

THE GLOBE AND MAIL

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THIS COUNTRY ■ A SASKATCHEWAN TRAGEDY ECHOES IN NEW BRUNSWICK

B2 Report on Business Weekend

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GIVING BACK ■ BY PAUL WALDIE

Empty bowls help fill the lives of the hungry

The donor Jackie Seaton

THE DONATION: \$60,000 and climbing

THE CAUSES: Various non-profit organizations

THE REASON: To fight hunger.

Jackie Seaton has been a potter for more than 30 years but his work took on new meaning in 2002 when one of his students told him about a project called Empty Bowls.

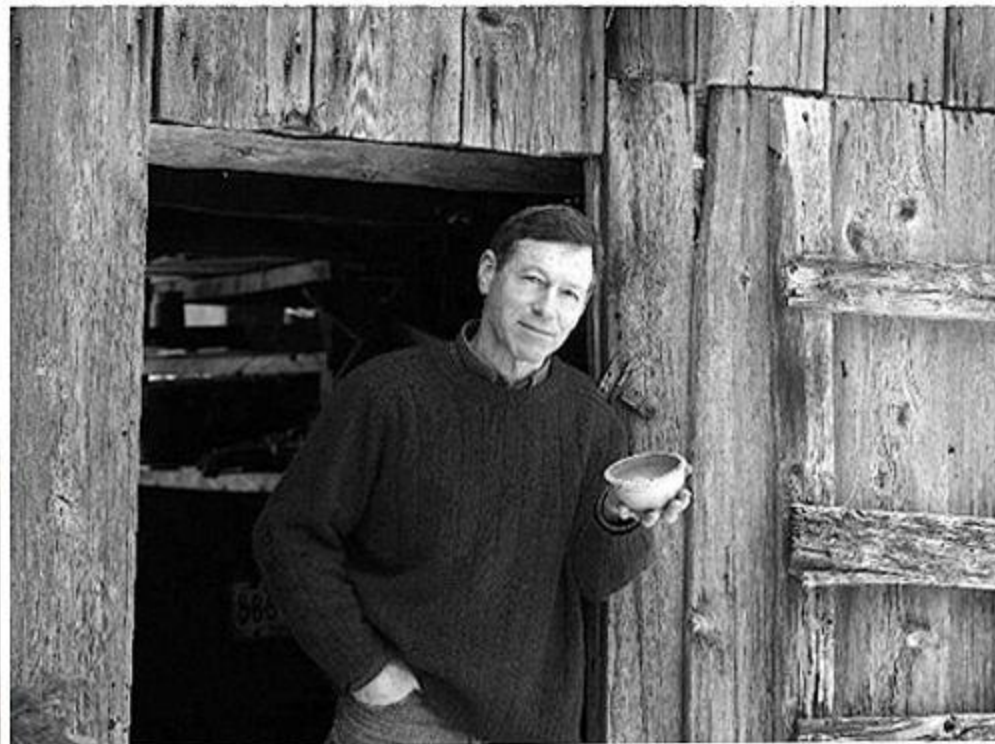
The idea started years ago in the U.S. and involves potters designing bowls, chefs filling them with soup and customers buying both, with all proceeds going to organizations that tackle hunger.

"We started it here in 2002 and it got off with a big bang," Mr. Seaton said from his studio in Perth, Ont.

The first event attracted national media coverage and the following year former New Democratic Party leader Ed Broadbent also lent his support.

Mr. Seaton and his crew produce about 500 bowls every year and most are sold during the city's Festival of the Maples in April.

He has consistently raised \$10,000 each year from the



Jackie Seaton donates proceeds from Empty Bowls to many charities. BRIGITTE BOUVIER FOR THE GLOBE AND MAIL

sale and he donates the money to three local non-profit groups.

Mr. Seaton, 62, is also part of a global network of Empty

Bowl participants, which includes Toronto's Gardiner Museum and potters across North America and as far away as Finland.

"It just give my work a kind of meaning and depth and raison d'être," Mr. Seaton said.

"It just keeps me going."
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