with other food banks and food programs.
8. Strive to make the public aware of the existence of hunger, and of the factors that contribute to it.
9. Recognize that food banks are not a viable long-term response to hunger, and devote part of their activities to reducing the need for food assistance.
10. Represent accurately, honestly, and completely their respective mission and activities to the larger community.
11. Practice ethical use and application of resources including but not limited to; food, equipment, donated materials and volunteer services.
12. Practice fiscal accountability and responsibility in all aspects of the operation of the Food Bank, including full compliance with CRA and charitable receipting practices.
13. Attend to and resolve any arising conflict of interest or perceived conflict of interest by staff or volunteers.
14. Practice sound governance, stewardship and fiduciary responsibility on the part of the Executive Director and Board of the Directors of the Food Bank.