

CURRICULUM RESOURCE

Exploring Community Foods Programs

OALCF ALIGNMENT

| Competency | Task Group | Level |
|--|---|-------|
| Competency A - Find and Use Information | A1. Read continuous text | 2 |
| Competency A - Find and Use Information | A2. Interpret documents | 2 |
| Competency A - Find and Use Information | A3. Extract information from films, broadcasts, and presentations | N/A |
| Competency B - Communicate Ideas and Information | B1. Interact with others | 2 |
| Competency B - Communicate Ideas and Information | B2. Write continuous text | 2 |
| Competency D - Use Digital Technology | N/A | 1 |
| Competency D - Use Digital Technology | N/A | 2 |
| Competency E - Manage Learning | N/A | 1 |

Goal Paths (check all that apply)

- Employment
- Apprenticeship
- Secondary School Credit
- Postsecondary
- Independence

Embedded Skills for Success (check all that apply)

- Adaptability
- Collaboration
- Communication
- Creativity and innovation
- Digital
- Numeracy
- Problem-Solving
- Reading
- Writing

NOTES:




Acknowledgments






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The opinions expressed in this report are those of Community Literacy of Ontario and do not necessarily reflect those of our funders.

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Exploring Community Food Programs

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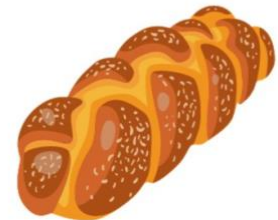
Introduction – For Practitioners

Exploring Community Food Programs has been created to share information and resources about programs and services to address food insecurity.

This resource gives an overview of hunger issues in Canada. It shares information on different types of food banks. This resource also shares creative approaches to increasing food security, such as good food boxes, community gardens, community meals, and more.

Exploring Community Food Programs embeds the Government of Canada’s Skills for Success model. Tasks and activities are included that align with the Ontario Adult Literacy Curriculum Framework.

This curriculum resource was researched and written by Jette Cosburn and Joanne Kaattari for Community Literacy of Ontario in the winter of 2024.



This resource has been designed for learners with Level 2 skills.

Exploring Community Food Programs can be used by learners in various settings, including 1-to-1 tutoring, small groups, and classroom learning.

Practitioners are encouraged to supplement this resource with:

- discussions about learner experiences related to the subject matter
- examples that are culturally relevant to the learner
- additional activities as desired

Skills for Success

In May 2021, the Government of Canada introduced an update to its Essential Skills model. The updated model has been renamed Skills for Success.

There are nine Skills for Success:

- Adaptability
- Collaboration
- Communication
- Creativity and Innovation
- Digital
- Numeracy
- Problem Solving
- Reading
- Writing



To find out more about the Skills for Success, visit <https://www.canada.ca/en/services/jobs/training/initiatives/skills-success.html>

This resource highlights the need for creative solutions to a crisis affecting a huge number of Canadians. It encourages collaboration, communication, and problem solving. It shares information on innovative solutions already occurring in some communities.

Ontario Adult Literacy Curriculum Framework (OALCF)

The OALCF is a competency-based framework that Ontario's Literacy and Basic Skills programs use to develop programs for each person receiving literacy support. For more information, visit the Ontario Government's website at

https://www.tcu.gov.on.ca/eng/eopg/programs/lbs_oalcf_overview.html

Section 1 – Snapshot of Hunger in Canada

More people are going hungry in Canada than ever before. More people are using food banks. More people are skipping meals. More people are going to bed hungry. More people cannot afford healthy food. (You may hear the term “food insecurity” as we learn about food programs. This means people cannot afford the food they need).

In this curriculum resource, we will learn about:

- a snapshot of hunger in Canada
- food banks 101
- other types of community food programs



Hunger Count 2023

Each year, Food Banks Canada prepares a report on food bank use in Canada. This report is called “**Hunger Count**”. Food Banks Canada knows there’s a hunger crisis in Canada. They want to help create a Canada where no one goes hungry.

