

BURNABY FOOD SYSTEM STRATEGY



Burnaby is located on the ancestral and unceded homelands of the hən̓q̓əmi̓nəm̓ and Skwxwú7mesh Sníchim speaking peoples. We are grateful for the opportunity to be on this territory.



Acknowledgements



The Burnaby Food System Strategy (BFSS) and the Burnaby Community Food Charter were guided by a Project Advisory Committee (PAC). This committee, comprised of key public partners, community members and representatives from a range of local non-profits, generously contributed their time and expertise to create a vision for the future of food in Burnaby. Please see Appendix 5 for a full list of PAC members.

The BFSS was developed by Urban Food Strategies in association with Upland Agricultural Consulting. Chau Chin Yo, a former Burnaby Food First member, joined the consulting team as a Community Engagement Specialist who reached out to local food businesses directly to foster relationships and gather information.

The City wishes to acknowledge the local growers, business representatives, subject matter experts, and community members who participated in interviews and other consultation opportunities that were instrumental in shaping the BFSS. We would also like to extend special thanks to Literacy Now Burnaby for their efforts in providing a clear language review of the Burnaby Community Food Charter.

Prepared for:

City of Burnaby, Social Planning



Prepared by:

Urban Food Strategies



In association with:

Upland Agricultural Consulting





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Background

A thriving and resilient food system is an important part of a thriving and resilient community. Food plays a central role in the health and well-being of individuals, families, and the larger community. Food and culture are interwoven – the processes involved in growing, preparing, serving and sharing certain foods are an important way that cultural knowledge is shared between generations. The sharing of food and food practices builds and nurtures cross-cultural relationships and knowledge. Food also plays an important role in many cultures and religions; certain foods and related places, knowledge and manners of harvesting are sacred.

The Burnaby Food System Strategy (BFSS) has been developed within this larger understanding of the vital role that food plays in our lives. It seeks to outline the ways through which the City of Burnaby can take action and support community efforts towards sustainable food systems and food security for all people in Burnaby. The process to create the BFSS involved working closely with a Project Advisory Committee (PAC) as well as conducting interviews, surveys, and workshops with key people and organizations.

Vision and Values

The vision for the BFSS is grounded in the Burnaby Community Food Charter, a document created by the Project Advisory Committee with input from key people and organizations from the community. The Charter is a community-held document, being stewarded by the Burnaby Neighbourhood House. An excerpt from the Charter included below provides the vision for the BFSS. [The full Charter](#) can be found on the Burnaby Neighbourhood House website or in Appendix 6.

Executive Summary

Vision: A sustainable and just food system and food security for all people.

When a community is food secure, everybody has two things:

1. They have food choice, and
2. They have access to culturally appropriate food.

Also, food is grown and made in ways that:

- » Put local production first
- » Are affordable to produce and purchase
- » Are connected to businesses in Burnaby
- » Are sustainable and resilient
- » Are ethical and socially just

Six values that guide our behaviour and decision-making around food systems and security are:

- » Food is culture and connection
- » Everybody has choice of food and access to food they want
- » Food places and people are important to the economy
- » The larger causes of inequity in food security and unsustainable food systems help to guide our work
- » Respecting Indigenous values and knowledge is important
- » Connection and working together is key

Burnaby Community Food Charter

BFSS Themes

All the actions recommended in the BFSS grow from the Strategy's five core themes:

Theme 1: Growing and Harvesting

Theme 2: Food Economy

Theme 3: Policy and Regulation

Theme 4: Community Sector Support

Theme 5: Structural Change



A thriving and resilient food system is an important aspect of a thriving and resilient community. Food plays a central role in the health and wellbeing of individuals, families and the larger community. Food and culture are interwoven – the processes involved in growing, preparing, serving and sharing certain foods are important ways that cultural knowledge is shared between generations. The sharing of food and food practices builds and nurtures cross-cultural relationships and knowledge. Food also plays an important role in many religions; certain foods and related places, knowledge and manners of harvesting are sacred.

The Burnaby Food Systems Strategy (BFSS) has been developed within this larger understanding of the vital role that food plays in our lives. It seeks to outline the ways through which the City of Burnaby can take action and support community efforts towards sustainable food systems and food security for all people in Burnaby.

The BFSS and the Burnaby Community Food Charter set out a vision, themes, objectives and actions for strengthening the sustainability of community food systems and household food security.

The overall purpose of the BFSS and the Charter is to set out an aspirational but practical vision, along with a set of themes, objectives, and actions for strengthening the local Burnaby food system, improving its sustainability and increasing household food security.

The BFSS development process included:

- » using an equity lens to complete food system research
- » engaging a wide range of interested parties in developing the Charter and the BFSS
- » developing a set of strategies and actions to support the local food system which the City of Burnaby can take a lead role in implementing
- » considering how the City can work with other interested parties like community organizations, schools and post-secondary institutions, other levels of government and the business sector to achieve food system goals

The Burnaby Food Asset Map, originally created by Simon Fraser University, was updated as part of this process to provide a current overview of the Burnaby food system. The map contains information on the many food assets in Burnaby including their locations, operational hours, and additional information. Refer to Appendix 1 for further information on the map. The map is currently being managed and maintained by the Burnaby Neighbourhood House, through a community partnership.

Additional resources on Burnaby's food system are available. Please see Appendix 2 for a list of working definitions and acronyms, and Appendix 3 and Appendix 4 for a list of food security organizations in Burnaby and other relevant reports.

1.0 Introduction

Role of a Food System Strategy

A food system strategy provides a vision and pathway through collective impact to improve the sustainability of the local food system and increase household food security. As food systems involve many interested parties including all levels of government, the non-profit sector, schools and post-secondary institutions, as well as businesses of all sizes, a food system strategy can help to coordinate activities and bring clarity to this complex issue. A strategy is also important in clearly identifying the roles of various actors, including the role of the local government in facilitating implementation.

The drivers around food system sustainability and food security are many. From the growing cost of living, increased poverty rates and social inequities to more frequent extreme weather events and global disruptions to the food value chain, food system strategies help to enable local government action as well as provide support to the many other sectors involved in the food system.

Food System Strategy Development Process

This Food System Strategy and the Food Charter originally started with a request to the City of Burnaby Social Planning Committee from Burnaby Food First, a community-based food security coalition active in Burnaby from the late 1990s to 2019, to develop a food system strategy for Burnaby. Membership in Burnaby Food First consisted of representatives from local public institutions (e.g. the City of Burnaby, the Burnaby School District, Fraser Health), non-profit organizations and many dedicated community members.

In response to this request and upon further staff investigation, the Social Planning Committee and Burnaby City Council approved work to develop a food system strategy in January 2021. Since then, the City of Burnaby staff have worked with the Project Advisory Committee and a qualified consulting team – to conduct the research, public engagement and development of the strategy.

The process to develop this Food System Strategy involved reaching out to as many organizations, businesses and individuals as possible to gain insights into the vision, goals and actions that are presented in this Strategy. These insights also helped to shape key steps in the strategy development process, which included the following:

- » Engaging a Project Advisory Committee comprised of experienced and knowledgeable people in the field of sustainable food systems and food security. A number of former members of Burnaby Food First joined this Committee (Please see Appendix 5 for a list of members)
- » Completing a related literature and statistics review
- » Conducting one-on-one interviews
- » Conducting a public survey
- » Facilitating community workshops
- » Facilitating internal workshops with staff and the Social Planning Committee. Members of Burnaby City Council were invited to attend the workshop with the Social Planning Committee
- » Engaging with key sectors (e.g. local growers)

The process to develop the strategy occurred in two main phases: 1) the development of the Food Charter, and 2) the development of the Food System Strategy.

The Food Charter presented in this document is a community-held resource. While informing the content and direction of the BFSS, the Charter will also be implemented directly within the community, with stewardship provided by the Burnaby Neighbourhood House. Please see Section 2.0 for a summary of the Charter. The full Charter can be found on the Burnaby Neighbourhood House website.

2.0 Our Vision for Food in Burnaby



The vision for the BFSS is rooted in the Burnaby Community Food Charter, a document created by the Project Advisory Committee with input from key people and organizations from the community. An excerpt from the Charter included below provides the vision for the BFSS. [The full Charter](#) can be found on the Burnaby Neighbourhood House website or Appendix 6.

Vision: A sustainable and just food system and food security for all people.

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Burnaby Community Food Charter, 2022

3.0 Background



History of Burnaby's Food System

Burnaby's food system has deep historic roots. The area's rich natural environment supports a variety of plants and animals that have been harvested for millennia by Indigenous Peoples. Examples include salmon-supporting streams and rivers, wild cranberry bogs, and beaches with a variety of shellfish (see the [Indigenous History in Burnaby Resource Guide](#)).

Indigenous People's access to these resources was disrupted by the imposition of colonial government; many of these resources were destroyed or diminished through the land use practices of settlers. Settlers also made use of wild food sources, including hunting deer and other wild animals and gathering berries.

