



Over 100,000 free lunches to be delivered to Canadian kids in need this summer

July 3, 2008 – For immediate release – This summer, the Sodexo Foundation will be providing free lunches for thousands of high-need children in eight Canadian cities.

Celebrity Chef Michael Smith is the national spokesperson, and is passionate about the program. “There are thousands of children in this country who don’t look forward to summer, because it means they don’t get their free breakfast or lunch at school. Through *Feeding Our Future*, the Sodexo Foundation and food programs around the country are ensuring that these kids will have at least one healthy meal a day.”

In Toronto, Sodexo has partnered with Second Harvest. For the next two months, each morning at the crack of dawn, Sodexo volunteers will gather at York University to make healthy lunches, which are then picked up by Second Harvest and delivered to 13 day camps in the Greater Toronto Area.

Similar programs are operating across Canada. *Feeding Our Future* is now in Vancouver, Calgary, Winnipeg, Toronto, Ottawa, Montreal, Halifax, and Hamilton, and on July 17th, these cities will celebrate this innovative program by holding their own barbeque. In Toronto, the barbeque will be held from noon until 1:30 at Riverdale Park.

Every day, Second Harvest picks up donated, high quality fresh food, which would otherwise have gone to waste, and delivers that food to 250 social service programs in Metro Toronto. Second Harvest currently provides food for about 14,000 meals a day to children in breakfast programs, seniors on fixed incomes, women fleeing domestic abuse, psychiatric patients, homeless people, and many others who have fallen on hard times.

Sodexo is the leading provider of food and facilities management in North America. Sodexo offers innovative outsourcing solutions in food service, housekeeping, grounds keeping, plant operations and maintenance, asset and materials management, and laundry services to corporations, health care and long term care facilities, retirement centers, schools, college and university campuses, military and remote sites. With Canadian Headquarters in Burlington, Ontario the company has 130,000 employees at more than 6,000 locations across North America. Sodexo Canada has been awarded the Gold level certification for the Progressive Aboriginal Relations program (PAR) with the Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business (CCAB). Sodexo Canada has created the charitable organization, the Sodexo Foundation, which is dedicated to the fight against hunger as it impacts over 5 million people in Canada.

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