Here are some of the results from the Hunger Count report:

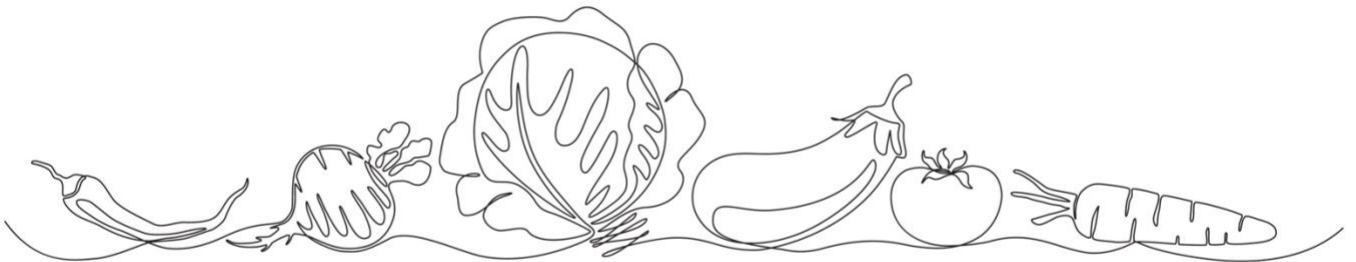
- In March 2023, there were almost **2 million** visits to food banks across Canada. This is a **32% increase** compared to March 2022.
- 33% of food bank users in Canada are children. Children represent 20% of Canada’s population.
- 44% of food bank users in Canada are single adults. Single adults represent 29% of the population.
- Seniors represent 8% of Canadian food bank users. The number of seniors going to food banks has increased a lot.
- 42% of Canadian food bank users are on social assistance or disability-related support.
- One in six of those using food banks in Canada are employed.

✓ Task:

Look at the statistics from the Hunger Count 2023 Report on Page 5.

- Write two paragraphs about which statistic surprised and concerned you the most. Include why you feel this is a concern and possible impacts for the future.
- Share your paragraphs with your teacher or classmates.
- Talk about each other's concerns and possible impacts for the future.

OALCF Competencies, Task Groups, and Level Indicators: A1.2, B1.2, B2.2
SFS: Collaboration, Communication, Reading, Writing



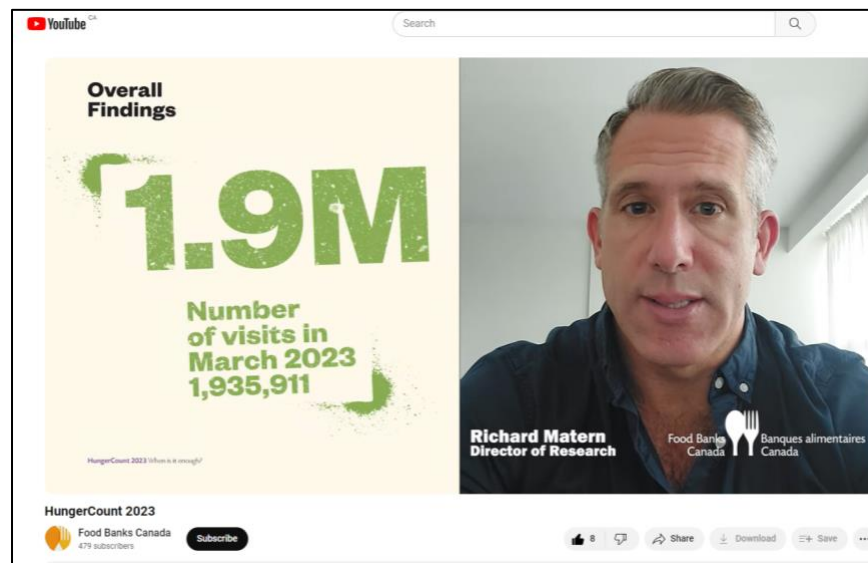
Some of the Reasons for Hunger in Canada

There are many reasons for hunger in Canada. Here are some of the main ones:

- There is a cost-of-living crisis in Canada.
- There is an affordable housing crisis in Canada.
- The monthly income received by social assistance recipients is low. It is well below poverty levels.
- There is a lack of financial support for workers with low incomes.

