

YYC Pizza Fest is back!

YYC Pizza Fest is back and runs from **September 15 - October 1, 2023**. This annual event has charity, community, and pizza crusts in mind. Each year, local participating restaurants craft an original recipe in a competition to be lauded Calgary's best pizza. How does it work? Visit yypizzafest.com or download the YYC Pizza Fest app and choose a pizza or two (or ten!) from our list of contestants, head over to the business to try it, and then rate it to help us decide who will win! Our award categories include: top rated pizza, most popular pizza, most innovative pizza, and fan favourite crust. **\$2-\$4 from every pizza sold supports Calgary Meals on Wheels**, thereby directly providing nutritious meals to Calgarians.



Birdies for Kids

A huge thank you to all of you who donated to Birdies for Kids this summer in support of our Hot Soup program! The final tally will be available to us after the matching funds are added by the Shaw Charity Classic Foundation, but what we can tell you is that we have raised **at least \$25,000** in individual and foundation donations to provide free meals to kids in need! This alone will provide nearly **30,000 bowls of soup** to kids at the 13 schools provide this free service to, which is just about 40% of all the bowls of soup we serve all school year long. The principal at one of our Hot Soup schools made a point to let us know that "Meals on Wheels is one of the best programs that I've brought to the school" and that the kids "get excited when they see the big red soup container". We can continue to provide these lunches for kids because of donors like you - thank you!

Calgary Surge

Congratulations to our partners the Calgary Surge on such a successful first season, and many thanks to shining the spotlight on us and the service we provide to the community. We look forward to working with you on some special projects in the off-season including a fun **family holiday event** (stay tuned for more information!) and **colouring books** featuring the Surge team teaching the importance of eating nutritious meals. We are currently looking for sponsors to help us produce these small colouring books that will be taken to our Hot Soup schools as a treat for the kids - so please tell your networks!



YYC Summer Scoop Fest

The first official year of YYC Summer Scoop Fest was a huge hit! Not only did we surpass our goal for donations, but we also overwhelmingly heard from the community that one week is simply not enough! So, next year we will extend the fest earlier into June making it **two weeks long!** Thank you to all the local businesses who participated, to our sponsor Foothills Creamery, and to all you beautiful people who went out and enjoyed delicious ice cream treats!

Weekend at the Casino

We're extremely excited to be hosting casino nights at the **Elbow River Casino on October 14 & 15**. If gambling isn't your thing but you would still like to participate, we have 10 open shifts left for volunteers. [Sign up here!](#)

2023 Holiday Season

As we come into the Thanksgiving and Holiday seasons, look for a few seasonal CMOW favourites to reappear and some new events to join the lineup. One returning classic is our **Thanks for Giving** campaign with matching sponsor **Qualico Communities** back this year to [match donations](#) up to \$5,000!

If you're headed to the grocery store between **October 2nd and 9th** make sure to visit a Calgary Co-op because **Time for Turkeys** is back! All Co-op locations will be collecting donations at the till and with Shine FM promoting the event, we are hoping to **match the \$30,000** we raised

last year. That amounts to **6,000 meals** subsidized for our most vulnerable clients.

Finally, although we have stepped back from our involvement in Cookie Kitchen, we have some exciting new holiday events coming up! This year we are piloting a **holiday concert series on November 23 & 24** as well as a holiday-themed opportunity to visit our facility and partake in some merriment in mid-December. This shift will allow us to utilize our volunteers in a more impactful way during this incredibly busy season. Stay tuned for more information in the coming weeks!

What motivates you to give?

As we prepare our holiday campaign, we would love your insight to help us recruit new donors. What motivates you and informs your decision when you make charitable donations? Do you have any ideas for us about where to look for/reach new donors or spread our message? We would be so happy to hear from you, so if you have a few moments simply **reply to this email** and let us know!



Calgary Meals on Wheels
(403) 243-2834 | info@mealsonwheels.com | mealsonwheels.com

Stay Connected!