Settlers found Burnaby to be a good place to grow food and raise livestock. Large commercial farms and orchards were established throughout the community following Burnaby's incorporation as a municipality in 1892. By the mid-20th century, Burnaby was home to many small acreages where working people had small homes and grew food for family consumption and sale. These large "backyard gardens" contributed to community resilience by helping families sustain themselves through times of economic uncertainty. During the Great Depression of the 1930s, public lands in Burnaby were used to grow food to share with community members.

Burnaby's historical population was diverse, encompassing South Asian, Japanese and Chinese workers, entrepreneurs and farmers. For example,

recent historical scholarship has uncovered the significant contributions of Chinese Canadian migrants to Burnaby's food system as farmers, produce sellers and restaurant owners. Japanese and South Asian farmers also have a long and storied history in Burnaby. (See the [Chinese Canadian History in Burnaby Resource Guide](#).)¹

Although Burnaby had introduced its first zoning bylaws by the early 1920s, mixed land uses remained the pattern of development in the community until after the Second World War. Since that time, separation of land uses has increasingly become a feature of the community, with commercial agriculture now concentrated in the Big Bend area. Today, the City of Burnaby has approximately 597 acres of land designated for agricultural use in the Official Community Plan (OCP), with 551 of those acres included in the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR).

The ALR was established in 1974 to protect BC's remaining agricultural lands. Lands in the ALR are subject to the provincial Agricultural Land Commission Act and associated regulations, which protect farm uses and limit uses unrelated to farming. The Act and regulations are administered by the Agricultural Land Commission. A map of the agricultural lands in the Big Bend, including the ALR boundary, is illustrated in Figure 1. While additional lots zoned as A1 Agricultural and A2 Small Holdings Districts can be found elsewhere in the city, they are designated for conservation or other non-agricultural uses, according to the OCP.

1 Fong, Denise (2017). BVM Big Bend History Research Paper: Sources from Chinese Times and other sources.

3.0 Background

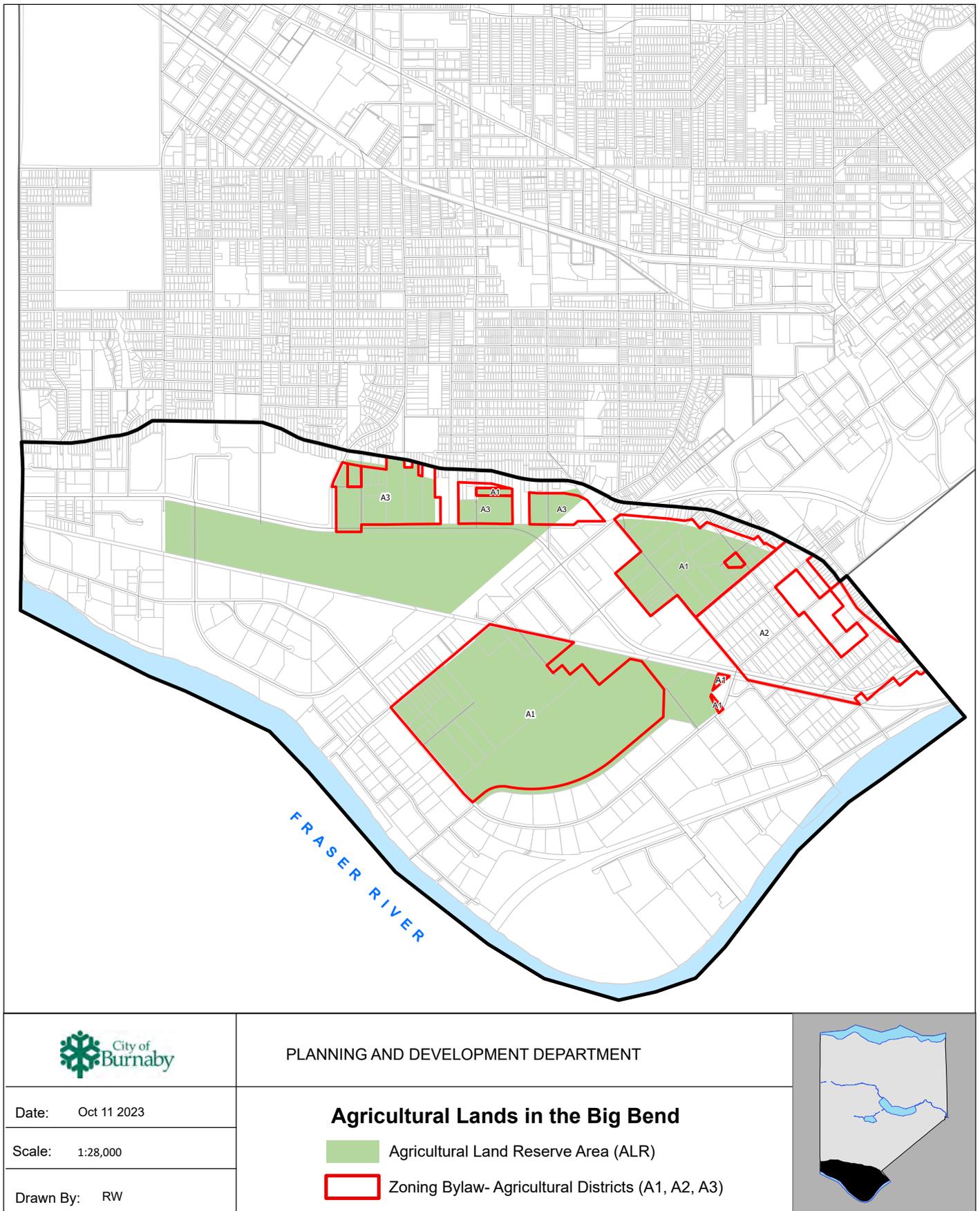


Figure 1: Map of agricultural district lands and the ALR boundary

3.0 Background

Present-Day Context of Burnaby's Food System

Metro Vancouver, including Burnaby, is one of BC's most important centres for producing and processing food. The region's farmers supply over 130 different farm commodities, including a wide array of fruits, vegetables, dairy, poultry and other livestock products. As of 2024, Burnaby is home to approximately 40 active farms.

Burnaby's ALR contains some of the most commercially viable agricultural parcels in the region, including the 165-acre Mayberry Farms in central Big Bend. However, most farms are smaller (<15 acres); less than half (45%) of ALR land is currently in production. Approximately 38% of the ALR is used as parkland, primarily Riverway Golf Course. Another 15% is undeveloped or fallow, while the remaining 3% contains commercial or residential uses. Farm products produced in the ALR include fruits, vegetables, flowers and nursery plants, as shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Number of crop and livestock farms²

Crop or Livestock Farm	Number of Farms
Vegetable	13
Fruit and tree nut	3
Nursery and tree production	10
Greenhouse and floriculture production	6
Hay	3
Cattle ranching and farming	2
Poultry and egg production	5
Other animal production ³	5

² 2021 Census of Agriculture

³ Other animal production includes apiculture (beekeeping), horse ranching, and animal combination farming.

3.0 Background

Backyard gardens continue to thrive on many lots throughout the City, and many of these gardens are used to grow culturally-specific fruits and vegetables that may be difficult to find or expensive to purchase. Residential beekeeping and long-established community gardens such as the Burnaby and Region Allotment Gardens Association (BARAGA) also help support local food production.

Burnaby is home to a wide range of businesses which support the food system, providing services like packaging and processing. These businesses range in scale from small and boutique to large corporations, largely concentrated in the City's manufacturing and industrial zoning districts.

In addition to large commercial food retailers, Burnaby is home to small businesses that sell, prepare or process baked goods, meats, produce and other types of food and groceries that are specific to a wide range of cultural groups. Burnaby is known regionally as a food destination for culturally specific cuisines and dry goods.

These cultural food assets are largely concentrated in older commercial areas throughout Burnaby, including Hastings Street, Edmonds Street, North Road, 6th Street, and parts of Kingsway, as seen in Figure 2.

Burnaby is also a place of food education through the Burnaby Village Museum. The Museum is a 10-acre outdoor village site with three culturally specific education gardens: a Chinese Market Garden, an Indigenous Matriarch's Garden and a Cedar Grove. These gardens are used by cultural practitioners and gardeners to teach 400,000 visitors annually about the importance of food sustainability and growing practices.