Watch this short, impactful video about Hunger Count 2023. It was created by Food Banks Canada. Click: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OvkgJEi-8GA&t=4s>

(Note to practitioners: Be sure to enable “Closed Captioning” if needed by the learners.)



 **Task:**

Watch the Hunger Count 2023 video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OvkgJEi-8GA&t=4s>

In the video, they discuss issues that need to be focused on or fixed.

- List three issues mentioned in the video.
- Write two paragraphs to share which issue you believe needs to be fixed first.
- Share and discuss the issue that you chose with your teacher or classmates.
- Discuss your thoughts about different choices shared by your teacher or classmates.

**Practitioners: Answer Key: Page 30

OALCF Competencies, Task Groups, and Level Indicators: A3, B1.2, B2.2, D.1
SFS: Communication, Problem Solving, Writing

Here's the link to the **Hunger Count 2023** report for people who want to learn more:
<https://foodbankscanada.ca/hungercount/>



What Can You Do?

We can often feel helpless about how to fix big problems like hunger. It is hard to know what to do.

Here are some ideas:

- You can learn more about hunger issues in Canada. That's what you are doing right now!
 - You can search the internet to learn more.
 - You can tell your family and friends what you've learned.
 - You can share how food costs have impacted you and your friends.
- You can find out what's happening in your community to reduce poverty.
 - You can ask 211 Ontario for information about local activities. (<https://211ontario.ca/>)
 - Are there local groups helping hungry people? Maybe you could help them.
 - Are there groups who are demanding change? Maybe you could join them.
- You can follow the social media accounts of organizations advocating for change. For example:
 - Food Banks Canada: <https://www.facebook.com/FoodBanksCanada>
 - Feed Ontario: <https://www.facebook.com/FeedOntario/>
 - Or find your local food bank on social media and follow them!
- You can write to or email your local MP or MPP about hunger issues. MP means your Federal Member of Parliament. MPP means your Member of Provincial Parliament.
- Large organizations like Food Banks Canada have good ideas. For example, Food Banks Canada wants everyone to write a letter to politicians. They want Canadians to send letters demanding change.
 - Here is the link to write an online letter: <https://whenisitenough.ca/>



✓ Task:

In Section 1, you wrote about which statistic from the Hunger Count 2023 Report surprised and concerned you.

Look at the list of possible actions on Page 9 that you can take to make a step towards helping fix that statistic.

- Write two paragraphs about an action you would find difficult to do. Include the challenges and ways that you might overcome them.
- Share your paragraphs with your teacher.
- Talk about the challenges and solutions and set a plan to work towards overcoming these challenges.

OALCF Competencies, Task Groups, and Level Indicators: A1.2, B1.2, B2.2, E.1
SFS: Collaboration, Communication, Problem Solving, Reading, Writing



Section 2 – Food Banks 101

Food Bank Basics

Food banks are nonprofit organizations. They collect food from donors. Food banks then give free food to people in need.

The first food bank in Canada opened in 1981 in Edmonton, Alberta. Food Banks Canada says that there are now over 700 food banks and 3,000 food programs available in Canada. Food banks are common in small and large urban areas. Services may be less available in rural areas.



Many people find it hard to pay for groceries.

In 2024, there is a high demand for food banks. The need is higher in Canada than it's ever been.

Here are some of the reasons why there is a high need for food banks:

- the cost of living is very high
- there is a lack of affordable housing
- the monthly income received by social assistance recipients is low

Many food banks operate from their own buildings in various cities and towns.

Other food banks are in locations such as:

- First Nations communities
- seniors' centres
- faith communities
- libraries
- community centres
- food pantries at schools, colleges, and universities

Food banks collect food from many different places.

This includes from:

- individuals
- grocery stores
- small business
- large corporations
- farms



Food banks do not only give out groceries. They also do other things such as:

- raise awareness about poverty issues
- work in partnership with community organizations on anti-poverty issues
- advocate to governments for better support for low-income people

Due to high demand, food banks must set limits on how often people can get food. These limits are different in every community. Some food banks allow people to get food once per month. Others allow people to get food every two weeks. People need to check the rules in their communities.

