

GLEANINGS

North Okanagan Valley Gleaners Society

The Gleaners Used Furniture & Appliance Store

Have you been to the Gleaners Store? Located at 4405 29 Street in Vernon (across from the old Bakers Dozen and beside Chicken Little), it's not your average store. It's not even your average used furniture store!

The Gleaners Used Furniture & Appliance Store was established about seven years ago to provide a new source of income to support Gleaners plant operations. This it has done...very successfully. The store is now the major funding source for the operations of the NOV Gleaners.

Besides supporting the plant, the store also rescues good, used furniture, appliances and other items from going to the landfill. And, as you'll read below, there is now a ministry of providing these items to those in need in our own community.

Store hours are 9:30-5:30 Monday-Friday and 10:00-4:00 Saturday.

continued over

photo below courtesy of the Vernon Morning Star



EDITOR: HAROLD SELLERS
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Notes

Store & Plant Holiday Closures

During the Christmas & New Years period the store will be closed December 23 thru 26, and again Dec. 30 and January 1. The plant will be closed Dec. 23 through Jan. 1 and re-open on Tuesday, January 2nd.

We have a new website!

Direct your browser to www.novgleaners.org and see our informative and attractive new website.

We thank Trevor Honigman of Beacon Studios Inc., in Vernon, for an amazing job.

*Volunteers Serving God by
 Serving the Poor*
www.novgleaners.org



(250) 558-5872 plant / 549-1123 store

Store article continued:

There are 60 volunteers who support the store. On average 37 are in the store over the period of a month. David MacBain is our paid store manager.

Primarily furniture and large appliances are accepted at the store, but accent items such as lamps, mirrors, pictures, etc. also work. More of a minor priority are items such as household goods (Christmas lights to printers), and stereos & speakers.

The general public is welcome to bring any of the above items to the store, plus we do pick-ups with our truck 2 to 4 days per week (usually takes us 1 to 2 weeks to get to requests for pick-up due to volume).

In all cases it is important for the donor to know that we make the final decision whether to accept or not when we see the items in person. Some send us photos or give awesome descriptions over the phone... but when we actually see the item ... well, you get the picture. :)

Our volunteers call Monday afternoons to arrange pick-ups for that week. Usual pick-up days are Tuesdays & Thursdays. Additional days are added as floor space permits and as the volume of requests encourage us to do so. We have one truck driver, Bob Porirrier

We do not do deliveries. That being said, we work closely with Scotty who has proven to operate a friendly, efficient and reasonably priced delivery service. We have his cards available in the store.

Dave has seven volunteers on the Store Executive. They are Sharon Israelson, Tina Vanderveen, Cathy Hoy, Wanda Yamada, Iris Roos, and Diane & Brad Edgerton. Executive members are the store manager's "go-to" longstanding volunteers who advise on ideas and important decisions affecting store operations and future plans. They bring expertise in bookkeeping, product assessment, research, pricing, marketing, store set-up, general

store operations, etc., and use those skills as leaders among the other store volunteers.

In February 2016 a Furniture Donation program was established. It is designed to assist those in financial need, with the goal of giving back 10% of our income, in the form of furniture and appliances, to the needy in our community.

The degree of need is determined by participating community churches and agencies such as the Women's Transition House, John Howard Society, Canadian Mental Health Association and Neighbourlink.

For example, when a woman is preparing to leave the Transition House she will work with her caseworker to determine what her needs are and how best the community can meet those needs. If it is determined that she is in need of furniture and/or appliances, they will complete our application form and submit it to the Gleaners store. The manager will then work directly with the applicant to do our best to match up their need with what we have available in the store, in as timely a manner as possible. Having had some of their very basic needs met in this way, recipients have often been extremely grateful to us, and so very appreciative for this vital program which was in place for them at their time of need.

The Gleaners store is getting to be better known throughout the community, though we have a ways to go before everyone knows about us. Each day we have customers walking through our doors for the first time. They are always so excited to learn about not only what wonderful treasures they can find here, but what amazing work the North Okanagan Valley Gleaners can do with the resulting income. When they find out that their \$100.00 purchase will help Gleaners provide 5000 servings of the dried soup mix, produced at our Lavington plant, they leave knowing that, not only did they find just the right piece for their home, but they also helped us do a great deal of good. 🌍

article by David MacBain, edited by Harold Sellers

Creative ways to prepare Gleaners soup mix

We learned recently that in Ukraine some are quite creative in our they prepare our soup mix. Pictured below: fried vegetable cakes; mixed with mayo on bread (middle); vegetable bread (bottom)



Yes, there's PST on that.

The government changes taxation collection processes from time to time. In 2013 we had moved from an HST system, where there was no collection of taxes on used goods sold by a charity, into a PST/GST system that required PST to be collected on used furniture.

When the change occurred it was not made known to us that we needed to change. In June of this year we did some digging into this and found out that we should have been collecting PST, reverting back to the Provincial rules that consider used furniture to be PST-taxable, charity or not.

Good news is that we have set funds to one side and have made immediate payment rather than setting up a payment plan. This has impacted us in how we are managing the funds for our projects but has not changed the projects that we are focusing on nor the time frames for them to occur.

from the NOV Gleaners Board of Directors

Thanks to our supporting businesses

OBC Automotive provides excellent vehicle maintenance to our store. Consider them for your needs. 45th Ave & 29th St, Vernon, 250-545-3378.



Big O Tire pulled through with a quick change of tires Nov. 1st on our store cube van just before the snow arrived on the 2nd! Though they were fully booked manager Garnet made it happen, plus turned the bill into a donation-in-kind without being asked!

