



# Fraser Valley Gleaners NEWSLETTER

February 2019

## Annual General Meeting Saturday, April 27, 2019

Our 20<sup>th</sup> **Annual General Meeting** will start at 10:00 AM at the plant located at 85 Winson Rd, Abbotsford. BBQ lunch will be served after the meeting.

Nominations: The FVG constitution states that *"nominations for directors must be submitted to the board of directors, in writing, at least 24 hours before an annual meeting, in such a form as is published from time to time by the society."* Several director positions are up for re-election and we have appointed a nominations committee with nomination forms available at the plant. Please contact Bob Spyksma (604-859-9759) or Marilyn Vriend (604-850-3830) for further information.



## FVG President's Message for 2019

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Fraser Valley Gleaners I wish you all a very Happy and Blessed New Year! 2019 will mark the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the formation of the Fraser Valley Gleaners Society. God has blessed the vision, courage and dedication of the original founders of the society, and we owe them many thanks.

We are grateful for the generosity and assistance of MCC, who built the original plant on their property, and allowed us to use it for many years for almost no rent. We started production in 2001, and we have been able to increase production of our dried soup mix every year since then; last year we produced 15 million soup servings. We have been humbled and astounded by the many reports we have received about the huge impact the soup mix has had in the lives of the recipients. We give all glory and praise to our gracious God!

I would be remiss if I did not pay tribute to the work and commitment of our efficient plant manager couple, Carl and Elaine Goosen, as well as the rest of the staff. But the backbone and heart of our ministry are the faithful volunteers, who give of their time to make the ministry function. The donors of funds and product have given generously to the cause of the Gleaners. We owe a huge debt of gratitude to all of you!

As we reflect on the last 20 years of our existence, we look forward with thanksgiving and confidence in our God and pray that He will continue to bless the work of Fraser Valley Gleaners in 2019.

Ed Klassen, President

### Projects that we were fundraising for in 2018 –

The Gleaners plant was closed for two weeks in August to re-surface and paint the main warehouse floor. We are very pleased with the outcome. The other projects that we completed were the purchase of a new electric forklift (photo left), as well as a new display for our presentations and an updated promotion video.

85 Winson Road, Abbotsford, B.C. V2S 8E8  
Phone: 604-870-9272 Toll Free: 1-866-772-7070 (Canada and USA) Fax: 604-870-9273  
email: [info@fvgleaners.org](mailto:info@fvgleaners.org) website: [www.fvgleaners.org](http://www.fvgleaners.org)  
Plant Manager – Carl Goosen

## NEWS:

- ◆ Volunteer Appreciation Week – Feb. 11<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup>. Join us for a soup and bun lunch at the plant.
- ◆ We are currently open Monday to Friday – 8:30 am until noon.
- ◆ The Plant will be closed Feb. 18<sup>th</sup> for Family Day, April 19<sup>th</sup> for Good Friday and April 22<sup>nd</sup> for Easter Monday.
- ◆ The plant will be open on Saturdays starting May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019.
- ◆ Thank you to the many volunteers who faithfully support the Gleaners. 51,000 volunteer hours were logged in 2018 at our plant! We are presently packaging soup mix with our goal to make over 15 million soup servings.
- ◆ Tours are available daily of the Gleaner plant – phone the office for a suitable time.
- ◆ Groups are encouraged to book for the summer months. We have 4 RV Sites with hookups. Dates are still available in August.
- ◆ Pray for God to give direction for the 2019 Year at Fraser Valley Gleaners.

### Thank you to our major donors that have provided produce and apples for 2018.

Agape Food Bank – onions, apples  
Canadian Farms – carrots, potatoes  
Coastal Pacific Express - variety  
Heppell's Potato Corporation - potatoes  
Joseph Chow Trucking  
Mike Wonnick – dried peas  
Nature's Touch – frozen product  
Ralph's Farm Market - apples  
Rosanna Farms – dried lentils  
Sumas Ridge - peppers  
Vic Willms Farm – dried peas  
George Bergen – dried peas  
Village Farms – tomatoes  
Willms Seeds- dried beans  
Wisbey Farms – parsnips, cabbage

## Gleaners Across Canada

There are nine Gleaners throughout Canada – if you are going on a road trip or in the area of a Gleaners – drop in and volunteer for a morning! Here is a list of Gleaners with their web sites:

**In B.C.** Okanagan Gleaners – [okanagangleaners.com](http://okanagangleaners.com)  
North Okanagan Valley Gleaners – [novgleaners.org](http://novgleaners.org)

Fraser Valley Gleaners – [fvgleaners.org](http://fvgleaners.org)

### In Alberta

Peace Country Gleaners – [pcgleaners.com](http://pcgleaners.com)

Prairie Gleaners – [prairiegleaners.com](http://prairiegleaners.com)

### In Ontario

Ontario Christian Gleaners – [ontariogleaners.org](http://ontariogleaners.org)

Reapers of Hope – [christianaidministries.ca](http://christianaidministries.ca)

Southern Ontario Gleaners – [swogleaners.ca](http://swogleaners.ca)

Niagara Gleaners – [niagaragleaners.org](http://niagaragleaners.org)

### Joel & Cait Pasma

Meet our new on-site Caretaker couple. Joel has also taken on the job of Assistant Manager. We look forward to getting to know them better and working with them at the plant.



**Christmas Social** This past year's event was held at the plant and was attended by 225 people. Carol singing was a highlight with Bob and Ann, and a delicious lunch was had by all. Thank you for bringing your favourites. Special guest Judy Bergen, shared about her ministry "Love Guatemala Canada." Judy gave a report of how Gleaner soup was being used in the areas she works in and how people are recovering after the volcano which erupted in June 2018. Our new FVG promo video was shown – if you would like to see our new video, it is posted on our web page.

### Fraser Valley Gleaners Directors

Ben Doerksen, Trevor Fowler, Mark Hardy, Ed Klassen, Bill Spyksma, Dave Staley, Wade Trimble, Anne VanderMeulen, Marilyn Vriend and Vic Willms.

The Bible says: "Not to us, Lord, not to us but to your name be the glory, because of your love and faithfulness." Psalm 115:1

Please forward your change of address to help keep our costs down. If you wish to unsubscribe from our mailing list, please phone or email us. If you prefer to receive newsletters by email, sign up on our web page [www.fvgleaners.org](http://www.fvgleaners.org)