There are usually rules about who can get food from food banks. They want to be sure that the food goes to those who really need it. Food banks often ask for proof of income. For example, they might ask whether people are on Ontario Works or other support programs. People need to check the rules for food banks where they live. Food banks also ask people for their ID and address.

Most food banks have paid staff. Also, many volunteers help at food banks. Volunteers do many things. For example, they pack boxes and stack shelves.

Here is a helpful link for those who want to learn more about food banks: <https://foodbankscanada.ca/food-banking/>



✓ Task:

Food banks often ask for proof of income. For example, they might ask whether people are on Ontario Works or other support programs. Food banks also ask people for their ID and address.

- Write two or three paragraphs about why food banks request personal information. Include at least one pro and one con from your point of view about this request for personal information.
- Share and discuss your pros and cons with your teacher or classmates.

OALCF Competencies, Task Groups, and Level Indicators: B1.2, B2.2
SFS: Communication, Writing



Other Food Bank Programs

There are also other types of food support programs available. These programs vary and are not available in every community. For example, some rural areas may have fewer services. Here are some examples of other types of food bank programs:

Baby Banks

- This is a food bank with items for babies. Not all communities have a baby bank. To find out if there is one where you live, call 211 Ontario or search their website (<https://211ontario.ca/>).
- A baby bank could have items like:
 - formula
 - baby food
 - diapers and baby wipes

Farm to Food Program

The Farm to Food program is a partnership between several organizations. Partners organizations are:

- Feed Ontario
- Hub of Opportunities
- Local farmers
- Windsor Food Bank

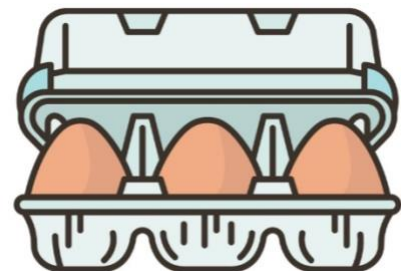


Local farmers donate surplus produce to the program. This produce is then made into healthy meals. These meals are shared with food banks across Ontario. The Farm to Food program helps with food insecurity. It also helps reduce food waste.

Ontario Egg Program

The Ontario Egg Program helps stock food banks with fresh eggs. Various partners are involved:

- Feed Ontario
- Egg Farmers of Ontario
- Burnbrae Farms
- Grayridge Egg Farms



How to Find Your Local Food Bank

Here are two ways to find your local food banks.



1. Contact 211 Ontario

- Call 211
- Or visit the “Food Bank and referrals” section of their website:
<https://211ontario.ca/211-topics/food/food-banks-and-referrals/>

2. Search the Food Banks Canada’s “Find a Food Bank” Website

- Go to: <https://foodbankscanada.ca/find-a-food-bank/>
- Type the name of your community in the search bar. We selected “Barrie”.
- All the food banks in your area will now show up. Names, addresses, and websites are shared.

Food Banks Canada / Banques alimentaires Canada

HUNGER IN CANADA | ENDING HUNGER | FOOD BANKING | HOW YOU CAN HELP | YOU MAKE IT POSSIBLE | POVERTY REPORT CARD | RESOURCES

Home > Find a Food Bank

FIND A FOOD BANK

You can use the Find a Food Bank tool to search for a food bank in your community. Click on the map below or type in a location for more information.
 No food bank showing in your area? Please check with the location nearest you or call 211 to see if there are smaller food banks close by.

Barrie, ON, Canada Please zoom out using the "-" symbol at the bottom right of the map to expand your search results.

Results: 4

| |
|---|
| Barrie Food Bank 42 Anne St South Barrie ON L4M 2C9 5.5 km |
| Alliston Food Bank 52 Wellington Street West Alliston Ontario L9R 1T9 38.0 km |
| The Sharing Place 95 Dufferin St Orillia Ontario L3V 5S9 43.2 km |
| Georgina Community Food Pantry 20849 Dalton Rd Sutton Ontario L0E 1R0 68.6 km |

Map Satellite

✓ Task:

Use the information from the How to Find Your Local Food Bank section and the links below to find the food bank closest to where you live.

