



P R O C L A M A T I O N

CITY OF NEW WESTMINSTER

**WORLD FOOD DAY  
October 16, 2025**

**WHEREAS** The City of New Westminster is committed to improving access to food for everyone in the community. This includes actions like:

- Creating the first community Food Security Action Plan,
- Including food access in the Homelessness Action Strategy,
- Supporting vulnerable residents,
- Launching the Community Poverty Reduction Plan, and
- Identifying the need for a full Food Strategy in the City's Environmental Strategy and Action Plan

**WHEREAS** The City recognizes, as stated in the Official Community Plan, that addressing food security requires a multi-pronged approach;

**WHEREAS** World Food Day, October 16, is recognized annually in more than 150 countries. Since 1981, it has raised awareness about hunger, poverty, and the need for change;

**WHEREAS** This year's theme, *Hand in Hand for Better Foods and a Better Future*, calls on us all to work together to build fair and sustainable food systems worldwide. It highlights the need to change the way we grow, produce, and share food so everyone can access healthy diets while protecting the planet. Here in New Westminster, we see these same challenges. In July 2024, Mayor and Council asked staff to work with local organizations to learn more about community food needs and explore ways to collaborate. This work has guided the development of the City's updated Food Security Action Plan, which is expected in late 2025;

**WHEREAS** This plan reflects the spirit of World Food Day. It was shaped by input from non-profits, faith groups, government partners, and diverse community members who generously shared their expertise and ideas. Their input directly informed the direction and actions of the plan—showing how local partnerships can build resilient food systems and help ensure everyone has access to healthy, culturally preferable food. Together, these efforts contribute to a more just and sustainable future for all.

**NOW THEREFORE** I, Patrick Johnstone, Mayor of the City of New Westminster do hereby proclaim October 16, 2025 as

**WORLD FOOD DAY**

In the City of New Westminster, Province of British Columbia.

  
Patrick Johnstone  
MAYOR

