



FOOD BANK VISITS IN TORONTO REACHED A RECORD HIGH.

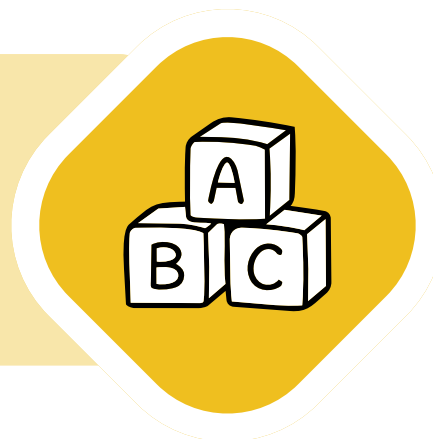
NEED FOR LONG-TERM SOLUTIONS



Food banks function as an emergency response system but do not eliminate food insecurity among users.

FOOD INSECURITY LINKED TO CHILD POVERTY

Many food bank clients are families with children.



Childhood food insecurity is associated with poorer physical growth and development and worse educational outcomes.

FOOD INSECURITY AND HEALTH IMPACTS

Food insecurity is linked to poor physical and mental health.





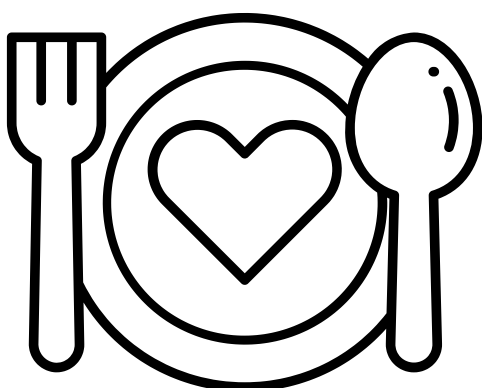
WHO IS MOST IMPACTED?

Food insecurity affects working families, renters, children, seniors, and newcomers



Families with Children

A third of children under 18 in the ten provinces lived in a food-insecure household. That amounts to 2.5 million children, increasing from 1.6 million in 2019 and setting a record high.



Indigenous Communities

In 2022, 40.6% of Indigenous children aged 1 to 14 living off reserve lived in food-insecure households.

(source: C2K 2025 national report card)



WHY THIS ELECTION MATTERS

Municipal governments play a critical role in reducing harm and preventing food insecurity from worsening.



How can municipal officials support food accessibility?

Affordable housing, rent stability and eviction prevention tools

Universal school food programs that reduce stigma and directly improve child well-being

Advocacy directed at provincial governments to raise Ontario Works and ODSP rates