- Visit:
 - <https://211ontario.ca/211-topics/food/food-banks-and-referrals/>
 - <https://foodbankscanada.ca/find-a-food-bank/>
- Share with your teacher or classmates whether you found these websites useful.
- Also share whether there is a food bank close to where you live or if it is in another town or city.

OALCF Competencies, Task Groups, and Level Indicators: A1.2, B1.2, D.2
SFS: Communication, Digital, Reading



Section 3 – Other Types of Community Food Programs

There are other programs besides food banks. Many people are concerned about the cost of food. They worry when people do not have enough to eat, and they come up with other great ideas to help. In this section, we are happy to share four other types of community food programs.

Every community is different. Not all programs exist in all communities. Again, you should contact 211 Ontario to find out what's available (<https://211ontario.ca/>).

Community Meal Programs

Many communities have free meals for community members. People can get a good hot meal at no cost. It can also be the chance to meet other people and not eat alone. Some community meal programs have social activities included. This might be activities like playing cards.

Most programs are offered on a drop-in basis. This means you don't need to register. You don't need to show ID or tell people your income. You just come when you want.

Community meal programs are offered at different times. They might be offered at times like this:

- every weekday at lunch
- one day per week at supper
- once per month



For example, St. Peter and St. Paul's Anglican church in Ottawa has "A Place to Go" program. This program runs every Friday evening from 7:30 to 9:30 PM. Everyone gets a hot meal. Social activities are included.

Another example is the Native Friendship Centre in Timmins. The centre offers a free, hot take-out meal every Thursday at noon.

To learn about community meal programs in your area, contact 211 Ontario. You can call them. Or search for your community here: <https://211ontario.ca/211-topics/food/free-low-cost-meals/>

Meals on Wheels

The goal of Meals on Wheels is to deliver healthy meals to help seniors and vulnerable adults continue to live at home. Most Meals on Wheels programs deliver a hot meal to their clients every weekday at suppertime. Other programs deliver frozen meals.

Meals on Wheels serves a variety of groups in need, including:

- seniors
- adults with diseases and illnesses
- adults with disabilities
- adults recovering from surgery

Meals on Wheels is provided by a variety of nonprofit organizations across Ontario. There is a cost to the client for the meals. It is kept low. Check with your local Meals on Wheels provider to find out meal costs in your community.

Volunteer drivers deliver the meals. These volunteers offer a friendly connection to the community. They also do wellness checks to make sure clients are safe.

Meals on Wheels is delivered in 181 communities across Ontario. Services may be somewhat different in various communities. But they all share the same goal of delivering healthy meals to vulnerable people.

Meals on Wheels provides meals that respect different cultural needs.

They also provide meals for people who need special diets such as:

- people with diabetes
- people who need food that is pureed or minced
- people who need low-sodium diets



To request services, visit the Meals on Wheels website at:
<https://www.mealsonwheels.ca/request-meals-on-wheels>

Or you can call 211 Ontario.



Good Food Boxes

The Good Food Box is a fresh fruit and vegetable distribution program.

This program makes healthy food more affordable.

Here is how the Good Food Box program works:



- The Good Food Box program is usually open to everyone in the community.
- The organizers work with local food suppliers and farmers to purchase high-quality fruits and vegetables at low prices.
- The content of the box will vary depending on the season. For example, it might include fresh strawberries and peas in July. The box might include carrots and corn in August. And it might include apples and potatoes in September.
- People must sign up to order a food box. They can do this in person or online.
- There is a fee for a Good Food Box. It is much lower than buying from a grocery store. Often the price is around \$20.
- Community members and organizations can sponsor a food box for low-income people.
- Good Food Boxes are sent to various locations for pick-up. This means that people can often pick up their boxes at a convenient location.



The Good Food Box program works a bit differently in each community.

- The prices might be different.
- What is in the boxes might be different.
- How often the Good Fox Boxes are delivered may be different.
- In some communities, the boxes are delivered once per month. In other communities, they are delivered twice per month.



