

Richmond Food System Assessment

Environmental Scan & Action Plan



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Known as The Garden City, Richmond is a growing urban centre with strong rural traditions. With plentiful opportunities for producing and distributing healthy food locally, Richmond has the potential to provide all its citizens with nutritious, affordable, culturally-appropriate food choices. Currently, however, there are gaps in Richmond's food system, particularly for vulnerable populations such as children, people with disabilities and those on low income. Access to food in Richmond is limited, not by the supply, but by a number of other significant factors, including the cost of groceries, limited public transportation to services, the stigma attached to traditional charity services, and a lack of information about alternative food production and access models.

The purpose of this report is to assess the current food system in Richmond, identify available resources, and highlight where services or systems are not working well for local residents, with a focus on vulnerable populations.

Overview of Method

A number of methods were used to conduct an environmental scan and engage community participation and knowledge, as follow:

- Internet-based survey of local agencies and organizations;
- Community mapping sessions at a variety of locations;
- Review of existing literature including statistic and policy documents;
- GIS mapping of existing resources, services and food access points;
- Key stakeholder interviews; and
- Action Plan development workshop with Advisory Group, using the Splash and Ripple® Model.

A comprehensive list of indicators was developed by the consultant, drawing from those used in several existing food system assessments in Canada and the U.S. ¹

Summary of Findings

This report is organized by key themes related to a healthy food system: *health and nutrition, production; access, distribution, emergency planning, and waste management*. Using identified indicators within each of these themes, the following summary provides highlights of Richmond's particular successes and challenges.

¹ Including: Forum of Research Connections (FORC) (2005). *Vancouver Food System Assessment* (2005); Community Nutritionists Council of BC (2004, June). *Making the Connection – Food Security and Public Health*;

Health and Nutrition (p. 22-24)

The health and nutrition indicators examined include:

- Rate of diet-related health problems, including obesity and diabetes;
- Existence of and support for public health and nutrition education efforts; and
- Availability and affordability of organic and non-GMO food.

Richmond residents have the lowest smoking and obesity rates in the country and live almost three years longer than the national average. Nutritional information is available to the public in a number of different ways, through existing community agencies and services. However, there is a lack of language-specific services and integration of nutritional education within the Richmond school system.

BC rates high for organic production nationally. The number of organic farmers in Richmond is not known. In national studies, costs for organic vs non-organic produce compared favourably. However, a comparison of organic prices in four major Canadian cities showed Vancouver-area rates as consistently higher (see Appendix A).

Local Food Production (p. 25-34)

Indicators that local food is being produced include:

- Support for and preservation of local agricultural land;
- Extent to which available agricultural land is utilized for growing food;
- Viability of local and regional agricultural sector;
- Viability of local fishing industry;
- Extent to which food is processed locally; and
- Availability and accessibility of Community Gardens to all residents, particularly those on low income.

Approximately 4,900 ha of Richmond's land base are within the Agricultural Land Reserve, amounting to 34% of the City's lands. There continues to be a push for exemptions to develop ALR lands, and the municipality takes these requests into consideration. Agricultural land use in Richmond accounts for just over 3,000 ha while remaining ALR land in the municipality is either vacant or dedicated to non-farm uses (roads, institutions, golf courses)

The number of farms in Richmond is decreasing (from 247 in 1996 to 182 in 2001). However, some crops are particularly successful here. For example, in 2001, cranberry production in Richmond covered more than 1/4 of the land for cranberries in Canada and approximately 47%

of BC's cranberry acreage. Richmond has developed an Agricultural Viability Strategy. However, progress on the strategy is not readily apparent to the general community.

Fishing, including processing and distribution, is a significant industry. Local fish and seafood is also readily available to local residents. There are many local processors and distributors located in Richmond, especially for fish and seafood (See Appendix C). The majority of local cranberries, one of Richmond's largest crops, are processed in the United States.

Of the four public community garden sites in Richmond, only one is accessible by public transit. There is a need to provide more outreach to the low income community to encourage their access and participation. There is currently no formal process for identifying new community garden sites across Richmond. While there are a number of private rooftop gardens and green roofs in Richmond, none are known to be food producing.

Access and Distribution (p. 35-49)

The project also looked at whether food is accessed and distributed efficiently and effectively from local sources, through the charitable sector, and through schools and institutions. Indicators that food is being effectively accessed and distributed from local sources include:

- Availability and accessibility of healthy food choices ;
- Affordability of healthy food choices;
- Availability and accessibility of locally produced food; and
- Availability and accessibility of culturally-appropriate food.

