

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Monday, Oct. 5, 2020



Thanksgiving at Our Place in time of pandemic

VICTORIA, B.C. – When the going gets tough, Our Place is known for stepping up. And this Thanksgiving is no different.

Despite the challenges imposed by the COVID pandemic, Our Place wants to make sure that it still delivers a warm, home-cooked meal to those who would otherwise go without.

“Everybody loves a good holiday meal,” says Julian Daly, Chief Executive Officer of Our Place. “And our chefs never disappoint. The kitchen team is busy cooking turkey, mixing stuffing, perfecting the gravy, and getting fresh vegetables ready for the steamer.”

This year will be markedly different in that Our Place can’t have several hundred people sitting down all at once to enjoy their meal. Volunteers, politicians and other community representatives also won’t be on hand due to COVID restrictions. Instead, the kitchen has extended the meal time to two hours, and service will be cafeteria style. The meal will be served from 11:30am to 1:30pm on Wednesday, Oct. 7.

“Our Place has always been there for people going through difficult times -- regardless of the reason,” says Daly. “And this year, more than ever, people who thought they would never need our services are finding our doors are open.”

Along with a wonderful Thanksgiving meal, Our Place has received some extra funding from the City of Victoria to open its showers into the evening.

“This is especially important for the working poor who are having to access shelter at night and don’t have time to grab a shower during the daytime,” says Daly.

Also, thanks to the generosity of local businessman Gordy Dodd, a second Thanksgiving meal will be served at Our Place on Friday, Oct. 9 from 4:30pm to 6:30pm.

Photo/Video Opportunity: On Wednesday, Oct. 7, staff will dish up a delicious Thanksgiving meal from 11:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. CEO Julian Daly will be available for interviews.

Event: Thanksgiving Community Meal
When: Wednesday, Oct. 7, 11:30am – 1:30pm
Where: Our Place Society, 919 Pandora Ave, Victoria
Website: www.ourplacesociety.com

Our Place Society has grown from a unique inner-city community centre to eight locations serving Greater Victoria's most vulnerable, including people struggling with homelessness, mental health challenges, substance use issues, the working poor, and impoverished elderly. Individuals and businesses provide 50% of the financial support for its programs and services. Our Place provides over 1,200 meals every day, plus 1,400 snacks, 400 units of housing plus over 150 transitional shelter spaces, hot showers, education, job skills, health care, addiction recovery services, donated clothing, counseling and outreach services, and a 60-bin storage facility. Most importantly, Our Place provides a sense of hope and belonging to our neighbours in need.

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