For example, the Thunder Bay Good Food Box is shared once per month. It costs \$22. Usually, there are 9-12 different items per box. The box also includes healthy recipes.

Another example is the Good Food Box program in York Region. It is also available once per month. It costs \$18. The box contains 6-8 different types of fruits and vegetables.

Watch this video of a Good Food box in action.

It was created by Good Food Box Ottawa:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q3X9yn4kO9A>



Not all communities have the Good Food Box program.

To find out if you have this program in your area contact 211 Ontario. You can call them. Or search for your community here: <https://211ontario.ca/211-topics/food/grocery-stores,-fresh-food-and-producers/>



Community Gardens

Community gardens are a place where people can grow their own food. People can reduce the cost of food and eat healthier. It is also a great way to learn new skills and meet new people. Community gardens help to build community.

Every community is different. Some will have community gardens, while others may not.

Community gardens are often built in city parks. They are also built in public areas such as schools, libraries, or community centres.

Community gardens are often built in places that weren't used for growing food before. Maybe there was grass or gravel there before. With a community garden, now fresh fruits and vegetables are growing!

Community garden plots can be rented for a small amount by families and individuals. Some garden plots might be reserved for a special group like daycares, social housing, or senior's centres.

Your city or town likely has a community garden. They probably have several community gardens. A small city like Peterborough has 43 community gardens. Way to go, Peterborough!

If you want to learn about community gardens where you live, call 211 Ontario or search their website (<https://211ontario.ca/>).

To see a community garden action watch this video. This community garden is in Barrie.

Click:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gqZGJ_fzeCc



✓ Task:

There are a wide variety of food programs in communities across Ontario.

- Choose one program from the Other Types of Community Food Programs shared in Section 3.
- Follow the information provided to see if the program you chose is available in your community or a community close to where you live.
 - If the program isn't available in your community, write a brief letter to your Mayor explaining why you think it would be good to have this program in your community.
 - If the program is available in your community, write a letter to your Mayor explaining why you think it is a good program to continue in your community.
- Share your letter with your teacher or classmates. Discuss possible next steps to support getting more programs in your communities.

OALCF Competencies, Task Groups, and Level Indicators: A1.2, B1.2, B2.2, D.2
SFS: Collaboration, Communication, Problem Solving, Reading, Writing



Section 4 – Supporting Activity

Instructions for Practitioners

This **supporting activity** can be used for learners who would like to learn more about food programs and food insecurity. It is suitable for one learner or for a small group of learners. It can be changed to meet individual needs.

This activity uses elements of the Ontario Adult Literacy Curriculum Framework's (OALCF) Competencies with Level 1 and 2 Tasks and Indicators.

The tasks in this activity also include Entry and Intermediate components and elements of a variety of the Skills for Success (SFS). A list of the SFS is available in the Introduction to this resource. Visit the SFS website at <https://www.canada.ca/en/services/jobs/training/initiatives/skills-success.html> if you would like more information about the Skills for Success and their level components and elements.

A computer or tablet will be used during this activity.

Activity

Introduction to the Activity

The growing need for food security is a major concern for a large proportion of people living in Canada. It is an issue that needs increased awareness, not only for those who require food security, but also for those who don't. Food banks, food programs, social support programs, and the people who rely on these services need more proactive action.

This practitioner-led supplementary activity focuses on different skills and competencies required by learners to complete each task in the activity. This activity also gets learners to look more closely at how the food banks and food programs can be supported.

Activity: Task 1 – Make a list.

Many people in Canada do not have enough money for groceries. Food insecurity continues to grow in Canada. There are many reasons that someone might not be able to afford the food that they and their family need.

- Read Section 1 and make a list of three reasons why someone might need to use a food bank and ways you think that they could be supported.
- Share this list with your teacher or classmates.
- Discuss different reasons that someone might need to use a food bank and ways that they could be supported.

