



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Page 1 of 1

### **KIRTAN DARBAR BEING HELD TO MARK SEVA FOOD BANK'S FIRST ANNIVERSARY**

**Mississauga, ON** (September 8, 2011) – The Seva Food Bank, is holding a *Kirtan Darbar* (Sikh prayer ceremony) to mark the first anniversary of its opening.

The *Kirtan Darbar* will take place on Saturday September 17th at the Halton Sikh Cultural Association (Oakville Gurudwara) located on 2403 Khalsa Gate, Oakville. The program will take place from 5:00 to 8:30 pm and is being hosted by the monthly *Gurmat Sangeet Darbar* organizers.

The Seva Food Bank has had a tremendous first year. Over the past twelve months, more than 530 families have registered to receive a monthly supply of food. Over 175,000 pounds of food have been distributed to clients.

“Absolutely none of what we have accomplished would have been possible without the complete support of our community,” says board chair Gurmeet Singh Ahluwalia. “This really has been a team effort. Everyone including The Mississauga Food Bank, our dedicated Organizing Committee, our tireless volunteers, our exemplary donors and our friends in the media have all come together to make the Seva Food Bank a success story.”

As the food bank continues to stabilize its operations the organization’s view is towards the future. “Just running a regular traditional food bank was never our goal. We want to attack the root causes of poverty,” remarked board member Manraj Singh Pannu. “We want to make a transformational impact in the lives of our clients. As our clients get back on their feet, we would love for them to become volunteers and even donors themselves.”

The Seva Food Bank provides safe, nutritious and culturally-appropriate food to low- income families living in Mississauga’s L5B and L5C postal codes. An initiative of Sikhs Serving Canada, a registered not-for-profit organization, our mission is to positively impact local communities by acting on the basic Sikh tenets of *sarbat da bhalla* (the well being of all) and *seva* (selfless service).

- 30 -

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