3.0 Background

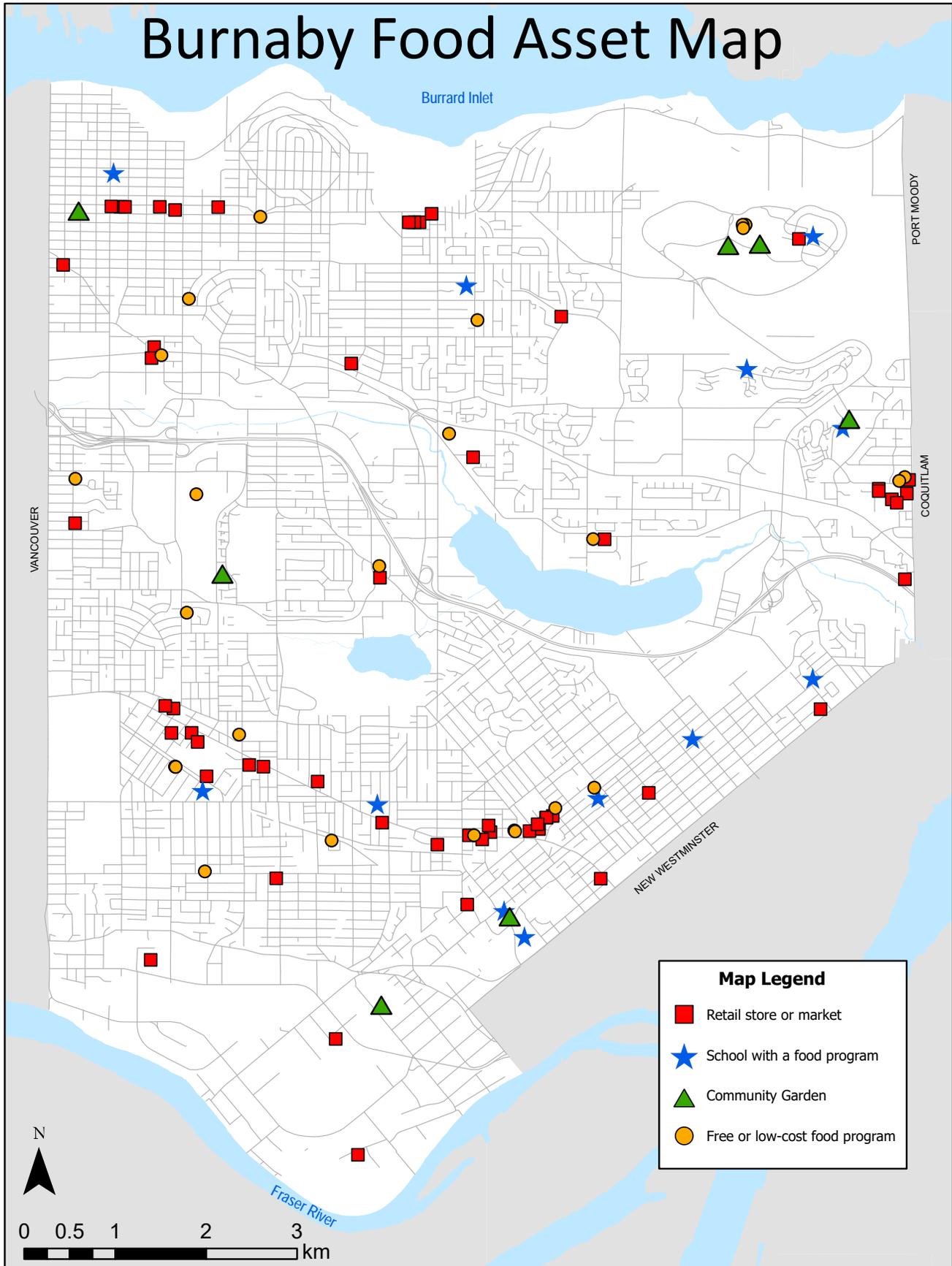


Figure 2: Map of food assets in Burnaby, 2024

3.0 Background

Despite the presence of agricultural lands, productive backyard gardens and a wide variety of food assets in Burnaby, many residents are food insecure, and this number has been on the rise since 2020. Contributing factors to this phenomenon include the continued impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, extreme weather events, inflation and the sustained high cost of housing.

In 2022, approximately 7,000 people in Burnaby turned to the Greater Vancouver Food Bank and their community affiliates, such as the Burnaby Neighbourhood House, for assistance per week. Notably, there has been a marked increase in the number of households with children and seniors seeking support, reflecting a significant growth from pre-pandemic numbers (approx. 2,000 people a week) and the 2021 figures (approx. 3,400 people a week). Reasons for seeking support from the food bank vary, as illustrated in Figure 3. The number of residents relying on food banks is expected to further increase, as the economic impacts of the pandemic persist and food prices continue to escalate.

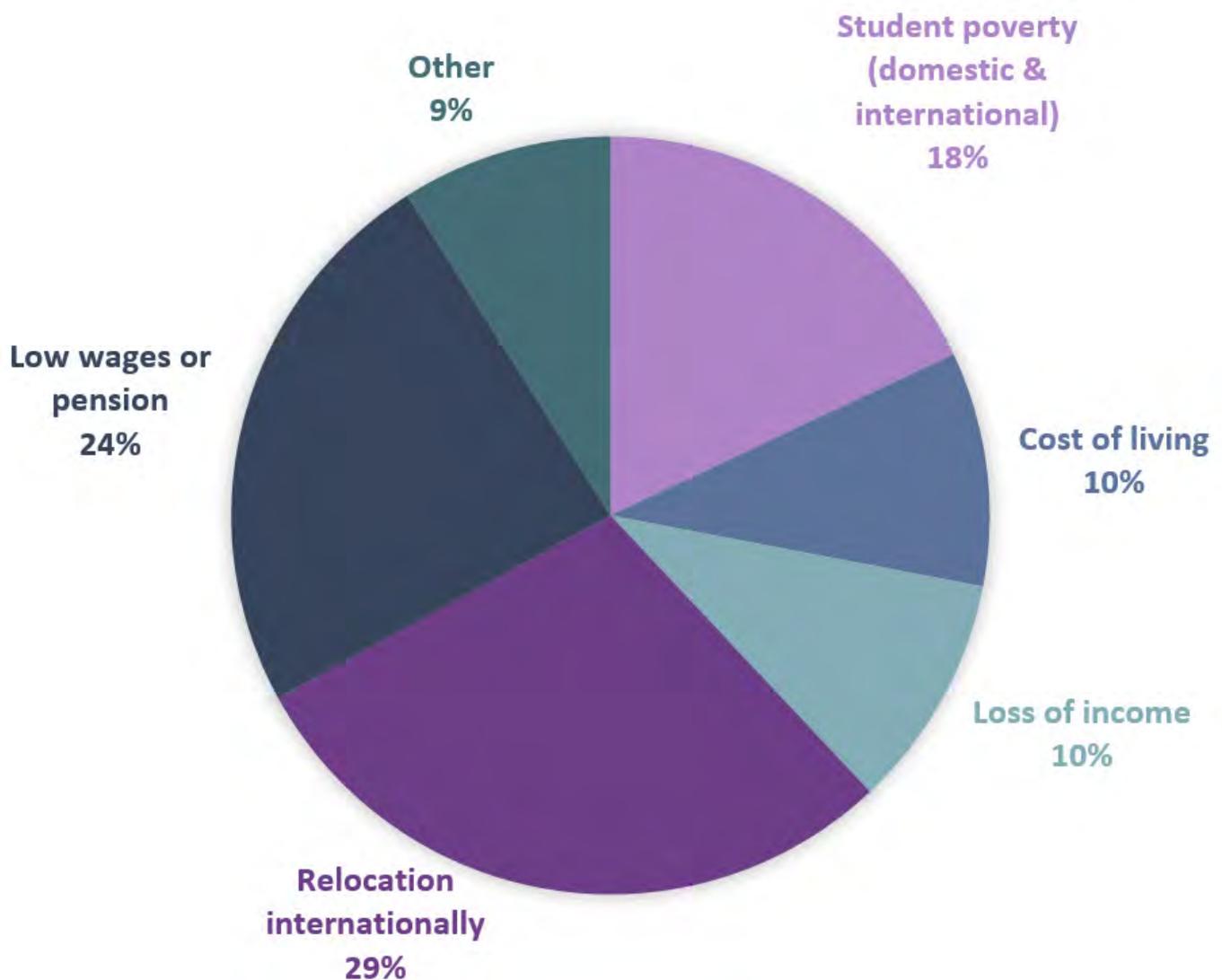


Figure 3: Cited reasons for using the Greater Vancouver Food Bank⁴

4 Greater Vancouver Food Bank 2021-2022 Impact Report

3.0 Background

Overview of Key Findings

Based upon the themes and findings from the research, review and engagement process as described above, the following key assets and challenges emerged. While these findings are unique to the Burnaby context, in many instances they are echoed by larger regional, national and international trends.

Assets

- » Regional destination for cultural food assets, including restaurants, dry goods shops, and shopping/eating districts.
- » Unique presence of productive agricultural land in an urban context.
- » Strong social service sector accustomed to partnership building.
- » Relative regional availability of industrial and manufacturing lands.
- » Sustained development of compact and vibrant town centres.
- » Strong community history of personal food growing/production.

