



# Media Release

A Jim Pattison business

## Save-On-Foods temporarily suspends bottle returns and use of reusable bags in stores in response to COVID-19 concerns from team members and customers

**(March 19, 2020 – Langley, B.C.)** Save-On-Foods continues to introduce new measures to help prevent the spread of COVID-19: temporarily suspending bottle returns and the use of reusable shopping bags in store.

Effective March 20, all 178 Save-On-Foods stores across Western Canada will provide plastic bags to customers free of charge until further notice.

The move comes as an extra measure to protect the health and safety of Save-On-Foods team members and customers amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

“Both our team members and customers have expressed concern about bottle returns and in using reusable bags at this time and we want to do everything we can to put them at ease,” said Save-On-Foods president Darrell Jones. “The health and safety of our team members and customers is our number one priority and we’ll continue to do what’s best for them as this unprecedented situation evolves. Until further notice, we will not be accepting bottle returns or reusable bags in our stores and we will not be charging our customers for plastic bags.”

Suspending the use of bottle returns and reusable bags is one of many measures the company has undertaken in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as limiting shopping hours from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. and dedicating the hour from 7 a.m. to 8 a.m. to seniors and others at risk to shop. Save-On-Foods is also urging customers to shop normally and leave their delivery service available for people who can’t get to the store.

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### **About Save-On-Foods**

Save-On-Foods is committed to Going the Extra Mile for customers in every community served, every day. Known for its unique approach in customizing each store to best suit the needs of the neighbourhood by carrying more than 2,500 locally-made products from more than 2,000 local growers and producers, the company has been innovating and putting customers first for over 100 years. Save-On-Foods, its supplier partners, team members and generous customers have donated more than \$30 million to children’s hospitals and contribute \$3 million in donations to food banks across Western Canada each year.

### **For more information, contact:**

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