OALCF A1.2, B1.2 and B2.2:

Competency A: Find and Use Information

- Task Group: Read continuous text (A1)
- A1.2: Read texts to locate and connect ideas and information

Competency B: Communicate Ideas and Information

- Task Group: Interact with others (B1)
- B1.2: Initiate and maintain interactions with one or more persons to discuss, explain or exchange information and opinions
- Task Group: Write continuous text (B2)
- B2.2: Write texts to explain and describe information ideas

Embedded Skills for Success:

- Collaboration
- Communication
- Problem solving
- Reading
- Writing

Activity: Task 2 – Visit the Foodbankscanada.ca website.

Food Banks Canada is a national charitable organization that works to help Canadians living with food insecurity.

- Visit the Food Banks Canada website at <https://foodbankscanada.ca>
- On their home page, find Food Banks Canada’s mission and how they work to support their mission.
- Write three paragraphs that include:
 - Food Bank Canada’s mission
 - one of the things that Food Banks Canada does to support their mission
 - one way that you could help spread the word about Food Bank Canada’s work.
- Discuss Food Bank Canada’s mission and how they work to support their mission with your teacher or classmate.
- Exchange ideas of how you and your classmates could help spread the word about Food Banks Canada’s work.

****Practitioners’ Answer Key: Page 30**

OALCF A1.2, B1.2 and B2.2, D.1:

Competency A: Find and Use Information

- Task Group: Read continuous text (A1)
- A1.2: Read texts to locate and connect ideas and information

Competency B: Communicate Ideas and Information

- Task Group: Interact with others (B1)
- B1.2: Initiate and maintain interactions with one or more persons to discuss, explain or exchange information and opinions

- Task Group: Write continuous text (B2)
- B2.2: Write texts to explain and describe information and ideas

Competency D: Use Digital Technology

- Task Group: Not applicable
- D.1: Perform simple digital tasks according to a set procedure

Embedded Skills for Success:

- Collaboration
- Communication
- Creativity and Innovation
- Digital
- Reading
- Writing

Activity: Task 3 – View Ontario’s Poverty Report Card

Food Banks Canada does a lot of work communicating the issue of hunger and food insecurity to Canada’s governments. They evaluate the work of each province on this issue and have developed a report card for each province.

- Visit the Food Banks Canada website at <https://foodbankscanada.ca>
- Click on the Poverty Report Card tab at the top of the page.
- Hover on the map of the provinces/territories to see an overview of each province/territory’s grades.

- Click on Ontario on the map to view Ontario's Poverty Report Card overview. Provinces and territories are graded based on how they compare with each other on:
 - experiences of poverty
 - measurements of poverty
 - a standard of living
 - government progress on passing anti-poverty legislation
- List the Report Card topics and Ontario's grades.
- Highlight the topic that you believe should be improved upon first and make a note of why you think it should be first.
- Discuss and share opinions with your teacher or classmates of how you feel about Ontario's results and the topics chosen to have the government work on first.

[**Practitioners' Answer Key: Page 32](#)

OALCF A2.2, B1.2, B2.2, and D.2:

Competency A: Find and Use Information

- Task Group: Interpret documents (A2)
- A2.2: Interpret simple documents to locate and connect information

Competency B: Communicate Ideas and Information

- Task Group: Interact with others (B1)
- B1.2: Initiate and maintain interactions with one or more persons to discuss, explain or exchange information and opinions
- Task Group: Write continuous text (B2)
- B2.2: Write texts to explain and describe information and ideas

Competency D: Use Digital Technology

- Task Group: Not applicable
- D.2: Perform well-defined, multi-step digital tasks

Embedded Skills for Success:

- Collaboration
- Communication
- Digital
- Problem Solving
- Reading
- Writing

Activity: Task 4– Write a letter to your Member of Provincial Parliament

Section 1 of this resource shares Food Banks Canada’s **Hunger Count 2023** report where it was reported that:

In March 2023, there were almost **2 million** visits to food banks across Canada. This is a **32% increase** compared to March 2022.

Section 3 noted that food insecurity is a concern that you might want to share with your Member of Provincial Parliament. You can find your local Member of Parliament’s contact information at <https://www.ola.org/en/members/current/contact-information/constituency>

- Ask learners to write a three-paragraph letter to their local Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP) describing their concern about food insecurity and the growing number of visits to food banks. The letter should:
 - greet the MPP and introduce the learner
 - share the concern or problem identified by the learner
 - ask the MPP for a response about how this is being taken care of by the government
- Ask learners to share their letter with their teacher or classmates.
- Learners could also send their letter to their MPP.

