Jean Stinson is one volunteer who is angry. She cooked at the same church where she handed out sandwiches as a teenager in the Depression. "But I've never seen people sitting out on the street before. I'm fed up with the levels of government and power structure that allows it to happen. You begin to ask 'Is this work I do a sop?' If the provincial government seems to be saying 'We'll let the charities do it' then it's insulting."

Toronto Star, March 22, 1999

Jean Stinson was 76 years old back in 1999 when this quote appeared in a Toronto Star article. Over a decade later she is still volunteering for the emergency meal program at

Toronto's Metropolitan United Church. She is



# What Freedom 90 members are saying!

"I began volunteering with the food bank in 1990 thinking I would do this for a couple of years; here I am 22 years later. The government needs to ensure that people have enough income for at least the basics. Then maybe I can retire."

Alf Judd, Director of Operations Georgina Community Food Pantry Sutton, Ontario

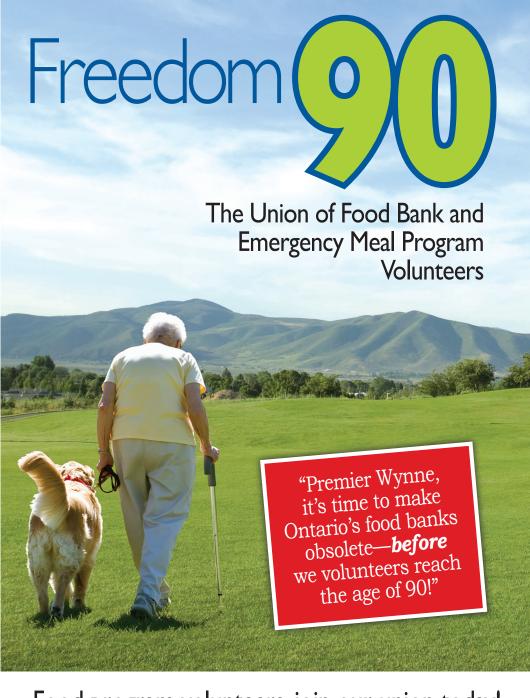
"I volunteer at a lunch program serving people who do not have enough money to buy food. It is time for the government to live up to its responsibility, and stop relying on volunteers to shoulder the burden that should be covered by our tax-funded social services."

Teresa Porter, Volunteer LAMP Community Lunch Program Newmarket, Ontario



"In Canada we have a Charter of Rights and Freedoms; I wish that it included the right to food and shelter so that food banks would become redundant."

Pauline Apperly, Director Our Town Food bank Tottenham, Ontario



Food program volunteers, join our union today!

See inside



#### The Freedom 90 Union has three demands:

Lay us off!

The Government of Ontario must ensure that social assistance and minimum wage levels are sufficient for everyone to have adequate housing and to buy their own food.

- Mandatory retirement by the age of 90!

  Many of us have been volunteering for twenty years and there is no end in sight. The Freedom 90 Union demands the Government of Ontario take urgent action to end poverty and make food banks and emergency meal programs unnecessary.
- Freeze our wages! Or double them! It doesn't matter because we are unpaid volunteers.

Volunteers at food banks and emergency meal programs have **earned the right** to speak out about poverty in our communities. Freedom 90 Union members are a new and powerful voice for **change**.

We are forming the Freedom 90 Union because we want to retire from volunteering at food banks or emergency meal programs—before we are 90 years old!

The Freedom 90 Union demands urgent action by the Government of Ontario to end poverty and make food banks and emergency meal programs unnecessary.

**Join** Freedom 90, the Union of Food Bank and Emergency Meal Program Volunteers.



#### Fill out the form

To join the Freedom 90 Union, fill out the attached form and mail it to:

Freedom 90 c/o York Region Food Network 350 Industrial Parkway South Aurora, ON L4G 3V7

Your membership card will be mailed to you.

### Or join online

Join the Freedom 90 Union online at www.freedom90.ca

### Music for change

Listen to our union anthem "Fifty Ways to Close the Food Banks" (with apologies to Paul Simon) at www.freedom90.ca

## Membership is free!

Please donate to the Freedom 90 Union to help cover printing and mailing costs. Donate online at www.freedom90.ca, or make a cheque payable to "York Region Food Network". Send your cheque to:

Freedom 90 c/oYork Region Food Network 350 Industrial Parkway South Aurora, ON L4G 3V7 Name:

'es, I want to become a member of

Address:\_

Emergency Meal Program Volunteers

Please send my membership card—free of charge. As a volunteer at a food bank or emergency meal program, I have already paid my dues!

Phone: