



**Metro Vancouver
Agriculture Awareness
Grants 2008-2017**



Metro Vancouver Regional District has supported agriculture awareness since 1994 to raise public understanding about the importance of local food and agriculture production in the region. The grant program started in 2008 and continues to provide funding to non-profit organizations that host events, workshops and educational programs in schools and communities.

All submissions for Agriculture Awareness grants must meet the following mandatory requirements before being considered:

- have a regional scope (impacting more than one municipality);
- be located in Metro Vancouver;
- be administered by a non-profit organization in good standing; and
- have matching funding (dollars or in-kind) from another organization.

Over the past 10 years, Metro Vancouver has awarded 87 funding grants for a total of \$350,000.

AGRICULTURE AWARENESS GRANTS 2008-2017

YEAR	NUMBER OF GRANTS	TOTAL DOLLARS AWARDED
2008	3	\$25,000
2009	5	\$25,000
2010	7	\$30,000
2011	9	\$35,000
2012	8	\$35,000
2013	9	\$40,000
2014	11	\$40,000
2015	11	\$40,000
2016	11	\$40,000
2017	13	\$40,000
TOTAL	87	\$350,000



2017 AGRICULTURE AWARENESS GRANT RECIPIENTS

BC Agriculture in the Classroom Foundation

Take a Bite of BC

www.aitc.ca/bc/ca

Since 2009, Take a Bite of BC has provided fresh BC products to Culinary Arts Secondary School teaching kitchens through generous donations by food producers and farm organizations. The culinary students gain experience cooking with local food, and the resulting meals are offered to the student population through the high school cafeteria in conjunction with agriculture awareness activities. The grant is used to repackage and distribute the donated food to the secondary schools throughout the region. Over 20 schools enrolled in the program are located in Metro Vancouver.

Grant recipient in 2009-2017

BC Association of Farmers' Markets

Farmer and Farmers' Market Appreciation Campaign

www.bcfarmersmarket.org

There are 135 farmers' markets in BC including 28 in Metro Vancouver. The Farmers Appreciation Campaign educates consumers about how buying local food at farmers' markets helps sustain local production and farmlands. The campaign introduces new and infrequent shoppers to farmers' markets and raises awareness about the importance of farmers and purchasing local food in our region.

Grant recipient in 2015, 2017

BC Chicken Growers' Association

Poultry in Motion Educational Mini Barn

www.bcchicken.ca

The Poultry in Motion Educational Mini Barn is a fully operational mini barn with live birds at different ages (day old chicks, broiler chickens and parent stock). The exhibit educates the public about chicken production, food safety, animal care and bio-security. The grant helps fund the Mini Barn exhibit's participation at community events, agricultural fairs and schools around Metro Vancouver including 30 elementary and 10 middle/high schools.

Grant recipient in 2012-2017



Delta Farmland & Wildlife Trust

A Day at the Farm

www.deltafarmland.ca

The Day at the Farm is a family event held in September at the Ellis Farm, a third generation farm on Westham Island in Ladner. This event offers Metro Vancouver residents a unique opportunity to connect directly with local farmers and learn about the importance of local farms supporting critical wildlife habitat in the Fraser River delta. There are many fun activities and educational displays including milking cow demonstrations and calf feeding, potato harvesting, hay-wagon farm tours, livestock (goats, calves, horses, cattle, chickens and donkeys), farm equipment displays, baking contests and various children's activities. Each year 3,000-4,000 visitors, including over 50 volunteers, attend the event.

Grant recipient in 2009-2017



Earthwise Society

Tomato Festival

www.earthwisesociety.bc.ca

The annual Tomato Festival is held in August in South Delta. This family event showcases a wide array of heirloom tomatoes, vegetables and fruit. The event supports local farming by drawing attention to the diversity of produce available through local farms. Producers and chefs are present to share their stories and recipes from around the world. The event is a community based celebration that teaches the importance of farming practices that support genetic diversity. Visitors can take guided farm tours or attend workshops on growing tomatoes, saving seeds, and building healthy soil.

Grant recipient in 2015-2017



Environmental Youth Alliance

All for One, One for Bees

www.eya.ca

The Environmental Youth Alliance (EYA) educates and inspires thousands of people every year in sustainability issues, such as the plight of pollinators through projects and the citizen science pollinator program. The All for One, One for Bees Project has expanded from Vancouver into Richmond by hosting workshops in schools and at public events. EYA has also produced a variety of information materials including an app and eBook to support the pollinator program.

Grant recipient in 2016



Farm Folk City Folk Young Agrarians

Young Agrarians Land
Matching Pilot

www.youngagrarians.org

Research indicates that the majority of new farmers across Canada are from non-farming backgrounds, lack equity to start-up, and face significant challenges because of the high cost of land and tight profit margins. Conversely, many retiring farmers/landowners want their land to stay in production, despite many not having succession plans. The Land Matching Program works to facilitate connections and tenured agreements between landholders and new farmers so that land can be farmed, remain in, or return to food production.