For the most part, food stores in Richmond appear fairly well distributed and cover a wide range of consumer choices. One exception is East Richmond, where there are few choices for shops selling food and produce.

This study did not do a survey of food costs in Richmond. However, an annual study (using regionally-based data) on the cost of eating in British Columbia indicates that an average Canadian family can expect to spend approximately 15% of their income on food, while a family living on income assistance in BC can expect to spend 31-44% of their income on food.

Richmond is well known for its farm stands and u-picks, selling seasonal produce along main roads throughout the agricultural areas of the city. This research found no Richmond-based social enterprises or farmer's markets promoting local food consumption and no known restaurants or caterers focusing on local food.

For immigrant groups in Richmond, culturally-appropriate food sources are largely dependent on the size of the specific population. Smaller immigrant groups have trouble accessing culturally-appropriate food and food support.

Access and distribution indicators with respect to charitable sector (p. 37-40) include:

- Availability and accessibility of charitable food relief to those in need;
- Extent to which charitable food relief is provided for those with specific health needs;
- Extent to which charitable food relief is nutritionally adequate and culturally-appropriate; and
- Extent to which charitable food relief emphasizes capacity building and increased self-reliance.

The Richmond Food Bank has two locations that provide three weekly distribution sites for those in need. St. Albans Church, Nanak Sar Gursikh Temple and the Salvation Army offer free meals on a weekly basis. However, access to the food bank by public transportation is a notable concern.

The Richmond Food Bank provides extra resources for people with diabetes or HIV/AIDS. The overall perception is that these resources are becoming healthier and more varied. However, the Richmond Food Bank does not provide culturally-specific food and this may deter some potential clients from accessing support. In general, the charitable food sector does not provide capacity development opportunities for low-income “clients”.

The last measure of access and distribution is whether food is accessed and distributed through schools and institutions (p. 41-43). Indicators used in this category include:

- Extent to which nutrition education is part of standard curriculum;
- Extent to which school system promotes healthy eating;
- Existence of and support for food-related Social Enterprises; and
- Extent to which food transportation is managed for risk.

There is no standard curriculum for nutritional education in Richmond schools. A few schools access a greenhouse or garden for student instruction and two schools have elective teaching cafeterias. Cafeterias in Richmond schools are privately contracted and there is no district-wide policy regarding the nutritional value of the food provided. Policies on vending machines and food provision are currently under review.

There is no district-wide policy regarding food resources or nutritional support for students living in poverty or otherwise experiencing food insecurity. These needs are currently met on an ad hoc basis by school administrators and teachers.

There are no known food-related social enterprises based in Richmond. There is interest, in the community service sector, in the development of social enterprises for Richmond (i.e. good food boxes etc.)

Transportation (p. 50)

A survey of food transportation systems for Richmond was beyond the scope of this project. However, the global trend is towards an increasing number of miles that food travels from the point of production to the plate. Given its geographical circumstances, the environmental impacts of food transportation, and the health consequences of food preservation, the current dependence on food imports presents a significant risk for food security in Richmond.

Emergency Planning and Risk Management (p. 51)

This theme had only one indicator which was:

- Extent to which provision is made for supplying safe food and water in case of an emergency or natural disaster.

Policies for emergency planning exist at a federal, provincial and municipal level. A focus on consumption of local goods can significantly minimize the risk of food shortages in case of an emergency or natural disaster.

Waste Management (p. 52-53)

Indicators considered with respect to this theme were:

- Extent to which excess food is shared with those in need;
- Extent to which food waste is composted;
- Extent to which food-related waste is recycled; and
- Existence of and support for innovative initiatives for managing waste.

Many community agencies and some local businesses donate excess food to the Richmond Food Bank.

The City runs a compost demonstration garden and offers composting workshops. However, there is no city-wide composting program in Richmond. The City of Richmond first began offering recycling services in 1990. In 2000, the total estimated residential waste was 54,532 tonnes with an estimated 49.8% being recycled.

The GVRD runs a number of innovative projects to manage and reduce waste for the region, including a Waste-to-Energy Facility and a bio-solids processing project.

