



THE FOOD BANK  
LA BANQUE D'ALIMENTATION

## Media Release

For Immediate Release: July 16, 2008

### Sodexo Serves 12,000 Summer Lunches to Ottawa's Neediest Children

(Ottawa, ON) This summer the Sodexo Foundation is partnering again with The Ottawa Food Bank to provide 300 free healthy lunches a day to children from low-income families during the summer months. Throughout July and August, Sodexo employees volunteer their time to prepare healthy lunches which are picked up and distributed daily by The Ottawa Food Bank to 13 Community House summer day camps. This initiative, called Feeding Our Future®, is the summer component of The Food Bank's KickStart program, which also provides nutritious meals and snacks to children in school meal programs and homework clubs during the school months.

"The summertime can be really difficult for families living on a small budget, especially when children do not have access to school meal and snack programs," says Kalpana Robbins, Corporate Relations Manager at The Ottawa Food Bank. "It is really important that all children have the healthy and nutritious food they need to grow and develop. Working with Sodexo during the summer makes it possible to help children in-need throughout the year."

Children participating in Feeding Our Future® in Ottawa have also been invited by Sodexo to a day of food, fun and activities at the Canada Agriculture Museum on July 17. "Sodexo is proud of our great partnership with The Ottawa Food Bank and look forward to this fantastic annual event. While the volunteers work very hard to make the BBQ a successful one, it's extremely rewarding to experience the children's gratitude," says Ron McRae, Director of Brands Development at Sodexo.

"We're delighted to be chosen again as the site for Sodexo's Feeding Our Future® event," says David Sutin, Manager of Communications at the Canada Agriculture Museum. "After the BBQ the children will spend a fun-filled and educational afternoon taking in demonstrations such as making handmade ice cream and cow washing, as well as touring the Museum's animal barns and exhibitions, and playing outdoors. We applaud the year-round work of The Ottawa Food Bank and Sodexo to make sure our young people are well-nourished, whether at schools or day camps."

The Ottawa Food Bank is the National Capital Region's central emergency food assistance organization. Through its 127 member agencies, The Ottawa Food Bank helps 40,000 individuals per month, 40 per cent of whom are children. The KickStart program provides 25,000 meals and snacks a year in 16 schools, at 10 after-school programs and in 13 summer day camps to children from low-income families.

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