

FirstOntario Credit Union donates \$50,000 to 11 local agencies to brighten the holiday season for those in need

The need for support from food banks and food assistance programs is greater than ever.

Hamilton, ON, December 21, 2020 – FirstOntario Credit Union is donating \$50,000 directly to 11 local food banks and food assistance programs in the communities it serves. This past year has been a year like no other. The pandemic has caused uncertainty and economic hardship, and more families and individuals are depending on food banks for support. During the holiday season, a time of celebration, this need is even greater.

"FirstOntario believes it is important for our credit union to help our neighbours and communities. At this time of year it is even more important for us to show people that we care," said Lloyd Smith, CEO at FirstOntario. "With food banks experiencing increased demand, we wanted to do our part to help ensure everyone has access to nutritious food to make their holidays brighter."

Food banks and agencies to receive donations were selected because together they cover the communities FirstOntario serves and will make a significant impact with the funds. They include: Project Share (Niagara), Community Care of St. Catharines &Thorold, Neighbour to Neighbour (Hamilton), Good Shepherd (Hamilton), Burlington Food Bank, Fare Share Food Bank Oakville, Cayuga Food Bank, Tillsonburg Helping Hand Food Bank, Simcoe Caring Cupboard Food Bank, Salvation Army (Woodstock/Norwich/Ingersoll) and United Way Halton & Hamilton.

About FirstOntario Credit Union

FirstOntario is a full service cooperative financial institution, serving Members for 80 years throughout the Golden Horseshoe, Niagara Region and Southwestern regions of Ontario. With \$5.8 billion in assets under management, FirstOntario is one of Canada's largest credit unions. Everyone is welcome to be part of FirstOntario for financial services including daily transactions, mortgages, lines of credit, loans and investments. FirstOntario profits are invested into the communities we serve through support for entrepreneurs, competitive rates and charitable pursuits including our award winning student nutrition program. Learn more about us today at FirstOntario.com.

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