

March 11, 2026

Mayor Alanna Hnatiw & Members of Council

Sturgeon County
 9613 100 Street
 Morinville, AB T8R 1L9

Dear Mayor Hnatiw and Members of Sturgeon County Council,

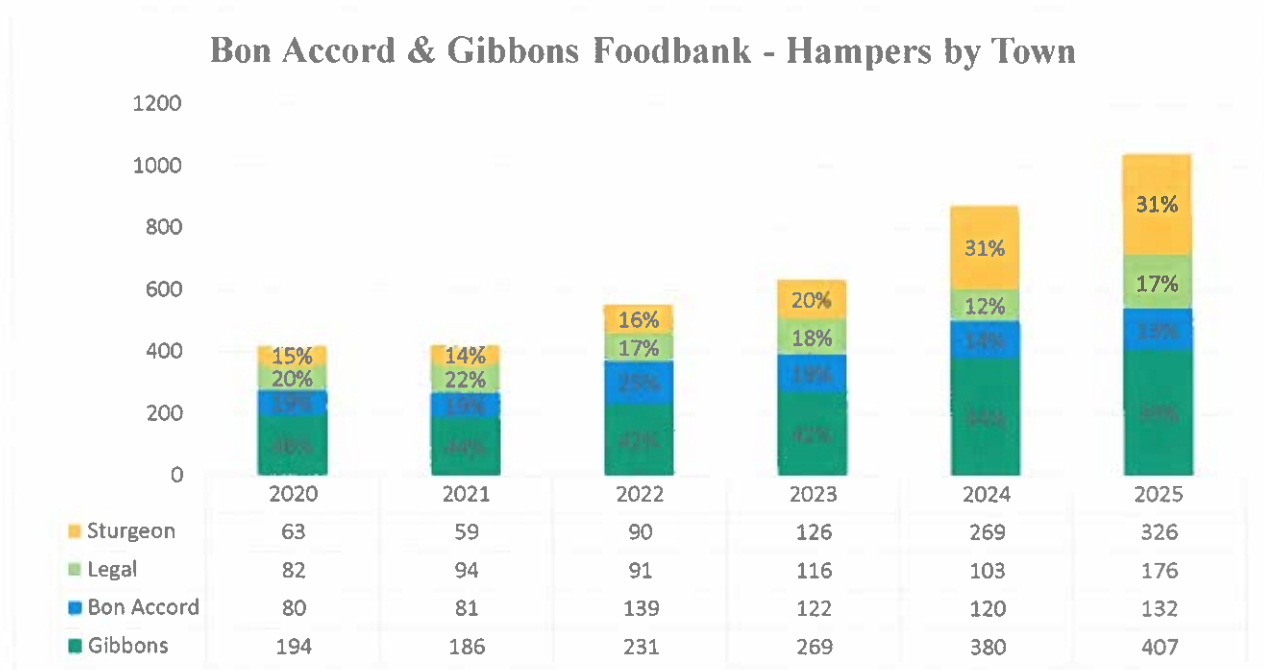
Re: Increasing Community Need Within Sturgeon County

I am writing to bring forward an important update regarding the increasing need we are seeing among residents within our service area (see map below). As an organization that supports individuals and families across the region, we are observing a clear upward trend in the number of households experiencing food insecurity and economic hardship.

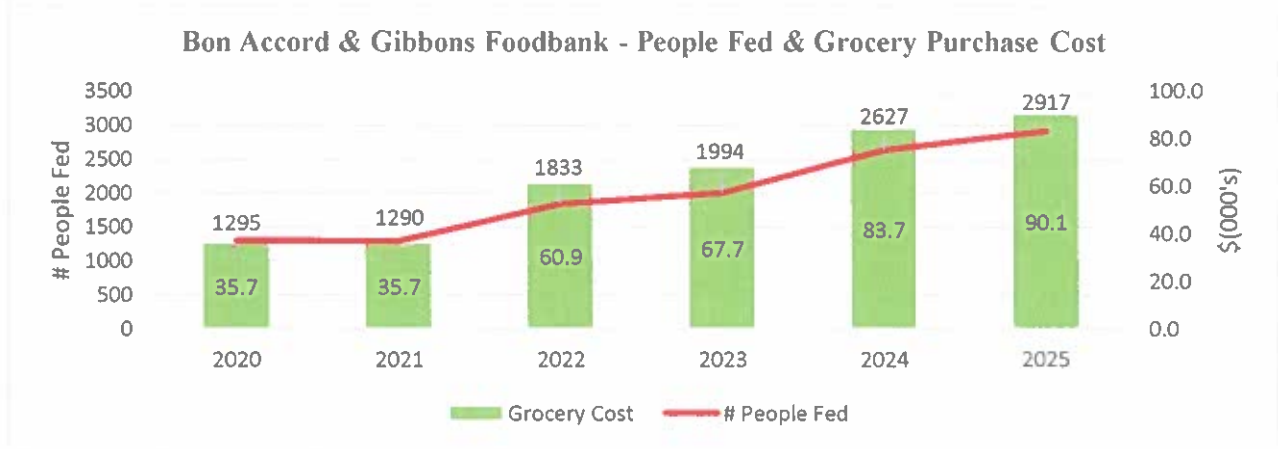
Over the past 5 years, our food bank has seen a significant rise in demand from the communities of Legal, Bon Accord, Gibbons, and rural Sturgeon County. Many residents are facing challenges related to:

- Rising food and living costs
- Increased pressure on seniors living on fixed incomes
- Families struggling with reduced hours or employment transitions
- Transportation barriers that limit access to support services

As a result, we are assisting nearly 1.85 times more households and as you can see in the graph below, distributing 2.5 times as many hampers since 2020 with a significant rise of clients being from rural Sturgeon County.



The growing demand and escalating cost of food has, as well, substantially increased purchases necessary to supplement food donations as outlined in the graph below.



Why We Are Reaching Out

Firstly, we believe it is important that Sturgeon County Council is fully aware of the growing needs facing local residents. Your leadership and awareness can help ensure that vulnerable individuals and families are not left behind as pressures continue to escalate. Additionally, we have been exploring opportunities to enhance our efforts to address food insecurity within our service area and believe you are well positioned to provide valuable insights regarding the needs and perspectives of your constituents.

Opportunities for Collaboration

We would welcome the chance to discuss how the County and our organization can work together to support residents more effectively, including:

- Increasing awareness of available programs and supports
- Identifying high-need or underserved rural areas
- Exploring municipal partnerships that help address transportation or access barriers

Our shared priority is to ensure that all Sturgeon County residents in our service area—whether rural or within one of the small communities—have reliable access to essential supports that protect their health, stability, and dignity.

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to the well-being of Sturgeon County residents. We would be pleased to meet with Council or administration at your convenience to provide further information or discuss collaborative opportunities.

Sincerely,

Carol Coutts

President

Bon Accord & Gibbons Food Bank Society

780 923-2344

bonaccordgibbonsfoodbank@gmail.com

Bon Accord & Gibbons Food Bank Service Area (Inside Red Border)

