



STUDENTS LEAD DISTRICT DONATIONS OF 14 TONNES OF FOOD, OVER \$25K

December 18, 2020

KELOWNA, BC – During a season when giving is more important than ever, students, staff, and families in Central Okanagan Public Schools showed their generosity by donating roughly fourteen metric tonnes of food (over 30,000 lbs.) and over \$25,000 in cash and gift cards. In addition to food and money, students motivated their peers, parents, and staff to donate:

- Over 250 family hampers that include holiday meals, groceries, new toys, and gifts
- 700 handmade Christmas cards and 140 gift bags for local seniors in care
- 75 handmade Christmas cards for Canadian Mental Health Association – Kelowna members
- Thousands of donated clothing items, including coats, hats, gloves, and new socks
- Hundreds of new toys to support families in need

One of the key Attributes of a Learner in Central Okanagan Public Schools is being a Contributor – a citizen who participates in the local and global community. The significant collective impact of students and their families donating to help others both within their schools and in the greater community teaches students about the agency they have in contributing to the greater good.

Quotes:

"The generosity of the contributors in our district this year is astounding," said Kevin Kaardal, Superintendent of Schools/CEO. "With our focus on the safety and wellbeing of our school communities, it is inspiring to see students and staff thinking of others who are particularly impacted by this difficult year."

"While the kindness of the many families in our district is overwhelming, it is not surprising," said Moyra Baxter, Chairperson of the Board of Education. "At holidays and throughout the year, we see our amazing students and their families give back to the community, but we are especially grateful for their generosity this season."

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For comments, please contact:

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