



Group Volunteering

Thank you for volunteering your time in support of the Greater Vancouver Food Bank (GVFB). Evaluating and sorting donations is an essential part of our operations. With your help, we are able to provide food and other assistance to approximately 27,000 people each week. Volunteers are the lifeblood of the Food Bank. We are so grateful for your time and support!!

Volunteers help with a variety of tasks in our warehouse. The kind of tasks depends on the needs for that day.

Your group should be prepared to:

- Sort and box/bag food
- Check “Best Before” and “Expiry dates”
- Check for open packages and dents
- Pack emergency bags
- Sort and pack produce
- Repack diapers
- Recycle/Compost/Clean up stations post-sort

*If anyone in your group is unable to perform these tasks, please let us know in advance and we will do our best to accommodate them.

Volunteer and Group Requirements

Due to safety concerns in the warehouse, and the nature of the tasks volunteers perform, the following requirements must be met for each member of your group:

- All volunteers must be at least 13 years old.
- Volunteers under the age of 19 **must** old have a GVFB consent form signed by a parent or guardian, and be accompanied by an adult during the session
- All volunteers **must** have a clear understanding of the English language. Volunteers must be able to understand the directions provided to them and understand the language written on food products.
- We highly recommend your group has a minimum of 10 people, but we can accommodate less upon request.



- We can host a maximum of 25 volunteers per group - especially during the weekday morning and afternoon shifts - if your group has more than 25 volunteers, we would be happy to arrange for multiple shifts.
- **All volunteers must wear closed-toe shoes!**
- All volunteers should wear comfortable clothing that they don't mind getting a bit dirty.
- We welcome volunteers of all abilities. If anyone in your group has physical limitations (lifting, or standing for long periods of time) please let our staff know and we will do our best to accommodate them.

Shifts

Group Volunteer Shifts are generally 3 hours, during the following times:

Mondays	9am-12pm	1pm-4pm	5pm-8pm
Tuesdays	9am-12pm	1pm-4pm	5pm-8pm
Wednesdays	9am-12pm	1pm-4pm	5pm-8pm
Thursdays	9am-12pm	1pm-4pm	5pm-8pm
Fridays	9am-12pm	1pm-4pm	No Evenings
Saturdays	9am-12pm	1pm-4pm	No Evenings

****These times are subject to availability****

We are able to arrange full day bookings, if your group would like to come in for two 3-hour shifts in one day.

We recommend booking your shift at least one month in advance (evenings book up quite quickly). Please book online by following the link:

<https://foodbank.bc.ca/book-an-appointment/>



What to Expect

Every volunteer experience is different. Some details to consider:

- Please enter at the front of our building;
- Sign in to the group's sheet upon arrival is **MANDATORY**;
- Locked storage for groups to store their personal belongings is available;
- Light snacks and beverages are provided;
- Wear comfortable clothing that can get dirty.
- Please note that the temperature of the warehouse is dependent on the temperature outside- it can sometimes be very hot or cold.
- Cell phone use is limited to taking photos in the warehouse
- There is a volunteer lounge available for phone calls, emails, social media and text messages.
- Please adhere to all our safety procedures. Your GVFB supervisor will review these prior to getting started. If you have any safety concerns or notice that something is amiss, please bring it to our attention
- Please keep noise levels to a minimum while you are in the office or volunteer lounge during regular office hours (8:30am-3:30pm)
- Cleanliness is an essential part of volunteering in the warehouse. Your volunteer slot will also include time to clean up your stations and an opportunity for a group photo, usually 15-30 minutes prior to the end of your shift. All volunteers are responsible for cleaning up their stations for the safety of themselves, staff, and other volunteers.
- It is our policy to respect the confidentiality of our members. Therefore, we ask that you do not take photos of people registering or receiving information or food in our front desk area or entering the front of the building.

Contact

- For additional information or questions regarding group volunteering in our warehouse, please contact Michelle or Anissa.
- Email: groupvolunteering@foodbank.bc.ca



Address:
1150 Raymur Ave
Vancouver, BC V6A 3T2

By Car: We are located 4 blocks West of Clark and Venables. Turn south on Raymur at the point where Venables turns into Prior

Parking: Carpooling is highly recommended. Minimal free street parking is available in front of the building due to sharing with the park and local

businesses. We are located in an industrial area, and we ask that you be kind to our neighbours by not blocking their driveways. The City of Vancouver Bylaw Enforcement requires 6 meters on either side of all driveways and intersections. Please do not park in the parking lot directly north of our building.

By Bike: We are just South of the Adanac/Union bike path on Raymur Ave. Look for Noble Plumbing, and you should also see Strathcona Park from the bike route. Bike racks are available both outside and inside the warehouse.

By Transit: The #22 bus runs stops on the corner of Venables and Raymur. We are south of Venables on Raymur across from Strathcona Park. West bound Stop #60227 and Eastbound Stop #51282. You can call Translink at 604-683-7245 or visit www.translink.bc.ca for schedules and route information.

