

## Labour Day food drive takes a bite out of hunger

The Purolator Tackle Hunger food drive at the Tiger-Cats Labour Day game raised 68 per cent more food and cash than last year and was the third-highest total the campaign has received in nine years.

Volunteers collected the equivalent of 86,400 pounds of food this year (in non-perishable items and cash donations) at all the Ivor Wynne Stadium gates until the end of the first quarter of the Ticats' game against the Montreal Alouettes Monday afternoon.

Last year's total was just 50,466 pounds, Purolator's manager of corporate sponsorship, Brian Collins, said.

The tallies include cash donations, as one dollar equals "two pounds" of food for the Hamilton Food Share, he added.

The program is a partnership between Purolator, the Hamilton Tiger-Cats and the team's Alumni Association.

"I think Tigertown and people who live in Hamilton are very conscious of what's going on in their community and I think (on) Labour Day (it) has become a tradition to bring your donation," he said.

Debi Hysert, 54, a longtime Ticat fan, said she wanted to support the Labour Day food drive because of the high poverty rates among children living in Hamilton.

"There are so many people in Hamilton that are less fortunate than us," she said at the Labour Day game. "I've been fortunate as an adult to afford things for my children."

[dawong@thespec.com](mailto:dawong@thespec.com)

905-526-2468