Challenges

- » Increasing number of households facing food insecurity, which is tied to the high poverty rate in some areas of Burnaby. For example, South Burnaby has one of the highest child poverty rates in British Columbia.⁵
- » Impacts of supply chain disruptions and inflation on food prices and availability.
- » Impacts of congested goods movement routes, particularly the north-south route affecting access, availability and affordability of food.
- » Complex and limiting regulations across levels of government regarding local food production and sale.
- » Increasing costs associated with leasing, renting, and purchasing agricultural land as well as commercial and industrial space.
- » Pressures induced from land development can displace small or medium food businesses.

5 2021 BC Child Poverty Report Card <https://homelesshub.ca/resource/2021-bc-child-poverty-report-card/>

4.0 Burnaby Food System Strategy Themes



The Burnaby Food System Strategy Themes and Actions were developed based on the previously mentioned findings, and as guided by the input received from the Project Advisory Committee and involved community members.

A healthy and sustainable food system depends on growing, harvesting, preparing, and producing food, which influences the resilience of the food economy. A healthy food system also relies on support from a number of community sector partners, working together to address root causes of food insecurity. This includes changes in foods systems through policy development and regulation, helping to build community capacity. The BFSS themes, presented in the following pages, are organized according to these key factors of a healthy food system.

Theme 1: Growing and Harvesting

Burnaby is a culturally diverse community located on the unceded lands of the *hən̓q̓əmi̓n̓əm̓* and *Skwxwú7mesh Sníchim* speaking peoples. Its rich environment has supported plants and animals that have been harvested for millennia by Indigenous Peoples. Many of these natural resources, such as salmon, wild berries, and a wide range of medicinal plants, remain part of Burnaby's landscape. As such, Burnaby has a number of food growing and harvesting opportunities including farms, community gardens and Indigenous food systems.

The farmlands within Burnaby not only produce a significant amount of food, they also hold historical

and ecological values. Development around farmlands has changed the natural flow of surface and ground water, potentially leading to issues such as flooding and water contamination. A changing climate has made flooding both more frequent and intense, increasing the risk for farmlands which are already under strain. To mitigate the risk, the City can work to support farming in Burnaby through land use planning, economic development efforts and infrastructure upgrades. In 2021, City Council directed staff to provide information on options to preserve agricultural lands in Burnaby.⁶

In addition to some of the most productive urban commercial farms in BC, Burnaby also has a long history of backyard gardening. Historically, Burnaby community members have been enthusiastic and productive growers of food in back and front yards. Many people who live in Burnaby come from cultures where growing your own food is a celebrated way of life. To further support backyard gardening, in 2009, City Council adopted amendments to the Zoning Bylaw to permit beekeeping (apiculture) in the R1 Residential District and A1 through A3 Agricultural Districts.

With more and more of Burnaby's population living in multi-unit residential buildings, a smaller share of residents have the option of gardening in a private yard. This densification has resulted in demand for plots in existing community gardens and growing spaces far exceeding supply. In 2022, City Council took important steps towards establishing a Burnaby Community Garden Program by initiating a Pilot

6 City Council meeting, minutes July 12, 2021

4.0 Burnaby Food System Strategy Themes

Garden Program⁷ on two City sites. The first pilot garden at Greentree Village Park opened for plot registration in September 2023. The program aims to increase the number of garden plots on public land, as well as access to community gardens and growing spaces for people in Burnaby. The City can play a role in encouraging people to not only grow their own, but also share garden surplus.

Horticulture in parks and other public spaces can provide an innovative opportunity for demonstrating respect and space for Indigenous knowledge and practices around food plants, while also providing enhanced outdoor learning environments.

Aligned with the United Nations' Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) and other collective efforts to build relationships with the Indigenous Nations whose territory includes the land now called Burnaby⁸, the City of Burnaby has started to take actions around decolonization and reconciliation. Using open space management to support the fostering of new connections between Indigenous knowledge keepers and the City is one of many ways that a reconciliation approach can be applied to civic operations.

Theme 2: Food Economy

The local food economy in Burnaby is well-established, diverse and continually evolving. From farms in the Big Bend that sell produce to customers across Metro Vancouver to companies producing food for sale globally, the food economy in Burnaby is not only vital to Burnaby's economy – it also plays an important role in cultural learning, social inclusion and business innovation.

Though food and agriculture are referenced in the Burnaby Economic Development Strategy (2007), planning for the future of the food economy has not historically been a focus for local governments. Considering the recent challenges to our food system,

local governments are seeking ways to further support and grow the local food economy.

One key challenge for emerging food businesses is to find affordable work and production spaces. The City can update policies and procedures to “open up” opportunities for small businesses to start up and scale up.

Building strong connections with local food businesses will help to expand and anchor the food business community in Burnaby, particularly small to medium-scale food businesses. With the number and diversity of local food businesses in Burnaby, there is an opportunity to promote the whole sector to residents and visitors alike.

Theme 3: Policy and Regulation

Burnaby is home to a wide range of vibrant local food businesses including greengrocers, restaurants, dry goods stores and specialty shops. Community members from diverse backgrounds, including those of Chinese, South Asian, Korean, East African, and Italian descent, have established authentic food locations and districts throughout Burnaby. This has positioned Burnaby as a regional destination for culturally specific cuisine and dry goods. These cultural food assets exist in commercial areas throughout the city, with a notable concentration in older commercial areas including Hastings Street, Edmonds Street, North Road, 6th Street, and parts of Kingsway.

Today, food assets in Burnaby are being challenged by the lasting pressures of urban development, the increasing cost of goods, and the impacts of climate change. Protecting existing food assets and cultural food legacies while creating viable opportunities for the establishment of new food assets through policy development and regulatory tools will work to further strengthen Burnaby's existing food systems in the face of ongoing urban land pressures.

7 Planning and Development Committee, Council Report March 7, 2022

8 To the current knowledge of staff, this includes the kʷikʷəłəm (Kwkwetlem), xʷməθkʷəyəm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish), and sə́lilwətaʔ (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.

4.0 Burnaby Food System Strategy Themes

Theme 4: Community Sector Support

Burnaby is home to many food security organizations, which have been working independently and collaboratively to support individuals and families in obtaining reliable access to food. Some segments of Burnaby's diverse population experience poverty, including working individuals and families, children and seniors. Burnaby is also a receiving community for many newcomers to Canada, including immigrants, refugees and refugee claimants. These groups can experience higher levels of food insecurity.

There has been a significant increase in the demand for emergency food relief, with more people becoming either temporarily or more permanently food insecure, some for the first time. Although larger systemic factors such as housing unaffordability, poverty and low-quality employment opportunities are key determinants of a person's ability to buy sufficient and appropriate foods, these community food programs are essential for supporting households in obtaining sufficient food on a day-to-day basis.

The food security sector in Burnaby is working hard to keep up with the demands of household food insecurity. Although effective networks exist, more support is needed to continue to build collaboration, share resources, enhance work efficiency, reduce overlap, and help as many people as possible. Input provided by the social service community indicated that City support in coordination would be a valuable contribution.

One of the key challenges identified by social service providers with running food security programs is the growing line-ups for food. The City can leverage public facilities and resources to support these social service providers in creating welcoming, easily accessible, respectful and dignified experiences for those facing household food insecurity.

Theme 5: Structural Change

There are many factors contributing to both household and community food insecurity, including poverty, housing unaffordability, racism and discrimination, and the disparate impacts of climate change. Rising prices and a lack of affordable housing are particularly impacting the ability of households to meet their daily needs, including housing, transportation, clothing and food. Although local governments often do not have jurisdiction in all these areas, leading municipalities in Metro Vancouver, BC and across Canada are taking measures to increase housing affordability and reduce poverty, directly helping to increase food security, especially for households.

In particular, the cost of housing in Burnaby and throughout BC's Lower Mainland are some of the highest in the country (for both ownership and rental sectors). Increasing housing affordability meets multiple community health objectives, including enabling people to be more food secure. As such, the City of Burnaby has developed, and is implementing, our Housing and Homelessness Strategy to increase the range of housing options and affordability levels of the City's housing supply.

While housing affordability is a significant contributing issue, the lack of disposable income is the primary determinant of food security. With poverty rates steadily increasing, food insecurity is also increasing. Given that the causes of poverty are long-standing and complex, increasingly municipalities are exploring ways they can help to eliminate poverty or reduce its effects.

Staff collaboration and coordination are key factors to successfully implementing the BFSS. Allocating dedicated staff and work programs helps ensure ongoing advancement of food security initiatives across Burnaby and encourages effective partnerships and advocacy. Coordinating staff also helps facilitate collaboration across departments and ensures alignment with the BFSS wherever possible. From piloting community gardens in City parks to minimizing food waste citywide, various departments play a role in supporting local food security.

5.0 Actions and Implementation



The BFSS proposes a number of actions to address food insecurity and strengthen Burnaby's food system. These actions span varying time frames ranging from ongoing and short-term (0-3 years), to medium-term (4-6 years) or long-term (7-10 years).

The actions proposed in the BFSS are categorized under five key themes (growing and harvesting, food economy, policy and regulation, community sector support, and structural change), which are presented in the following pages with an implementation framework.