Issues and Gaps

The findings of this research suggest that overall, Richmond is producing food locally and residents generally have access to a wide variety of food choices, including charitable food relief. There are, however, some important issues and gaps that must be addressed if Richmond is to provide safe, affordable and appropriate food for all its residents, including those who face systemic or health barriers to access and participation. In summary, these gaps and issues are:

- A lack of information on organic farming and the use of genetically modified food products and ingredients. In addition, institutions that compile information on community and individual health do not regularly do so within a framework of food security.
- Agricultural Land Reserve and agricultural land in general is continually challenged by new development and the tension between rural and urban land use is a defining feature of Richmond's political, social and geographic landscape.
- A lack of cohesive effort on the part of stakeholders (City Council, developers, farmers) to address the viability of local food production. In particular, local farmers lack a unified voice.
- A lack of understanding and communication between farmers and Richmond's urban residents.
- The inability of existing community gardens to meet current demand and be accessible by public transit. Also, no known food-producing green roofs in Richmond.
- Lack of a formal process for establishing new garden sites or for the evaluation of how or by whom gardens are being used. Specifically, access by low-income families or other vulnerable communities is neither facilitated nor monitored.
- Although the trend may be shifting, East Richmond, an area where many new immigrants settle, has been chronically underserved by retail food outlets.
- Culturally-specific food resources are limited for Filipino, Somali, Afghan, Japanese and other minority immigrants,. For example, there are few sources for halal meat in Richmond and

many Richmond residents shop in Vancouver or Surrey for culturally-specific items.

- No known restaurants or caterers in Richmond that are exclusively or explicitly serving locally-grown food.
- No known food-related social enterprises (ie. farmer's markets, good food boxes, buying clubs or community shared agriculture (CSA) agreements) or community economic developments initiatives currently located in Richmond.
- Approximately half of people living with disabilities in Richmond are estimated by service providers to experience food insecurity.
- Larger influxes of refugees arriving in Richmond with high needs and few resources. Newcomers often have financial restrictions and with the high cost of housing, other aspects of settlement, especially food provisions, are suffering.
- Needs of Richmond's Aboriginal population not being served comprehensively and difficulty in assessing their relative food security in the municipality.
- Locations of the Food Bank distribution sites are not readily accessible by public transportation and are not providing explicitly culturally-specific food on a regular basis.
- Many Richmond churches and temples occupy ALR land but few are using that land to grow food for community access or to develop community self-sufficiency.
- While Richmond schools may be meeting the needs of their students on an ad hoc basis, there is no formal district-wide policy to address the nutritional needs of at-risk students.
- No current district-wide regulation or guideline regarding the nutritional content of food services within the school setting.
- While the scope of this study did not allow for an assessment of the food transportation system, global trends indicate an increasing reliance on imported food and food products.
- Richmond's transportation infrastructure is vulnerable to natural disaster, putting food exports and economic relationships at risk.
- While recycling is happening with more regularity, there continue to be barriers to both composting and recycling, specifically: a lack of information and understanding about waste reduction and a lack of resources available to increase services.

Key Recommendations

As part of the work of this report, an action plan was developed by the Food Security Task Force with the long term goal that:

In Richmond, people are making healthy choices supported by a sustainable, affordable and equitable food system that maximizes community self-reliance and cultural inclusion.

The action plan is detailed in an outcome measurement framework (OMF) provided on Page 61. The plan includes the follow actions:

Consultation and Mobilization

Develop plan summary and consult with residents, businesses, churches, schools, government agencies, service agencies and clubs and other community organizations on the draft action plan and mobilize community support for the action plan through festivals and events.

Collaboration and Partnership Building

Expand food security committee and build committed partnerships to implement the action plan.

Fundraising

Seek funding and in-kind contributions to implement the action plan.

Multigenerational Food Security Projects

Identify best practices and promote multigenerational food security projects across programs.

Food Programs with a Focus on Vulnerable Populations

Design, implement and promote food related social enterprise initiatives and develop public education workshops (speaker series, community inventory etc.) with a particular focus on low-income people and people with disabilities and chronic health issues.

Information on Food and Food Resources

Develop a guide to food and list of food security materials in Richmond building on environmental scan and distribute it through Tourism Richmond, Chamber of Commerce, the Library and other partners.

Mentoring

Recruit and support low income participants to be involved in leadership roles.

Monitoring and Sustainability Plan

Develop monitoring tools and develop a plan to sustain food security in Richmond.

INTRODUCTION

The Richmond Food Security Task Force defines food security as being assured “when all people in the community, at all times, have access to nutritious, safe, personally acceptable and culturally appropriate foods,

[Food security exists when] All people at all times have physical and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious foods to meet their dietary needs and food preferences for an active healthy life.

Food and Agricultural Organization
of the United Nations 1996

produced in ways that are environmentally sound and socially just.” The Task Force is working towards a future when “in Richmond, people are making healthy choices supported by a sustainable, affordable and equitable food system that maximizes community self-reliance and cultural inclusion.”