OALCF A1.2, B1.2, B2.2, and D.2:

Note to Practitioners: If learners wish to write a longer and more detailed letter to their MPP, this could be a B2.3 level task.

Competency A: Find and Use Information

- Task Group: Read Continuous Text (A1)
- A1.2: Read texts to locate and connect ideas and information

Competency B: Communicate Ideas and Information

- Task Group: Interact with others (B1)
- B1.2: Initiate and maintain interactions with one or more persons to discuss, explain, or exchange information and opinions
- Task Group: Write continuous text (B2)
- B2.2: Write texts to explain and describe information and ideas

Competency D: Use Digital Technology

- Task Group: Not applicable
- D.2: Perform well-defined, multi-step digital tasks

Embedded Skills for Success:

- Communication
- Digital
- Reading
- Writing



Section 5 – Answer Key

Task - Page 8 (Hunger Count 2023 video)

Watch the Hunger Count 2023 video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OvkgJEi-8GA&t=4s>

In the video, they discuss issues that need to be focused on or fixed.

- List three issues mentioned in the video.
- Write two paragraphs to share which issue you believe needs to be fixed first.
- Share and discuss the issue that you chose with your teacher or classmates.
- Discuss your thoughts about different choices shared by your teacher or classmates.

Answer:

Issues that need to be focussed on or fixed:

- Affordability issues like affordable housing
- Fixing broken social safety net
- Better supports for:
 - low-income workers
 - single adults
 - people with disabilities

Activity: Task 2 - Page 25 (Visit the [Foodbankscanada.ca](https://foodbankscanada.ca) website.)

Food Banks Canada is a national charitable organization that works to help Canadians living with food insecurity.

- Visit the Food Banks Canada website at <https://foodbankscanada.ca>
- On their home page, find Food Banks Canada's mission and how they work to support their mission.

- Write three paragraphs that include:
 - Food Bank Canada's mission
 - one of the things that Food Banks Canada does to support their mission
 - one way that you could help spread the word about Food Bank Canada's work
- Discuss Food Bank Canada's mission and how they work to support their mission with your teacher or classmate.
- Exchange ideas of how you and your classmates could help spread the word about Food Banks Canada's work.

Answers:

Food Bank Canada's Mission:

To relieve hunger today and prevent hunger tomorrow.

Together with our network, we work toward our vision of a **Canada where no one goes hungry.**

How they work to support their mission.

- advocate for meaningful actions that counter hunger and its root causes
- work coast to coast to coast to maximize the efforts of more than **4,750 food banks and community organizations**
- investing in, championing, and supporting the important work of more than **4,750 food banks and community organizations**
- research to study the underlying causes of food insecurity and create action based on that knowledge.

Activity: Task 3 - Page 26 (View Ontario's Poverty Report Card.)

Food Banks Canada does a lot of work communicating the issue of hunger and food insecurity to Canada's governments. They evaluate the work of each province on this issue and have developed a report card for each province.

- Visit the Food Banks Canada website at <https://foodbankscanada.ca>
- Click on the Poverty Report Card tab at the top of the page.
- Hover on the map of the provinces/territories to see an overview of each province/territory's grades.
- Click on Ontario on the map to view Ontario's Poverty Report Card overview. Provinces and territories are graded based on:
 - how they compare with each other on experiences of poverty
 - measurements of poverty
 - a standard of living
 - government progress on passing anti-poverty legislation
- List the Report Card topics and Ontario's grades.
- Highlight the topic that you believe should be improved upon first and make a note of why you think it should be first.
- Discuss and share opinions with your teacher or classmates of how you feel about Ontario's results and the topics chosen to have the government work on first.

Answer:

Ontario's Report Card topics and grades.

- Experience of Poverty: D
- Poverty Measures: D
- Material Deprivation: D-
- Legislative Progress: F