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## **Loblaw continues to lead the food rescue and food waste reduction revolution**

October 20, 2020

Loblaw Cos. Ltd. and Second Harvest, Canada's largest food rescue organization, announced further plans to eliminate food waste, support communities and expand their 35-year partnership across Canada, with Loblaw's commitment of \$1 million to on-board its banner stores onto Second Harvest's FoodRescue.ca platform.

"Loblaw has been a supporter of Second Harvest from the very beginning, and we are looking forward to this next exciting phase of our relationship. Together, we're leading a food rescue revolution," said Lori Nikkel, CEO of Second Harvest. "The need to recover surplus food and redistribute it to Canadians has never been more crucial, and FoodRescue.ca is the simple, scalable

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solution to prevent surplus food from becoming lost and wasted.”

Loblaw is heavily invested in reducing its environmental impact through a range of waste reduction and diversion systems, energy efficiencies and community level initiatives. As an early adopter of FoodRescue.ca, Loblaw currently has 156 locations registered on the platform in Ontario and British Columbia. To date, these stores have used the platform to donate enough surplus unsold food to provide over 500,000 meals to their local communities, and in doing so have prevented the release of more than 2.8 million kilograms of greenhouse gases.

“Loblaw has committed to closing the gap between hunger and surplus food, with an aim to reduce or divert food waste in its stores,” said Tonya Lagrasta, senior director, corporate social responsibility at Loblaw. “We are proud to be deepening our relationship with Second Harvest and help scale FoodRescue.ca into new communities throughout Canada. As Canada’s largest food distributor, our stores are uniquely positioned so that, together, we can make a significant impact.”

First launched in Ontario in 2018, FoodRescue.ca expanded rapidly across Canada in response to COVID-19. Businesses simply register and outline how much and what type of food they have available, and local non-profits receive email or text alerts about new donations in their area. The innovative tool is free to use by both food producers and non-profit organizations available as a mobile app. FoodRescue.ca helps to limit avoidable food waste while enabling businesses to reduce their environmental footprint and provide healthy, nutritious food to people in need.

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