Project Overview

In March 2006, the Task Force was funded by the Community Food Action Initiative (CFAI) to assess the state of food security in Richmond. This report is the culmination of that food security assessment.

The project involved a collaborative planning and information gathering process to inform a one and three-year plan of action. The purpose of this report is to assess the current food system in Richmond, identify available resources, and highlight where services or systems are not working well for local residents, with a focus on vulnerable populations. The report includes:

- a comprehensive **environmental scan/food system assessment**, including a food system inventory and gap analysis;
- a series of **GIS maps** providing a visual representation of key themes in the food system inventory;
- an **outcomes measurement framework** and **action plan** that responds to the assessment findings and articulates short-term, intermediate and long-term outcomes and indicators; and
- a **database of contacts** interested in receiving more information and in participating in food security initiatives in the future.

Organizational Structure

The needs assessment was shaped by two important contextual factors: an organizational structure that supported it and people in the community who experience barriers in accessing food. This section describes the levels of the organizational structure and provides a profile of the Richmond community with a focus on vulnerable populations.

The project was coordinated by the Richmond Food Security Task Force, a subcommittee of the Richmond Poverty Response Committee. Family Services of Greater Vancouver (FSGV) was the community organization contracted by Vancouver Coastal Health on behalf of CFAI and ActNow to coordinate the project.

Richmond Poverty Response Committee

The PRC is a non-profit organization made up of individuals and agencies in Richmond, working together to address and deal with issues that affect low-income residents living in Richmond. The committee consists of three major task groups: food securities, affordable housing, and gift giving/access to recreation. Individuals or representatives of agencies are invited to join the group at any time. Please contact the PRC at info@richmondshares.bc.ca

Food Security Task Force

The Food Security Task Force is a sub-committee of Richmond Poverty Response (see Appendix N for membership). Its goals are to:

- encourage the development of community meals and food security programs to families and individuals within Richmond; and
- work towards understanding that food security means nutritious and affordable food for every body.

Family Services of Greater Vancouver

FSGV is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to strengthening people, families and communities. The organization has offices in Richmond and provides a diverse range of professional support and counselling services to those who are experiencing challenges in their lives.

Vancouver Coastal Health

Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH) provides a full range of health care services ranging from hospital treatment to community-based residential, home health, mental health and public health services. VCH serves residents in Vancouver, North Vancouver, West Vancouver and Richmond.

Community Food Action Initiative

The CFAI is a provincial public health program designed to identify priorities, mobilize efforts, and move the community food security agenda forward.

ACT Now

ActNow BC is the health promotion platform that is helping British Columbians live healthier lives by being more physically active, eating better foods, living tobacco free and making healthy choices. The

initiative is designed to support individuals and communities to protect and improve their health by focusing on five goals for 2010, including:

- **Healthy Eating** - Increase by 20% BC's population who eat recommended daily servings of fruit and vegetables
- **Overweight and Obesity** - Reduce by 20% the BC population classified as overweight or obese

How to Read This Report

Throughout this report, the indicators found in Table 1 (see Methodology) will be used to guide a brief analysis of each identified theme: General Food Security; Health and Nutrition; Local Food Production; Local Food Access and Distribution (including Charitable Sector; Schools and Institutions; Food Related Social Enterprise); Transportation; Emergency Planning; and Waste Management. The themes are then explored from a national and/or regional perspective, followed by a summary of local realities for Richmond. A brief chapter on “Good Practices” provides some case studies for reference, showcasing innovative projects that have been used to address food insecurity in other areas of Canada and the United States.

Following this are an Outcomes Measurement Framework and Action Plan Framework, as created by the Richmond Food Security Task Force during the consultation process. These frameworks are intended to guide the work of the Task Force, in partnership with key stakeholders and the broader community.

Attached as Appendices ‘B’ to ‘G’ are a number of tables, listing identified resources in Richmond, organized within the identified themes. Listings include contact information and a brief description of the resource/program.

Finally, three GIS maps are attached as Appendices ‘H’ to ‘J’, showing a visual representation of low income food access points; resources for children and youth; and general food access points in Richmond.

For a definition of terms used in this report, see Appendices ‘L’ and ‘M’.

A Profile of Richmond – Focus on Vulnerable Communities

“Vulnerability to food insecurity in Canada is generally attributed to people on social welfare or with low-income jobs who cannot meet their food requirements without compromising other basic needs... Women, children and Aboriginal peoples are disproportionately represented in poverty rates and in the use of food banks. People with physical and mental disabilities, and those with acute or chronic illness, are also considered vulnerable to food insecurity...”

