

Cloverdale Reporter

November 19, 2020

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Black Press Media



Christmas in
Cloverdale
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The Fraser Valley Regional Food Bank recently added a massive tented area stretched up and between two shipping canisters in order to continue to serve people outside during the winter. The need for the food bank continues to increase, says its director Matthew Campbell. (Photo: Malin Jordan)

'Crazy' increase in demand for food bank

Malin Jordan
Cloverdale Reporter

The need for the Fraser Valley Regional Food Bank continues to increase.

"We have over 300 families that are registered for our food bank now," said Matthew Campbell, director for the Cloverdale Community Kitchen (CCK) and the food

bank. "It's pretty crazy to go from zero to 300 in just a few months."

He said out of those 300 registered families, about 200 visit the food bank each week.

Campbell ties the "crazy" increase in numbers to the COVID-19 pandemic.

On the two days the food bank is open, he said the lineup lasts more

than an hour.

"When we open up, the lineup goes all the way down the side of the building and around the fence."

When the Fraser Valley Regional Food Bank first opened in March, Campbell said there were only a sparse amount of families using it. Now the need is constant.

"It's people all the time."

The CCK has added five shipping containers to the parking lot behind the Pacific Community Church and added a massive tented area stretched up and between two shipping canisters.

"We still want to do everything outside because of COVID," said Campbell. "This is just a tempo-

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Surrey RCMP investigating after shooting in Clayton

Malin Jordan
Cloverdale Reporter

Surrey Mounties are investigating after a shooting in Clayton Nov. 16.

According to a press release, the Mounties' Serious Crimes Unit has been investigating at a residence in Clayton Heights since late Monday evening.

The RCMP say the shooting happened inside a house on the 7300 block of 192nd Street.

"Shortly before 7 p.m., a Surrey man suffering from a non-life-threatening gunshot wound attended a hospital outside of Surrey for assistance," Cpl. Joanie Sidhu, Media Relations Officer said.

"After determining a nexus to a residence in Surrey, the Surrey RCMP was called to investigate."

Sidhu noted the



Joanie Sidhu

RCMP think it's an isolated incident "with no on-going risk to public safety."

The Mounties also say they don't believe the shooting is gang-related.

Sidhu added the Serious Crimes Unit has taken over the investigation and is still at the house on 192nd.

Sidhu asked that anyone with information about the shooting contact Surrey RCMP at 604-599-0502, or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477.

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Fraser Valley Regional Food Bank sees dramatic increase in number of families using its services

Food bank serves people in Langley, Delta, Surrey, and White Rock

Continued from A1

rary measure to allow us to continue to serve people in a safe way outside and not get soaked in the rain. When COVID is over, we'll go back inside."

Campbell thankfully said the surge in need was also coupled with a surge in volunteers.

"It's great the way the community has come out and wanted to support this, to help their neighbours and people in need," he noted. "We have lots and lots of people that have stepped up to do the volunteering."

Campbell said the food bank is getting enough perishable foods and enough frozen foods each week, but they are in desperate need of more non-perishable items such as canned goods, pasta, and rice.

"We're collecting a lot of frozen goods from companies that can't give it to other places because (others) just don't have the space," Campbell explained. "Then we're

able to give it out here.... We're really moving a lot of frozen foods to people in need."

As the food bank's numbers increased, Campbell was forced to reach out to more suppliers in an effort to get more food. That in turn forced him to buy two 40-foot refrigerated shipping containers, or reefers.

The reefers provided the FVRFB with much-needed frozen storage space, allowing them to give out more meat and other frozen foods than they otherwise could have handed out.

"With our two freezer units (reefers), we have, perhaps, the most amount of freezer storage space for a food bank in the Lower Mainland."

Campbell said the reefers are only temporary as he expects demand to drop after the pandemic is over.

But for now, Campbell is thinking about opening on a third day during the week in order to fill the need.



People in need receive food from the Fraser Valley Regional Food Bank Nov. 12. The number of registered families at the FVRFB continues to increase says its director Matthew Campbell. (Photo: Malin Jordan)

"We just need to make sure we have enough volunteers," said Campbell.

The Fraser Valley Regional Food Bank is open Mondays 5 to 6:30 p.m. and Thursdays 10 to 11:30 a.m.

People can sign up for the food

bank at the food bank during opening hours. Campbell said, "Please bring photo ID, proof of address, and proof of income, if you wish to register."

The Fraser Valley Regional Food Bank is located at 5337 180 Street in Cloverdale.

Pedestrian hit Nov. 11 in Clayco

RCMP blocked off area around 192nd Street and 68th Avenue

Heather Colpitts
Black Press Media

A pedestrian sustained serious injuries when hit at the intersection of 192nd Street and 68th Avenue on Wednesday afternoon.

"The driver remained on scene and is cooperating with the investigation," said Surrey RCMP Staff Sgt. Duane Honeyman.

The police were called to the incident just after 4 p.m. and blocked off the area for the investigation.

"The investigation into the collision is in its

early stages. Investigators are seeking witnesses who observed the collision, or who were in the vehicle involved in the collision, to help Surrey RCMP identify any available video." Honeyman said.

Anyone with information about the incident, whether it's a witness or a video, is asked to contact Surrey RCMP at 599-0502, Crime Stop at 1-800-222-TIPS, or visit www.solve.ca.



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