

Enjoy a....
*A Cup of Coffee with the
Cupboard!*



*From the desk of our
Executive Director
Lori Shatto....*

Good morning!

Happy Friday! How are you doing? I hope that this has been a good week for each of you and that you have had opportunity to spend time with those people and things that bring you joy.

At the Cupboard this week, we have been busy gearing up for this year's Giving Tuesday campaign. This is the first year that we have decided to actively participate in Giving Tuesday. Please consider giving and supporting The Lending Cupboard when you receive your letter in the mail or see our posts on social media. Donations can also be made on our website at www.lendingcupboard.ca if you would prefer this option.

Please know that we are always extremely grateful for the support of our community. Whether you support us in your time volunteering, financially by being a one time or monthly donor or by donating equipment, we appreciate each and every gift.

Also, grateful for our community partners and tomorrow we will be at Cow Patti Theatre Company enjoying the "Hurry Hard" benefit performance. Thank you to AnnaMarie and her team for once again sharing your talents with us. I look forward to seeing you there.

Enjoy your weekend and remember - we are here to help!

Lori Shatto

*What's happening at the
Cupboard!*

It's almost Giving Tuesday, and we can't wait!

It's almost here!

Giving Tuesday is this coming Tuesday, and we are super excited about seeing our community come together to support us in this brand-new venture here at TLC.

Of course, we greatly appreciate the generous support of our community all year long, but Giving Tuesday is a special day to celebrate the joy of giving.

"When folks give to The Lending Cupboard, they can be assured that we are being good stewards of those dollars," explained Executive Director Lori Shatto. "That support will be used back into our community to ensure that folks who need a wheelchair or crutches - it will all be here for them when they need it."

"Also, in addition to having equipment donated to us - sometimes we have to purchase equipment. Donations enable us to do just that. Often times we need parts for equipment, again, donated dollars are used. To ensure our equipment is always in tip top shape."

Overall, donations also help to cover other expenses that are intrinsic to smoothly fulfilling our mission here at TLC.

"Donations help to keep our doors open, allowing people to come and experience the compassion we offer here at The Lending Cupboard, along with getting the equipment they need."

As to Giving Tuesday, Shatto is thrilled to see this incredibly special day celebrated here at TLC. And she is confident of great things in terms of seeing our community's generosity shine through.

"We really wanted to show folks the impact that they can have in the community in a single day," she explained. "We are an organization that is here all year round, but this one day gives a special opportunity for folks to say, 'I want to support The Lending Cupboard'."

She added that the joyful spirit of giving is already being seen here at TLC as we gear up for Giving Tuesday.

"One of the things I'm so proud of is the work that has been going on behind the scenes," she said. "Before Giving Tuesday even arrives, I've seen our staff and volunteers come together and help us make this happen. It shows team building and it shows the commitment they all have to this organization - which in turn shows our commitment to the community."

Ultimately, Shatto expects tremendous results on Giving Tuesday - our fundraising goal of \$7,500!

"I've seen it in the past - Red Deer and the surrounding area really pulls together, so I'm excited to see us reach our fundraising goal - and maybe even exceed it."



Pictured here are members of our volunteer and staff helping to prepare for Giving Tuesday. It's been a great time of team building and we anticipate a terrific day on Nov. 29.

Giving Tuesday is right around the corner!



After Black Friday and Cyber Monday, it's GIVING TUESDAY! What a terrific day to help support the ongoing mission of TLC.

We are so appreciative of our community's generosity all year through, but we'd like to emphasize the importance of Giving Tuesday as well. We simply cannot do what we do without your ongoing support!

Please consider supporting us on this special day - click here for details-
[Donation — The Lending Cupboard](#)

TLC - making a difference locally and abroad!



Meet our volunteer Terry!

Besides helping us out faithfully here at TLC, he is also a key contact with a fabulous organization that delivers excess medical equipment to other nations where it's badly needed as well.

Terry and his wife Alice, both retired teachers, had volunteered with the North Okanagan Gleaners which is based in Vernon, B.C. The ministry organizes shipments of food aid, furniture, and medical equipment abroad via its Medical Aid Ministry.