Grant recipient in 2017

Grandview Woodland Food Connections

Wild Minds

www.gwfoodconnection.com

The Wild Minds is a summer youth project that engages at-risk youth principally in the creation of a forest food garden area as part of the existing Strathcona and Cottonwoods Community Gardens, which already has a youth food garden. The students participated in clearing invasive plants, planting native perennial plants, shrubs, and pollinator gardens, building nesting structures, and cultivating traditional community food gardens. Re-wilding of urban spaces can support increased food production while creating opportunities for youth to reconnect with the land and nature.

Grant recipient in 2017

Growing Chefs

Classroom Gardening
Program Agriculture

www.growingchefs.ca

The Classroom Gardening Program gives elementary students hands-on experience growing and cooking food, and learning about healthy eating and sustainability. The chef volunteers help the young students plant indoor windowsill gardens consisting of fast-growing vegetables such as beans, peas, and arugula. Over three and a half months, the chefs and community volunteers visit the classroom every two weeks to help the students tend the garden and learn about agriculture, plant growth, vegetables, composting, cooking, and nutrition. The program has reached out to over 30 classrooms in Metro Vancouver, involving 850 elementary school students and trained more than 125 chef volunteers.

Grant recipient in 2010-2016



Haney Farmers Market Society

The Market Goes to the Farm

www.haneyfarmersmarket.org

The Market Goes to the Farm is a family event where the local farmers' market is moved to Brookfield Farm in Maple Ridge for a day in August. Residents can meet the farmers and learn about seasonal eating and food production. There are hay-wagon tours to the livestock barn (with cows, calves, goats, sheep, lambs, chicken, ducks, donkeys) and interactive displays presented by the Golden Ears Community 4-H Club, Ridge Meadows Recycling and other agricultural and environmental groups. Over 2,000 people visit the market at the farm each year, and the event is supported by up to 40 volunteers.

Grant recipient in 2015-2017



Kwantlen Polytechnic University (KPU) Foundation

Richmond Farm School Urban Farming and Incubator Plot

www.kpu.ca/rfs

The incubator program, part of the Richmond Farm School, is a 9-month program that teaches students the skills and knowledge to operate a small-scale organic farm business. One of the challenges graduating students face is finding fertile and affordable land to farm in Metro Vancouver. This project is intended to help 1) restructure the education curriculum of the farm school with a re-launch campaign in the fall and 2) upgrade the incubator tool share, a vital resource for new farmers.

Grant recipient in 2017



Langley Environmental Partners Society

Langley Eats Local

www.leps.bc.ca

Langley Eats Local offers programs to engage youth, children and the public to learn about the food system through in-class and outdoor education programs including the Seed to Plate workshop series and Nature's Classroom program. The programs also increase public awareness of the importance of local agriculture and promote self-sufficient food production through educational workshops on Organic Vegetable Growing, Backyard Composting, Fruit Tree Care, Pollination, and Preserving the Harvest. They also lead a variety of local community based local food initiatives. Participants at the events included over 400 students, 15 educators, 2,000 adults and 40 volunteers.

Grant recipient in 2010, 2012-2017



North Shore Neighbourhood House

Growing Food –
Growing Community

www.ediblegardenproject.com

Growing Food – Growing Community engages North Shore residents about local food through a range of workshops, education programs, and volunteer opportunities at Loutet Farm. By building practical food growing skills and knowledge through hands-on activities, the project can increase understanding and awareness of local food production in the region. A key activity is to build practical skills in youth through class visits, after-school and summer camps, and community events.

Grant recipient in 2012-2015, 2017

Richmond Food Security Society

Celebrating the
Source of our Food

www.richmondfoodsecurity.org

The Richmond Food Security Society contributed to Richmond's first Harvest Festival on September 30, 2017, held at the Garden City Lands Park. Thousands of visitors from across the region attended the event to celebrate Richmond's food and farming community. The Society hosted activities for children (digging for potatoes, searching for eggs and a seed matching game), and provided adults an updated local eating guide and information on Richmond's farms.

Grant recipient in 2017

The Sharing Farm Society Garlic Festival

www.sharingfarm.ca

The Garlic Festival is the Sharing Farm's annual fundraiser held in August at the Terra Nova Park in Richmond. The funds raised support their food-dignity mandate to grow local organic produce for low-income families. The main event of the festival is the sale of organically grown garlic and displays giving the public an opportunity to learn about new garlic varieties to try. There is also live entertainment, cooking demonstrations, workshops on growing garlic, educational kids' activities and local exhibitors. Restaurants are invited to provide cooking demonstrations and family friendly fare using BC products.

Grant recipient in 2014-2016





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