

## MEDIA ADVISORY



### Onkel Hans Food Drive – 2024 Numbers are Up!

**October 16, 2024 – KITCHENER, ON** – The numbers are in for the 2024 Onkel Hans Food Drive in support of the [Food Bank of Waterloo Region](#). Nonperishable food and monetary donations were collected during the Oktoberfest Thanksgiving Day Parade this past Monday, October 14<sup>th</sup> and earlier during the festival at Stuff a Bus events including the Kitchener Rangers game on October 5<sup>th</sup> and at two local Zehrs locations on October 6<sup>th</sup>.

In total, the campaign collected 7,854 pounds of food and \$11,018 in cash/online donations this year, which equates to 28,161 meals. These numbers are back on par with contributions made through pre-pandemic campaigns. Last year saw the Onkel Hans Food Drive bring in 9,981 pounds of food and \$6,057 in cash, equalling 19,911 meals.

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 2024 [K-W Oktoberfest Ambassador](#), Allie Steffler and 2025 Ambassador candidates for leading the campaign charge at the parade and to the Onkel Hans Food Drive partners: [Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest](#), the [Kitchener Rangers](#), [CTV Kitchener](#), [Pillers](#), [Laurentian](#) and [Conestoga Mall Zehrs](#), [Ontario Turkey](#) and [Grand River Transit](#).

The Onkel Hans Food Drive is a key component of the [Oktoberfest Cares](#) program.

PHOTOS ENCLOSED OF ONKEL HANS FOOD DRIVE AND 'STUFF A BUS' VOLUNTEERS

-30-

### 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. Tens of thousands of visitors celebrate annually in our Festhallen, at local restaurants and by attending one of our many family and cultural events. 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. *Oktoberfest Cares* provides funding for charitable partners and supports Festival initiatives that enrich our community such as the Onkel Hans Food Drive and keep admission costs low or free for favourites including the Women of the Year celebration and family-friendly events like KIDtoberfest, Thanksgiving Day Parade and Christkinderfest. For more information visit [www.oktoberfest.ca](http://www.oktoberfest.ca).

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