

April 2, 2021

Dear Store Manager,

Since 1999, Girl Guides of Canada – Edmonton Area have held the annual Hike for Plenty food drive in support of Edmonton's Food Bank. In March 2020 over 5,000 kilograms of food were collected by fifteen hundred Girl Guide members across the Edmonton Area.

In support of our 2021 Hike for Plenty food drive, I am requesting permission for a Girl Guide unit to canvas for non-perishable food donations at your store.

Our units are looking for store locations where they can:

- set up an outdoor collection on May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021 between 9am and 1pm
  - exact times may vary and will be confirmed by the unit paired with your store
- collect food donations on behalf of Edmonton's Food bank
- maintain Girl Guides of Canada COVID safety protocols including required masking
  - in cases where your store's safety protocol is stricter than the GGC protocol, the stricter protocol will be followed

Attached to this letter is more information about our Hike for Plenty event as well as the Girl Guides of Canada (GGC) Covid safety protocols as they apply to a location-based event like this food drive or cookie selling.

Our 2020 Hike for Plenty event happened days before COVID-19 shut down the province of Alberta. Since that time Edmonton's largest food drives (events like Heritage Festival, the Sikh Parade, Harvest Luncheon, and Purolator's Tackle Hunger drive) have all been either cancelled or have been greatly reduced. Knowing this, Edmonton Area Girl Guides are committed to making sure that our Hike for Plenty 2021 event is as successful as possible.

With your support, we can achieve that goal!

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Marie McConnell, Girl Guides of Canada – Edmonton Area's Hike for Plenty coordinator at [HikeForPlenty@gmail.com](mailto:HikeForPlenty@gmail.com).



## Marie McConnell

Hike for Plenty Coordinator  
Girl Guides of Canada, Edmonton Area



## GGC Covid Safety Protocols for Hike for Plenty Food Drive

These are the safety protocols that must be followed by GGC units while collecting food during the Hike for Plenty food drive.

### **General GGC Covid Safety Protocols**

Each province has a designated stage that they are assigned according to the Covid-19 reality in that province at any given time: Anytime, Outdoor 1, Outdoor 2, Indoor 1, and Indoor 2. As with Alberta's provincial stage system, these stages do change over time and the safety protocols can change between stages.

The stages are announced on this webpage [\[link\]](#). Scroll down to 'your provincial stage'. As of April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2021, Alberta Girl Guides are in the "Indoor 1" stage.

This is a summary of the protocols required at all stages\*:

- following the stricter of GGC, store, provincial, or municipal health guidelines
- a self-assessment before attending any GGC in person event (similar to workplaces)
- masking for all adults is always required, masking for children depends on the stage and location
- physical distancing and good hand hygiene
- no sharing of food & drink

*\*The official protocols can be found in this document [\[link\]](#). There is a handy infographic summary at the end of the document for easy referencing.*

### **Grocery Store Food Drive Protocols**

Stores should be made aware of GGC's Return to In-Person Guiding Protocols and these protocols must be followed at all times (this is the same protocol document as above - [\[link\]](#)). For all stages:

#### ***Indoor/Outdoor:***

- Outdoor locations are preferred (e.g. outside of the main entrance).
- Indoor locations are only permitted for units in an 'indoor' stage AND when provincial guidelines allow. Any indoor location must have good ventilation (e.g. be located near a door).

#### ***Distancing:***

- Physical distancing must be practiced (minimum 2m).
- Contactless drop off should be practiced when possible. Preference is for donor to place their non-perishable food items directly into the collection box.

#### ***Hand Hygiene:***

- Strong hand hygiene must be practiced, and hand sanitizer should be available for Youth Members and Guiders to use.
- GGC units to provide hand sanitizer.



- Donations should be left in the collection container and remain untouched by members for 3 days whenever possible.
  - Whenever possible, collect donations in smaller easy-to-transport cardboard boxes so that individual donations do not need to be touched.
  - If transportation between collection site and a vehicle is required, consider collecting donations in a grocery cart.
  - The person transferring donations to a car or drop-off location must be especially careful about hand hygiene.

### ***Masking***

- Follow the stricter of the store's or GGC's masking policy (based on stage).
  - Where masking is required: Signs should be posted to inform customers of the need to wear a mask (especially if the collection is happening outdoors).
- Youth Members and Guiders must follow the store's masking policy while on store property (*this includes any collections happening outdoors*).