Many of the proposed actions are rooted in land use and are intended to be further explored and considered with an update of Burnaby's Official Community Plan.

Recommended Actions

Theme 1: Growing and Harvesting

- 1.1 Work with the Ministry of Agriculture, Food, and Fisheries and other partners to develop an Agriculture Area Plan that engages farm businesses in identifying strategies to develop resiliency in the face of climate change, activate farming on unused agricultural land, create emergency preparedness, response and recovery plans, and connect to local markets, among many other initiatives. **(Medium-Term)**
- 1.2 Amend the Burnaby Zoning Bylaw in relation to agriculturally zoned land in order to expand farm retail opportunities (e.g. farm gates sales). Additionally, update the Zoning Bylaw to reflect recent Provincial land use regulation changes in the ALR (e.g. cannabis, permitting secondary housing, farm worker housing). **(Short-Term)**
- 1.3 Limit the overall footprint of residential uses on farmland (e.g. housing, driveways, ancillary uses) in alignment with recommendations provided in the Ministry of Agriculture's Guide to Bylaw Development in Farming Areas. **(Short-Term)**
- 1.4 Continue to maintain the ALR and discourage activities such as subdivision, non-farm use, and/or exclusion applications in order to create long-range predictability and limit land speculation. **(Ongoing)**
- 1.5 Continue historical scholarship on the contributions of diverse community members to the past and present reality of agriculture in Burnaby, and share these learnings publicly through written, online and interactive learning opportunities. **(Ongoing)**
- 1.6 Develop and expand flood management plans that consider protection of agricultural land. Additionally, explore strategies to prevent soil erosion and to maintain soil biodiversity and health on farmland, as well as minimizing the impact of run off and contamination from urban development around farmland. **(Short and Medium-Term)**

5.0 Actions and Implementation

- 1.7 Work with Tourism Burnaby to develop an agro-tourism approach for Burnaby, taking into account the need for supportive infrastructure that includes accessible transit, bike lanes, and sidewalks to facilitate access to public-facing agricultural locations. **(Medium-Term)**
- 1.8 Work with Indigenous knowledge keepers to update the City's park management plans and park master plans to reflect traditional food systems and Indigenous stewardship practices while creating community learning opportunities. **(Medium to Long-Term)**
- 1.9 Work with Indigenous knowledge keepers to expand City horticulture plantings to include Indigenous plants with cultural significance for traditional food and medicine. Include signage that provides information on the cultural meaning and use of these food plants including showing gratitude and respect for plants. **(Short-Term)**
- 1.10 Identify sites for Indigenous demonstration gardens (e.g. medicinal herb gardens, tea gardens). **(Medium-Term)**
- 1.11 Continue to support the protection and stewardship of salmon-bearing ecosystems. Participate in events to raise awareness about the social, historic and ecological role salmon play (e.g. The Great Salmon Send-Off by the Stoney Creek Environment Committee).⁹ **(Ongoing)**
- 1.12 Expand restoration and habitat preservation to include Indigenous stewardship practices for native plant and animal species to support Indigenous food sovereignty. **(Short and Medium-Term)**
- 1.13 Continue to provide incentives and requirements for developers to provide amenities to meet community social, economic and environmental goals related to sustainable food systems and food security (e.g. in new developments include features like green roofs and garden boxes on podiums and/or patios). Also consider the establishment of food asset design guidelines to support the inclusion of sustainable food-security features in new developments. **(Ongoing)**
- 1.14 Identify community garden sites, food growing and farm market spaces in community plan updates, particularly near to high-density communities. **(Medium-Term)**
- 1.15 Locate new community gardens in areas that are within a 15-minute walking distance of users and/or along transit routes and bike routes. **(Ongoing)**
- 1.16 Provide start-up and on-going support to new community garden sites (e.g. assistance with site design including universal design principles and access for larger vehicles with supplies, construction of garden beds and fencing, and provision of soil and water access). **(Ongoing)**
- 1.17 Integrate share sheds, which are small temporary structures to house surplus produce, into the design of community gardens to encourage food exchange. **(Ongoing)**
- 1.18 Facilitate edible landscaping in the City of Burnaby operations by updating horticultural plantings to include both annual and perennial edible plantings that reflect the diverse cultures in Burnaby. Use edible plantings as a way to provide community learning opportunities. **(Short-Term)**
- 1.19 Provide education and resources to encourage front yard and backyard growing, including water-efficient food gardening techniques, strategies for deterring pests, and general information on complying with City bylaws. **(Short-Term)**

9 <https://scec.ca/>

5.0 Actions and Implementation

- 1.20 Implement the Council-approved framework (2022) for the keeping of urban hens in backyards and other appropriate areas. **(Short-Term)**
- 1.21 Allow front yard/alleyway farm stands in residential areas. Consider the development of construction standards to ensure farm stands do not exceed reasonable size limits or obstruct views for cyclists and motorists. **(Short-Term)**
- 1.22 Continue to support faith centres and other landowning local institutions in planting fruit trees and establishing community gardens on their properties. **(Ongoing)**
- 1.23 Explore the possibility of allowing residents to engage in food gardening on boulevards and rights-of-way. **(Short-Term)**
- 1.24 Encourage tool-lending libraries to support neighbourhood gardening and community gardens. **(Medium-Term)**
- 1.25 Support backyard sharing programs operated by community organizations and urban farmers. **(Ongoing)**
- 1.26 Consider enabling food production outside of City parks and existing agricultural zones by exploring mechanisms to lease City-owned lands to growers. **(Medium to Long-Term)**

Theme 2: Food Economy

- 2.1 Work with Tourism Burnaby, Burnaby Board of Trade, Business Improvement Associations and others to expand avenues for connecting with and supporting food businesses in formal and informal ways (e.g. tours, sponsoring events). **(Medium-Term)**
- 2.2 Work with the Burnaby Board of Trade, neighbourhood-based Business Improvement Associations, tourism associations, and other local food business associations to support ongoing local food campaigns (e.g. “eat local”), including providing signage, online directories, as well as traditional media (e.g. TV, radio, newspapers) and social media promotions. **(Short-Term)**
- 2.3 Work with the Artisan Farmers Markets and any other interested bodies that celebrate local food to ensure long-term space-use agreements. Assistance for the farmers markets may involve posting signage and implementing measures to improve their visibility, access and functionality, including exploring additional market locations across the city that are easily accessible by transit. **(Short-Term)**
- 2.4 Ensure that permitting processes are accessible and streamlined for small to medium-scale businesses, accommodating multiple languages. **(Short-Term)**
- 2.5 Continue to connect food businesses with appropriate City staff to identify priority areas for clean-up, pest control, bylaw enforcement, and crime prevention. **(Ongoing)**
- 2.6 Support food festivals and special events in streets, parks and other public spaces (e.g. promotions, allowing and permitting road closures, and granting access to large prep kitchens in community centres). **(Ongoing)**
- 2.7 Consider increasing the percentage of local foods and local food providers used over time in the City’s food operations (e.g. food purchasing, catering and municipally-run concession stands). **(Medium-Term)**

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- 2.8 Develop a food truck program that identifies places for food trucks to operate as well as create the appropriate business licenses and permits needed for managing the food truck program at the City level. **(Short-Term)**
- 2.9 Help local food businesses to find processing and distribution spaces as well as reduce red tape challenges for small businesses like commissary kitchens that do not easily fit into existing licensing categories. **(Medium-Term)**
- 2.10 Support and enable “ghost kitchens,” where several restaurants share a common space to fulfill take-out orders. Ensure that food delivery companies are able to access the location of these ghost kitchens. **(Short and Medium-Term)**
- 2.11 Ensure that the land use planning process takes into consideration the commercial and light industrial needs of the food processing, manufacturing, storage and distribution sector. **(Ongoing)**
- 2.12 Update the Burnaby Economic Development Strategy, with a refreshed focus on small and medium-scale food enterprises, as well as an exploration of emerging agritech opportunities (the technology and innovation supporting modern agriculture). **(Medium-Term)**
- 2.13 As identified in the Burnaby Transportation Plan, work with TransLink to expand transit provision near concentrations of small businesses, including food businesses. **(Ongoing)**
- 2.14 As identified in the Burnaby Transportation Plan, work to improve the efficiency, reliability and safety of goods movement across the City, including food distribution and transport. **(Ongoing)**

