



Hunters provided 735 kilograms of deer and moose meat for hungry people in Nova Scotia last year.

That's a significant donation since it translates into 6,500 servings of protein—a much needed food group. And it was made possible through Hunters Helping the Hungry, a joint initiative of FEED NOVA SCOTIA and the hunting community where hunters can donate deer and moose meat to food banks and meal programs across the province.

How does the program work?

When hunters bring their deer/moose meat to a participating licensed meat cutter, they simply tell the meat cutter they want to donate and then specify the amount. They will then prepare it as ground or stew meat and package it in pre-labelled bags that have been provided by FEED NOVA SCOTIA.

FEED NOVA SCOTIA's food distributors make regular deliveries to food banks and meal programs in the province and will pick up donated moose/deer meat on scheduled runs. It will then be distributed to food banks and meal programs who have expressed interest in receiving the meat and are capable to handle and store it safely at their facility. From there it is given out to clients who require food assistance.

How can I get involved?

Hunters wishing to contribute meat should contact a participating licensed meat cutter. To see a list of meat cutters involved in Hunters Helping the Hungry across the province, please download the list from our website. Participating facilities are government-inspected, licensed butcher shops that have agreed to work with the program, keep appropriate records and package the meat in properly labelled bags provided by FEED NOVA SCOTIA.

I'd like to help, but I can't donate a large amount. Is that okay?

Absolutely! There is no donation minimum. We will gladly accept any amount of deer or moose meat you'd like to contribute.

Are there any guidelines for donating deer and moose meat?

Yes. To meet food safety regulations, there are guidelines that must be followed when donating moose or deer meat.

Participating licensed meat cutters will ensure that the deer or moose meat has been handled properly to ensure food safety for those receiving the product.

Also, hunters **must** register their deer or moose before donating meat.

How is Hunters Helping the Hungry making a difference for people in Nova Scotia experiencing hunger and poverty?

When the program started in 2006, it brought in 477 kilograms of donated meat. The next year that number doubled and donations have maintained at that level since.

The deer and moose meat received from Hunters Helping the Hungry provides an excellent source of protein for FEED NOVA SCOTIA to distribute to food banks and meal programs—something that can be difficult to acquire at times. By donating deer and moose meat, hunters are helping hungry Nova Scotians get an important element of a healthy, balanced diet.

Other helpful resources:

Nova Scotia hunting & fur harvesting license and summary of regulations booklet:

<http://www.gov.ns.ca/natr/hunt/regulations>

Discuss Hunters Helping the Hungry and post a pledge: www.novascotiahunting.com

Thanks to our partners—novascotiahunting.com, Nova Scotia Federation of Anglers & Hunters and Nova Scotia Departments of Agriculture and Natural Resources