That's where our connection with Gleaners comes in thanks to Terry. He also serves as a liaison for TLC with other ministries and organizations with a similar mandate.

"I volunteered there for a few years, and then I came here looking for an air boot." He noticed there was a need for volunteers, so he signed on.

Over time, he also noticed an occasional surplus of certain types of medical equipment - such as rollators, and crutches - here at TLC, and he thought of Gleaners.

"I asked if I could donate some of this excess equipment to Gleaners, and they would ship it overseas." Since then, Gleaners has shipped equipment to places like Ukraine, South Africa, and the Dominican Republic.

"I just organize it and send it to groups who will distribute it," Terry explained. "They will in turn usually get sponsors who will get Sea-Can (shipping containers), and they will fill them."

Terry and Alice served at Gleaners in B.C. for six years. "It almost started at the same time that I started volunteering here. We would go every September with our trailer for two weeks in Vernon."

They had also volunteered at a Gleaners in Southern California for a three-month stint as well. "I love serving - I've always wanted to do work like this!"

Terry has also seen firsthand the enormous need for donated medical equipment in developing countries, like India, Nicaragua, and Honduras.

"I've seen people on a piece of board with wheels on it trying to get around. I've seen people with a piece of a stick who have only one leg. I remember thinking, we have 300 pairs of crutches! That's the idea that went through my mind at the time," he recalled.

Of course, donations made abroad never take away from providing for our neighbours here at home.

"We are always very careful - we make sure everyone here is served first," he said.

Volunteers really DO MAKE THE DIFFERENCE here at TLC!





Meet our new volunteers - Wanda (top photo) and Megan. A big thanks to you both for joining our team!

You often hear it – ‘volunteers are the backbone of this organization’.

Here at The Lending Cupboard, it’s not just an expression, it’s a foundational truth. And with the approach of Giving Tuesday, we are reminded that we witness our dedicated team of volunteers exhibiting that ‘spirit of giving’ each and every day we are open.

Giving Tuesday is truly a reminder of what ‘giving’ really looks like. It’s not just in dollars – it’s also in volunteer service.

“The amount of equipment that we go through, and the amount of clients that we serve - there is no way a staff of seven people could manage that,” said Brenda Radu, our volunteer coordinator. “Also, keeping up with the cleaning, the maintenance, doing the loans – there are days when the equipment is being returned and then going out again just as fast.

“Our volunteers are passionate about helping our clients – many of them are here to volunteer because someone they knew has used this service, and so they understand the need,” she said. “They also love helping.

“The need out there is great, and people’s lives are often turned upside down when they come to us. So, for the volunteers, it makes them feel good to help – it fills their cup because they have helped our clients.”

Providing a positive and supportive space for our volunteers is the goal. Ensuring that they also feel sincerely appreciated is key to having them stay onboard with us for several years. Some have been on the TLC team for up to 15 years.

“They come, and they stay because they understand the need,” explained

Radu. "I think it's a pretty cool place to work, too," she added with a smile. "We try to keep it as positive as possible; we try to keep them engaged and informed and make them feel like they are part of a team, and that they are valued," she said.

"I think volunteering just makes you feel good, that you have given back to the community," she said. "You are helping people, and you understand that the need is there."

It's also a fun, and very socially-rich environment here at TLC.

"They become friends – it's very social. For me, to also watch them welcome a new volunteer into the group, take them under their wing and see them become a part of the family is wonderful.

"I also think we have the best volunteers! They really believe in what we do."

If you would like more information about volunteering at TLC, call Brenda at 403-356-1678 ext. 203 or email volunteer@lendingcupboard.ca.

A quick reminder about bringing equipment to TLC!

Just a little reminder that if you are bringing equipment to us, please bring it to the **back entrance** of the facility - we would be so grateful!

Medical equipment that is lent out has to be sanitized and carefully checked over to make sure it's in tip-top shape for the next client, and that is all done at the back.

Thank you very much for your help - we really appreciate it!

Just a friendly reminder!

If you are bringing equipment to TLC,
please take it around to the back of our
building.



We **really** appreciate
your help with this,
and we look forward
to serving you!



Thank You For Your Support!



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