Theme 3: Policy and Regulation

- 3.1 Explore ways to protect commercial food assets (e.g. small food retail shops and restaurants) currently located in low-rise commercial space along the City’s arterial and collector streets. These assets are at risk of displacement due to redevelopment pressure. Explore options to protect food assets through the Official Community Plan update process (e.g. permitting medium and high-density residential/mixed-use development in additional locations outside of arterial and collector streets). **(Medium-Term)**
- 3.2 Work with the development industry to explore innovative ideas for protecting and/or enabling the establishment of smaller-scale food assets within newly developing areas (e.g. creating commercial strata that contains a range of unit sizes to allow new businesses, small and large, to occupy space). **(Ongoing)**
- 3.3 Increase access to food assets through the community and development planning process, to ensure that all neighbourhoods of Burnaby are within a 15-minute walking distance of a grocery store (store selling fresh produce, dairy, protein, etc.). **(Ongoing)**
- 3.4 Consider using a multi-language approach when engaging with small to large food businesses, along with strategies that meet the needs of that group. **(Medium-Term)**
- 3.5 Consider developing commercial rental assistance, land trusts, policies or other financial mechanisms to protect food assets impacted by redevelopment. **(Medium-Term)**
- 3.6 Consider through the Official Community Plan update process recognizing food assets, particularly cultural food assets and districts, as a distinct land use and/or permitted use. **(Short and Medium-Term)**

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- 3.7 Identify specific mechanisms and incentives to protect cultural food assets (e.g. establishing Development Permit Areas and/or cultural zones or districts for smaller commercial floorplates, and/or establishing cultural land trusts¹⁰ for food districts). **(Medium-Term)**
- 3.8 Expand Burnaby's heritage protection processes to better protect cultural food assets and other forms of intangible cultural heritage (e.g. recognize cultural food districts and/or cultural food assets not only as places of commerce, but also as places for people to learn about and experience cultural heritage). **(Long-Term)**
- 3.9 Develop a Community Garden Policy to regulate the placement and usage of Community Gardens on City-owned lands. **(Medium-Term)**

Theme 4: Community Sector Support

- 4.1 Host an annual round table of community sector leaders to elevate the discussion and collective impact on household food security initiatives across the community. **(Ongoing)**
- 4.2 Work with community partners to update the Food Asset Map, managed by the Burnaby Neighbourhood House, with an inventory of cultural food assets and resources in Burnaby. **(Medium-Term)**
- 4.3 Collaborate with community partners to create and distribute information about food resources and cultural organizations in multiple languages (e.g. printed and translated versions of the Food Asset Map). **(Short-Term)**
- 4.4 Work with food security organizations and local farms to create a shared emergency preparedness, response and recovery plan. This could include both how to connect food with people in times of crisis and supply-chain disruption. **(Medium-Term)**
- 4.5 Work with food recovery organizations to coordinate the recovery, aggregation and distribution of foods for social purposes (e.g. community food security programs). **(Long-Term)**
- 4.6 Become a signatory of the Burnaby Community Food Charter. **(Short-Term)**
- 4.7 Support the reformation and formalization of a food security service provider working group to support the implementation of the BFSS, serving as a network and resource for the City of Burnaby. **(Short-Term)**
- 4.8 Continue to support food skill and culinary education activities¹¹ (e.g. continuing long-standing relationship between Burnaby Parks, Recreation and Culture and School District 41, supporting programs like Sprouting Chefs). **(Ongoing)**
- 4.9 Collaborate with community partners to develop a measurement of food insecurity in the community. Monitor and evaluate changes regularly to better understand and address food security issues. **(Ongoing)**
- 4.10 Work with the food security community to identify space requirements for processing food into take-home meals, host market-style food hubs to distribute food to people facing food insecurity, and expand the network of community fridges, among other actions to increase access to food for individuals experiencing food insecurity. **(Short-Term)**

10 Please see Kensington Market Community Land Trust for an example: <https://kmclt.ca/what-is-a-community-land-trust/>

11 Please see the Teach Food First Toolkit for teaching about food in schools: <https://healthyschoolsbc.ca/teach-food-first/>

5.0 Actions and Implementation

- 4.11 Identify public spaces owned and managed by the City, along with City programming and initiatives, which could be matched with the needs of community food security programs (e.g. community and recreation centres as well as other civic programs). **(Medium-Term)**
- 4.12 Consider establishing a small grant program for food security organizations to upgrade facilities, purchase fridges/freezers, expand or install responsible waste management (e.g. composting), and generally improve the spaces that programs use to provide food to people. This could include matching funds from other levels of government, as available. **(Long-Term)**
- 4.13 Explore the idea of leveraging the City's purchasing power to work with social service providers to make bulk food orders. **(Medium-Term)**
- 4.14 Investigate opportunities for the City to support food production (e.g. in greenhouses or on City-owned land), contributing to social service providers for community food security programs. **(Long-Term)**
- 4.15 Review the City's existing community granting program to better align with and support the needs and capacity of Burnaby's social service sectors. **(Medium-Term)**

Theme 5: Structural Change

- 5.1 Continue to implement HOME: Burnaby's Housing and Homelessness Strategy. **(Ongoing)**
- 5.2 Continue to advocate for expanded Federal and Provincial funding for building new affordable housing. **(Ongoing)**
- 5.3 Continue to introduce new housing options, helping to bridge the gap between single-family homes and apartments or condominium units (e.g. 'missing middle' housing). **(Short-Term)**
- 5.4 Work with community organizations to help destigmatize poverty and homelessness. **(Ongoing)**
- 5.5 Continue developing and implementing a Poverty Reduction Strategy for Burnaby, in association with the non-profit and other relevant sectors. **(Medium-Term)**
- 5.6 Consider advocating for a guaranteed basic income for all Canadians. **(Ongoing)**
- 5.7 Support and partner with existing non-profit, post-secondary and private-sector organizations focused on anti-poverty and poverty reduction advocacy efforts. **(Ongoing)**
- 5.8 Create a Planner position to support staff, facilitate cross-departmental collaborations, and serve as a single point of contact for the community on agriculture and food systems planning. **(Medium-Term)**
- 5.9 Create a Food Security Coordinator position within the City to serve as a conduit of information and resources on household and community food security in Burnaby, and to support community efforts in these areas. **(Medium-Term)**
- 5.10 Create a Community Garden Planner position to facilitate a community garden program and cross-departmental collaboration. **(Medium-Term)**
- 5.11 Identify existing staff collaborations that address food security and advise on integrating the BFSS into these efforts (e.g. working with local farmer's markets to provide space for weekly markets). **(Short-Term)**

5.0 Actions and Implementation

Implementation and Next Steps

A food system is made up of all the local processes involved in keeping us fed: from growing and harvesting food to its processing, packaging, transportation, distribution, preparation, marketing, and its final consumption. As well as being central to the economies of most communities, food is a basic element of community self-reliance and cultural well-being. It creates jobs, enriches and transmits culture and facilitates community cohesion. Furthermore, it is crucial for public health.

Local governments support local and regional food systems primarily through land-use decisions, such as bylaws and policies that seek to protect agricultural land and encourage it to be brought into production. As well, local governments often provide a range of both informal and formal community supports that enable access to food for local residents.

It is within this context that the Burnaby Food System Strategy (BFSS) was developed to identify strategies and actions that can be primarily undertaken by the City of Burnaby to support the local food system. As such, the BFSS represents an ambitious but attainable work program.

Given its rich history of food harvesting and production, combined with its current context of economic diversity and cooperation, Burnaby is well positioned both, as a community and as a local government, to invest in strategic and meaningful actions which support the flourishing of local food systems.

However, while the content of the BFSS is directed to the City, it is important to recognize that the City cannot address the full complexity of Burnaby's food system on its own. In order for positive change to occur, the City will need to cooperate with many parties, including the Province, the business community, farmers, the local non-profit community, and others.

Pending Council approval of the BFSS, staff will work with key community partners, including representatives of the sectors listed above, to develop a prioritized framework for implementation. In order for implementation to be effective, it is essential for the City to take a strategic, coordinated approach. Key components will involve building on existing work and efforts, nurturing relationships with key community partners, and allocating sufficient internal resources.



Appendix 1: Food Asset Map

Overview

The Burnaby and New Westminister Food Asset Map is a custom-built Google Map. The map outlines all known resources, organizations and other assets within Burnaby and New Westminister contributing to the food security of the area. These resources encompass everything from providing free food for people in need to food education opportunities. The map is a living record which is expected to evolve with the changes in Burnaby and New Westminister. The following pages outline how to access and use the map, as well as information needed for amending or adding to the map.

The Burnaby and New Westminister Food Asset Map was originally created by Brian Tai, a student at Simon Fraser University supervised by Dr. Tammara Soma, for Burnaby Food First. The map was updated in tandem with the creation of the Food Charter.

Moving forward, the map will be managed and maintained by the Burnaby Neighbourhood House. Requests for amendments or updates to the map can be sent to northinfo@burnabynh.ca or call 604-294-5444 with as much details as possible.

Using the Map

The following link can be used to access the map:

<https://burnabynh.ca/bcfc/>

The map can be navigated in the same way as any google map, use functions such as zoom, click and drag to navigate and double click to expand information. On the left side is a menu (Figure 4) which can be accessed by selecting the menu icon in the upper left corner. The menu outlines the core categories of food assets, types, and the most up-to-date lists of assets.

