

June 2011

Prairie Gleaners Update

Dear friends, it's been a couple of months since you have had any news from the Prairie Gleaners. Thank you to all of those who have e-mailed, phoned or spoken personally to us with words of encouragement and inquiries about the future of Prairie Gleaners.

All production in our facility, at 851 Industrial Avenue, came to a halt in late January after the roof of the facility succumbed to excess amounts of snow and came crashing down. Although the area of the building in which the Prairie Gleaners was housed is still intact, we could no longer continue processing the dehydration of vegetables along with all the other associated work. All the electricity, water, and natural gas were severed to the building and the washrooms were damaged to the extent they could no longer be used. Fortunately for our sake, none of our equipment or dehydrated food was damaged or lost. We were able to complete the bagging of all our dried product at a temporary location, which was generously provided by a local business.

Although our hope was to be able to return to 851 Industrial Avenue after necessary repairs and renovations, we have had no indication of this being an option. Although this building has been cleared of all the debris and rubble, and some sections have been reinforced temporarily, no decision has been made as to the future use for this building by the owners and city planners. Furthermore considering this area was flooded last year, and threatened to flood once again this past Spring, we are left with much uncertainty about the suitability of this location.

Help Us Buy a Building

But, we do have an option to purchase another building which would meet our needs, with some minor renovations. The cost would be \$350,000 for the

building and required renovations. All of our equipment is sitting in trailers waiting to be installed in a facility to begin production once again. This building would be a little larger than our previous facility and has ample room on the grounds for our trucks, extra storage, parking, and a few holiday trailer sites.

We know that we have an eager and willing volunteer group waiting to get back to work at the Prairie Gleaners and have every indication that our local producers and growers are willing to resume their generous donations of vegetables. We know we established a track record of good work here on the Prairies. There is a strong desire, from many, to see this organization in full production once again.

Therefore we appeal to you to consider how you would support the effort to raise a sum of money, larger than we have ever needed in the past, for the purchase of a building where we trust the work of the Prairie Gleaners will again come to fruition. We turn to you, our members and supporters, and ask you to please show your desire to see Prairie Gleaners resume operations by ***making a pledge*** towards the necessary funds to allow us to purchase a facility. Please let us know your intentions by way of either an e-mail or phone call (e-mail and phone # shown below) Thank you.

James Smith,
President, Prairie Gleaners Society

The Prairie Gleaners accepts its mandate from **Isaiah 58:10** - *If you give food to the hungry and satisfy those who are in need, then the darkness around you will turn to the brightness of noon.*

We are a charitable not-for-profit society
Registered Charity # 85950 4524 RR0001

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