

Your Co-op

The Best Deal in Town

September
2008

More ways to help

Expanded coupon
donor program begins
this month



Helping out Yellowknife's neediest residents just got a lot easier at the Co-op.

Starting this month, members and shoppers can grab a coupon and swipe in a \$5 donation to any of three city charitable organizations.

It's being done in response to requests for assistance from the groups and calls by members to expand the donor program.

For years, people have been able to donate \$2, \$5, or \$10 to the Yellowknife Food Bank by having a coupon swiped into the cash register and added to their grocery bill. The Co-op board of directors has decided to add St. Vincent De Paul and Salvation Army. People will still be able to support the Food Bank, but to streamline the program, coupons will only allow for a \$5 donation.

"The coupons will be available at every till," said Margaret Woodley, member services manager.

St. Vincent de Paul is a Catholic service

organization active in Yellowknife since 2005.

"We assist in the areas of food, power, security deposits, rent, some travel, etc." explains spokesperson Gerda Groothuizen.

"We then evaluate the need and come to a decision on how much we can help out. Because of our limited funding our assistance is for emergencies only. Our mission is to help those in need without judgment and with compassion."

The Salvation Army offers a variety of services in Yellowknife, from addictions counseling to a food bank and disaster/emergency services. It also offers shelter to homeless men in the city.

Other ways to help through the Co-op include donating to community groups who bag groceries, dropping groceries into a bin for the Centre for Northern Families, the Yellowknife Food Bank and the Salvation Army. Groups that want to request a donation can go to the Co-op website (www.ykcoop.com) and download a request form.



Shoppers can have a coupon swiped to donate \$5 to one of three city charities when they go through the till at Yellowknife Co-op.

The Co-op is our kind of store

Clair Littlefair, 9, and her brother Spencer, 7, are enrolled in the Montessori program at NJ Macpherson School. Their parents, Angela and Greg have been members of the Co-op for about a dozen years.



She works for the territorial government. He's a partner with Ryfan. And when Angela and Greg Littlefair need groceries, the Co-op is where they go.

"If I don't get it here, I don't get it," says Angela, just leaving the store with her children, Clair, 9, and Spencer, 7.

They've been members for 12 or 13 years, almost as long as they've lived in Yellowknife. They moved here from Victoria, B.C., although both are originally from the Maritimes.

"We joined originally because of the customer service," explains Angela. "We stay members for the same reason – the people are friendly and very accommodating."

"And we really enjoy the lobster."

The family likes to sail and walk local trails in their spare time.

Clair is going into Grade 5 and Spencer is going into Grade 2 this fall at NJ Macpherson School, both enrolled in the Montessori program.

Angela says she likes the fact Yellowknife is a nice, safe, comfortable community and her family has grown strong roots here.

"I always tell people that it's safe for the kids to go out and play in the yard; the schools are very good. Yellowknife has everything you need."



Visit our website for weekly deals at

DIRECTOR PROFILE



John Curran, right, and wife Jugjit More-Curran show off a fine catch from a recent fishing trip.

On the board: John Curran

Having joined the Yellowknife Co-op within hours of moving to Yellowknife, it seemed natural that John Curran become a director on the Co-op board.

He and wife Jugjit More-Curran came to Yellowknife in 2003, after Jugjit was hired as human resources manager for the Co-op. John joined Northern News Services at the same time as Business Editor. A family matter forced them to move to central British Columbia for a while, but they returned here more than a year ago.

How long have you been a member of the Co-op?

I first became a member in 2003.

What attracted you to join?

It's an important part of life in Yellowknife and within hours of

moving here, my wife Jugjit More-Curran and I had our Co-op number. Do people really move to the North and not join the Co-op?

Why did you seek election to the board of directors?

The organization has played such an important part in my life I wanted to give something back.

Do you have a specific role on the board?

As a newcomer I'm playing more of a supporting role on this team and learning from those who have been around the board a little longer.

Current line of work:

I am the senior reporter in the NWT for News/North.

Don't Forget

Your Co-op offers you and your family all sorts of great things...

- Kids' Fruit Club
- Book Exchange
- Free coffee, juice and cookies
- Videos for kids in the store and more!

Drop in to the member service counter to find out more!



Member Referral Rewards

Members who get new members to join the Co-op family get a "signing bonus" of a \$20 gift certificate. Recent referrals have come from:

- Andrew & Laurie Morton
- Gwenda Luxon
- Deb Simpson
- Stephane Leduc
- Wendy Anderson

Grocery Packing Dates

- Sept. 6 – Society of St. Vincent de Paul
- Sept. 7 – YK Skating Club
- Sept. 20 – YK Playgroup
- Sept. 21 – Ecole St. Joseph School

Make a Wish Birthday Cake Draw

If you have a birthday coming up soon, drop your name in the entry box at the bakery counter and you could win an oven-fresh cake!

Recent winners:

- Anne Todd
- Drayton Pagonis-Friesen
- Megan Ganley
- Jennifer Stranart
- Adam LeBlanc



The sweet life Co-op Bakery is a hot place to work

New bakery manager Glen Meek takes stock of his department while some of the 15 workers pack bread and buns into bags in the background.

Bread and buns. Pastries and cakes. Quick snacks and sweet treats. For most of us, our mouths water at the thought of tearing into a steaming hot loaf or cutting into a cake.

And then there's the smell of baking. It sets stomachs rumbling and taste-buds ablaze.

Not so many of us bake bread any more, so if you go into the Yellowknife Co-op first thing in the morning, take a deep breath and soak in the smell. It feels like home.

The bakery is the first thing you see coming into the store and for Glen Meek, the Co-op's new bakery manager, it's quickly become a labour of love. He started work in July, after working as store manager of Extra Food's Range Lake Road store.

He's found a change of pace and a camaraderie that makes coming to work each day a joy.

"The people I'm working with, all through the store, are terrific," says Meek. "We all work together. We're on the same side."

His department has about 15 workers who do everything from bake the bread, decorate the cakes to pack

baked goods into bags and clam-shell containers. Every day, about 100 loaves of bread come out of co-op ovens.

Bread is by far the biggest seller, says Meek.

To meet the need, the baking process begins at 1 p.m., almost a full day in advance, with bakers getting the loaves ready to go into the proofer, then the ovens. Bakers arrive at 5 a.m. to get the ovens going and fresh-baked bread and other items are ready by the time the store opens for the day.

Also popular are cakes that can be decorated for any occasion. Pretty much any image can be put onto a cake, simply by downloading it onto a computer and then printing it out on edible paper, says Meek.

Friday and Saturday are the busiest days of the week, and during the summer, the bakery goes through a lot of hot dog and hamburger buns as Yellowknifers fire up their barbecues. The bakery also fills camp orders and can bake special orders with enough notice.

Leftover bread is either turned into bread cubes or crumbs or donated to the Salvation Army.

Contact us

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www.ykcoop.com

Store Hours

Mon. & Tues.	9 am – 7 pm
Wed. to Fri.	9 am – 9 pm
Saturday	9 am – 7 pm
Sunday	10 am – 6 pm

Gas Bar Hours

Monday to Sunday	6 am – 11 pm
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Department

Member Services Counter	237
Member Relations Manager	270
General Manager	221
Accounting Manager	224
Human Resources Manager	245
Bakery Manager	242
Bakery Cake Orders	232

Ext.

Corporate Sales	269
Deli Manager	230
Front End Manager	226
Gas Bar Manager	235
Grocery Manager	238
Meat Manager	229
Produce Manager	228