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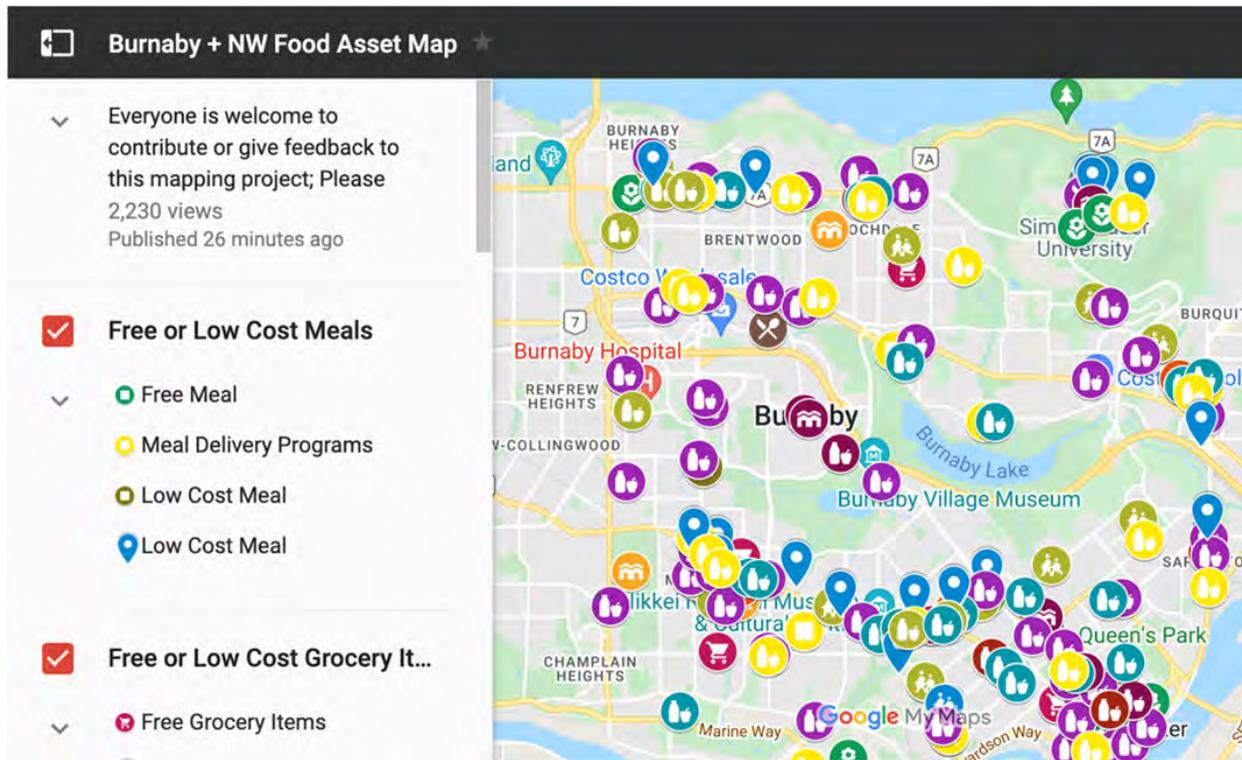


Figure 4: Food Asset Map menu and menu icon

Clicking through this list will allow you to find specific assets. Expand their information panel (Figure 5) and you will see detailed information about the food assets, including its location, hours of operations and the services provided. When an asset is selected and expanded in the panel, its location will be highlighted on the map. You can also search for specific assets by selecting the magnifying glass next to the map's title at the top of the page and entering your search option.

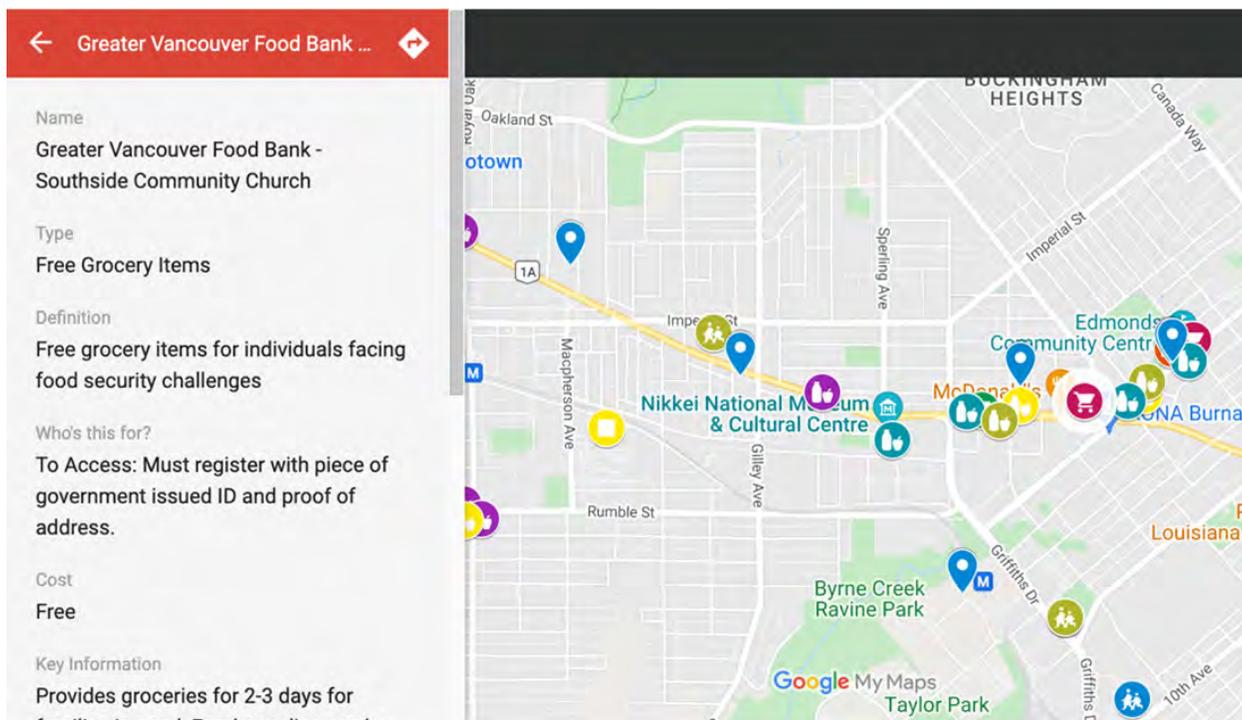


Figure 5: Food Asset Map description and details

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Requesting a change or addition to the map

Is there something missing from the map? Or perhaps an inaccuracy in a program or service you are familiar with? This map requires input from the community to ensure it is up-to-date and able to serve those who need it best. There are a few pieces of information which will help update the map:

1. The name of the program, service, company, or organization
2. The exact location, whether it's an address, GPS coordinates, or intersection
3. The category and type of the asset – refer to Table 2 for the complete list
4. Any additional information such as contact information, hours of operation, specific service details, etc.

To make an update or change to the map, send as much of the above information as possible to northinfo@burnabynh.ca or call 604-294-5444. Food asset categories on the Food Asset Map can be found on Table 2.

Table 2: Food Asset Map categories

Categories	Types
Free or Low-Cost Meals	Free Meals
	Meal Delivery Programs
	Low-Cost Meals
Free or Low-Cost Grocery Items	Free Grocery Items
	Community Fridges
	Low-Cost Grocery Stores
Kitchens or Food Programs	Food Programs
	Community Kitchen Programs
	Food Skills Workshops
	Kitchen Access
Community Organizations	Food Action/ Other
	Burnaby Warming Centres
Growing Food	Senior 55+ Centres
	Community Gardens
Schools with Food Programs	Public Elementary Schools
	Public Secondary Schools
Retail Stores or Markets	Convenience Stores
	Specialty Food Stores
	Grocery Stores or Supermarkets
	Farmers Markets
	Small Grocery Stores

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Appendix 2: Working Definitions and Acronyms

Working Definitions

Community Food Security¹²

When everyone in a community has the ability to obtain a safe and culturally acceptable variety of foods to eat. Community food security comes from a sustainable food system that maximizes community self-reliance and social justice.

Cultural Food Assets¹³

Cultural food assets are businesses and services that provide a similar, if not identical, function as food assets. Cultural food assets extend beyond the role of food assets identified by the City of Burnaby by providing spaces that support the maintenance and transmission of culture. Cultural food assets are not limited to a particular cultural group. They include entities such as: farms, salmon bearing streams, green grocers, fishmongers, butchers (e.g. Halal, Kosher), barbecue meat stores, dry goods stores, as well as traditional bakeries and restaurants, among many others.

Cultural Food Districts

Cultural food districts are clusters of cultural food assets that attract a critical mass of people and other businesses. In Burnaby, these places include Crystal Mall, Hastings Street, North Road, 6th Street, parts of Kingsway, and Metrotown.

It should be noted that entities (e.g. businesses) that may be identified as cultural food assets may or may not identify themselves as such. While language is evolving and this working definition is likely to change, it is offered here to provide a better understanding of what cultural food assets are.

