



SAVE-ON-FOODS GOES THE EXTRA MILE TO TACKLE FOOD WASTE

Company's Food Waste Reduction Strategy Aimed at Feeding People, Not Landfills

Calgary, AB – February 21, 2019 – Today, Save-On-Foods is celebrating a year of focused effort to surpass its company-wide goal to reduce food waste by 50% by 2025. Through its food waste diversion programs, Save-On-Foods has undertaken initiatives in stores across Western Canada to divert surplus and potentially wasted food away from landfills and redirecting it to the best use in a consistent, safe and measurable way.

Food waste is a critical issue in Canada, with almost 60% of food produced in the country wasted annually. It is estimated over half of the amount Canadians spend on food each year is wasted, or enough to feed every Canadian for five months.

“We have now rolled out our food waste diversion program in nearly 100 of our 170 stores,” said **Darrell Jones, President of Save-On-Foods**. “We have been composting perishable waste where possible for a number of years, but we knew we could do better. This new goal furthers our commitment to ensuring all unsaleable food in our operation is put to the best and highest use. We look forward to expanding our initiative across all of our stores in Western Canada.”

In Alberta, in addition to its original full organic diversion programs in places like Calgary, Save-On-Foods has partnered with Loop Resources, community Food Banks and other local charities in an effort to reach their ultimate goal of zero food waste going to landfill. Through a variety of unique partnerships all centered on food safety and appropriate diversion, this goal has now been accomplished in nearly all Alberta stores. Through the Loop partnership, in this province alone, over 750 small family farms benefit directly and indirectly from their participation in the program.

“When you support at risk families, and small farms; you invest in the heart of your community. Benefits large and small ripple outwards from growth of dynamic, vibrant, and sustainable communities, while securing ethical food production close to home,” says **Jaime White, New Projects Director, Loop Resource**. “Save-On-Foods has been an example to the industry; in sustainable, values driven management of an otherwise wasted resource. We are proud to work with them, and thrilled to observe the positive effects blossom in the communities we serve,” White added.

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Save-On-Foods is committed to helping solve the food waste issue and investing in healthy communities. The company helped create Food Bank sharing programs across Canada, donating over \$4 million in goods and cash each year for the last 25 years, and launched the Share It Forward for Food Banks initiative in 2018, among other initiatives.

About Save-On-Foods:

Part of the Jim Pattison Group, Save-On-Foods is Canada's largest Western-based grocery retailer. Recognized as one of Canada's Top Employers and Top Diversity Employers, the company has over 18,000 team members working together to serve over 100 communities in BC, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Yukon. Known for its unique approach in customizing each store to best suit the needs of the neighbourhood and sourcing local products wherever possible, the company has been innovating and putting customers first for over 104 years.

About Loop Resource:

Loop Resource is a food rescue facilitator active daily across all parts of western Canada. We provide simple systems with safe liability structures that enable food wholesalers, retailers, and producers to divert one hundred percent of their unsaleable food away from landfill, and towards those in their community who can use it best. Our simple, adaptable system allows us to move quickly to implement tailor-made solutions, while directing the goods to their highest and best use; first people, then animals, and finally sustainable food production and energy. We believe that making the right environmental, social, and sustainable choices should not be complicated, full of liability, or expensive for any organization. Connect with Loop as a charity, farm, energy producer or enthusiast: loopresource.ca or on social media: facebook.com/loopresource

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