Equity Lens

Applying an equity lens to a food systems strategy includes:

- » ensuring fair labour practices
- » establishing connections with Indigenous food systems
- » examining the core role that poverty plays in access to food
- » recognizing connections of food systems to cultural well-being and learning
- » investigating gendered, gender-diverse, ability-diverse, and racialized experiences of accessing food and participating in the food economy

12 Derived from: Hamm, M., & Bellows, A. (2003). Community Food Security and Nutrition Educators. *Journal of Nutrition Education and Behavior*, 35(1), 37–43.

13 Derived from Vancouver Chinatown Food Security Report (2017). Hua Foundation

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Food Assets¹⁴

Food assets are defined in this BFSS as the tangible and intangible resources, facilities, services, spaces, or ways of knowing, etc. that are available to Burnaby residents and visitors. They are used to support the local food system. Examples of food assets include farms, community gardens, neighbourhood houses, social services and food security programs, farmers markets, food processing infrastructure, community composting facilities, local food knowledge, local food policies, relationship networks, cultural food districts and local food businesses.

Household Food Insecurity¹⁵

Household food insecurity is the inadequate or insecure access to food due to financial constraints.

Food System

A food system is made up of all the steps of growing, harvesting, processing, packaging, transporting, distributing, preparing, marketing and consuming food.

Indigenous Food Systems¹⁶

The vast myriad of rivers, watersheds, landforms, vegetation and climatic zones have worked together for thousands of years to shape and form Indigenous land and food systems. Consisting of a multitude of natural communities, Indigenous food systems include all the land, air, water, soil and culturally important plant, animal and fungi species that have sustained Indigenous Peoples over thousands of years. All parts of Indigenous food systems are inseparable.

Acronyms

ALR	Agricultural Land Reserve
BFSS	Burnaby Food System Strategy
CFC	Community Food Charter
UNDRIP	United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

14 Derived from City of Vancouver Food Strategy (2012).

15 <https://proof.utoronto.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Household-Food-Insecurity-in-Canada-2017-2018-Full-Reportpdf.pdf>

16 Indigenous Food Systems Network. <https://www.indigenousfoodsystems.org>

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Appendix 3: Food Security Organizations in Burnaby

This list provides a sample of organizations working towards increasing food security within Burnaby. This list is not exhaustive as there are many other organizations and many new organizations continually emerging.

Social Organizations	
Mosaic Family Centre	https://www.mosaicbc.org/services/family-children-youth/family-centre/
New Westminster Family Place	https://www.newwestfamilies.ca/
Aunt Leah's Place	https://www.auntleahs.org/
Burnaby Neighbourhood House	https://burnabynh.ca/get-involved_community/
ECHO Clubhouse	https://vancouver-fraser.cmha.bc.ca/programs-services/echo-clubhouse/
Purpose Society	https://purposesociety.org/
EMBARK Sustainability	https://www.embarksustainability.org/
House of Omeed	https://houseofomeed.ca/our-services/
Burnaby Youth Hub	http://burnabyyouthhub.org/
SFU Student Union	www.sfu.ca
Sprouting Chefs Society	https://www.sproutingchefs.com/
Dan's Legacy	https://danslegacy.com/about-us/dans-warehouse/
Planted Network	https://plantednetwork.ca/
BARAGA – Burnaby Regional Allotment Gardens Association	https://baraga.ca/

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Food Access and Food Rescue	
Burnaby Meals on Wheels	https://burnabymeals.ca/
Tonari Gumi	https://www.tonarigumi.ca/mow
Better Meals	www.bettermeals.ca
Citizen Support Services (City of Burnaby)	www.burnaby.ca/citizensupportservices
Senior Services Society	https://www.seniorsservicesociety.ca/our-services/meals-on-wheels/
Greater Vancouver Foodbank	https://foodbank.bc.ca/
Faith-Based Groups	
Southside Community Church	http://www.southside.ca/
Salvation Army	https://salvationarmy.ca/
Holy Trinity Cathedral	http://holyltrinitycathedral.ca/
Union Gospel Mission	https://www.ugm.ca/
Grace Chapel	http://www.rccgbc.org
St. Barnabus Church	http://stbarnabasparish.ca/
Gurdwara Sahib Sukh Sagar	http://www.sukhsagar.ca/
St. Stephen the Martyr	https://www.ststephenburnaby.ca/ministries/community-meal
Willingdon Church	https://willingdon.org/visit#what-to-expect
Muslim Foodbank	https://muslimfoodbank.com/
Gordon Presbyterian Church	https://gordonchurch.com/mission-%26-outreach

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Appendix 4: Relevant Reports

Archibald, W. (n.d.). Big Bend, Early Pre-War (Draft).

Archibald, W. (n.d.). Greengrocers/Big Bend Part 2 (Draft).

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Burnaby Public Library. (2021, October 15). Food & Meals. <https://bpl.bc.ca/people-help/information-community-resources/food-meals#:~:text=Burnaby%20Meals%20on%20Wheels&text=Delivers%20nutritious%20hot%20and%20frozen,on%20a%20four%20week%20rotation>

Burnaby Village Museum. (n.d.). History of Burnaby, Resource Guide. <https://www.burnabyvillagemuseum.ca/assets/Resources/History%20of%20Burnaby%20Resource%20Guide.pdf>

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City of Burnaby. City Council Meeting. (2021). Council Meeting Minutes for July 12, 2021. <https://pub-burnaby.escribemeetings.com/FileStream.ashx?DocumentId=53245>

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Rice, G. (2016). Local Food Security, Turning Policy into Action in Metro Vancouver.

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Vancouver Coastal Health. (2018). Food Standards.

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Appendix 5: Project Advisory Committee Members

The Burnaby Food Charter and Food System Strategy has been guided by the Project Advisory Committee, who have generously contributed their time and expertise to create a vision for the future of food in Burnaby.

Ann Talbot	Community member
Carol Ann Flanagan	Non-profit (Food Hub), Task force to End Homelessness in Burnaby
Chau Chin Yo	Community member
Danison Buan	Food Rescue (ReFood), Filipino Food Bank, Indigenous Food Bank
Evelyn McGowan	Burnaby Youth Hub
Jeff Malmgren	Health (Primary Care Network)
Andrea Creamer	Health (Primary Care Network)
John Nanson	Burnaby School District, Edmonds Community School Coordinator
Jonathan Bird	Union Gospel Mission (faith community)
Melody Monro	Health (Fraser Health), Community Health Specialist
Sheila Stickney	Community member
Simone Brandl	Non-profit (The Long Table Society)
Tessa Vanderkop	Business (Burnaby Board of Trade)

Appendix 6: Burnaby Community Food Charter



A strong community includes a sustainable and just food system and food security for all people. This Burnaby Community Food Charter shares a vision of that future. It includes the values and commitment to get us there. We believe that food is a universal human right.

All community organizations, private businesses, educational institutions, or government can sign the Burnaby Community Food Charter. Those who sign this charter commit to creating sustainable food systems and food security in Burnaby.

Our Food Vision

What does food security look like? When a community is food secure, everybody has two things: 1) They have food choice, and 2) They have access to culturally appropriate food. Also, food is grown and made in ways that:

- ✓ Puts local production first
- ✓ Are affordable to produce and purchase
- ✓ Are connected to businesses in Burnaby
- ✓ Are sustainable and resilient
- ✓ Are ethical and socially just

Our Food Values

Six values that guide our behaviour and decision-making around food systems and security are:

- ✓ Food is culture and connection
- ✓ Everybody has choice of food and access to food they want
- ✓ Food places and people are important to the economy
- ✓ The larger causes of inequity in food security and unsustainable food systems help to guide our work.
- ✓ Respecting Indigenous values and knowledge is important
- ✓ Connection and working together is key



1. Food is culture and connection

Food connects us all to one another. Food connects us all to the land and water. We want to protect different ways of growing and producing food, cooking, and celebrating with food. These all teach culture and belonging.



2. Everybody has choice of and access to food they want

Everybody's food choice is respected and treated fairly. People can get the food they want through businesses and in the community. People can also keep gardens and grow their own food.



3. Food places and people are important to the economy

People who grow, harvest, and distribute food are respected and paid fairly. The environments that support food production are preserved and protected.



4. Strengthening food systems involves acknowledging the causes of food insecurity

The broader factors that impact how, when, and where people can access food such as the high cost-of-living, poverty, racism, good jobs, experiences of marginalization, and climate change are acknowledged and addressed.



5. Respecting Indigenous values and knowledge is important

Indigenous food systems and knowledge of these lands and waters are vital. They are integral to Indigenous cultural practice, expression, and the well-being of Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities. These ways of knowing are an important part of the sustainability of our food system and food security.



6. Connection and working together is key

Food unites us. By working together, and across sectors, we can find creative solutions to minimize food waste, improve food system sustainability, resiliency, and security in Burnaby.