Canada's Second Progress Report on
Implementing the World Food Summit Plan of Action

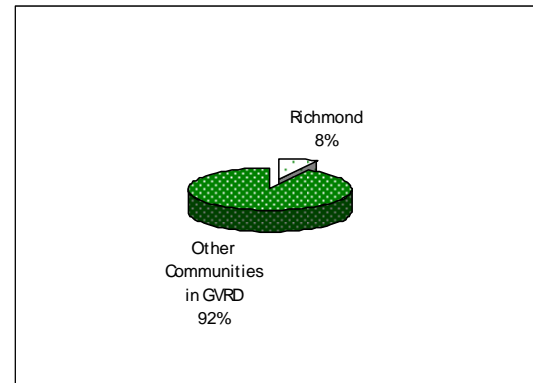


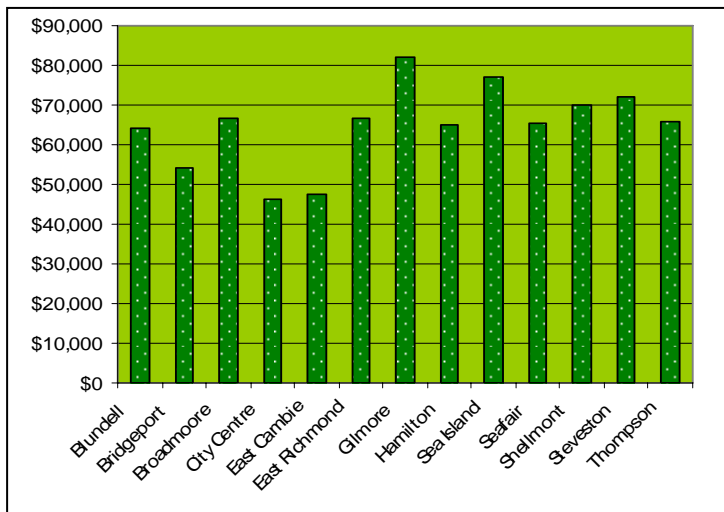
Figure 1 – Percentage of Richmond Population to Greater Vancouver Regional District

Cultural Influences

With an area of 50.7 square miles and a population of over 181,000 people, Richmond has experienced significant change over the last several decades. The city is now a growing urban centre which encompasses residential property, commercial interests, agricultural lands, industrial parks, waterways and natural areas. Much of the recent population growth is attributed to immigration; people of Chinese or South Asian ancestry now make up nearly 60% of Richmond residents.

Wealth and Poverty

Figure 2 – Average Household Income in 2000 of Private Households in Richmond



The average personal income in Richmond is \$41,547, \$1,549 less than that for BC overall. Just over 2% of the population is currently receiving income assistance or employment insurance; as compared to 3.7% province-wide². Over 100,000 jobs are supported by the Richmond economy in a variety of sectors including services, retail, tourism, technological industries, light manufacturing, airport services, agriculture, fishing and government.³

Significantly, Richmond has one of the highest income gaps in Canada⁴. In 1999, the Richmond Poverty Report Card

² BC Stats: Community Facts, Richmond City (printed August 8, 2006). www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca

³ City of Richmond website (accessed April 12, 2006). www.richmond.ca

⁴ Richmond Shares - History (accessed 13 June 2006): Richmond Poverty Response Committee. <http://www.richmondshares.bc.ca/about.htm>

found that Richmond experiences more poverty than Surrey and more than the average for the Greater Vancouver Regional District (GVRD). Most affected are children under 15 years old (30.7%), youth aged 15 to 24 (30%) and seniors (29%). Perhaps the most distinguishing feature of Richmond's social environment is the hidden nature of poverty within the broader community. Nearly 25% of Richmond households are affected by poverty and lower-income families are housed across all areas of the city. Services tend to be located in the city centre. That said, there are neighbourhood clusters indicated by one tally using census data from 2000 (Figure 2⁵). Notably, City Centre and East Cambie have the lowest average income, while Gilmore has the highest. City Centre is also the fastest growing area of the city at over 12%.

Children and Families

There were 23,212 school-aged children living in Richmond in 2005-06 (22,457 enrolled) – 240 of whom were Aboriginal (236 enrolled, 213 enrolled in Aboriginal programs) and 6,620 of whom were English as a Second Language (6,259 enrolled). There are 41 Elementary to Junior Secondary Schools and 10 Secondary Schools in the Richmond area, with an average Elementary class size of 24.2.⁶

As demonstrated in Figures 3 and 4, the percentage of lone parent families in Richmond is consistent with that for the Province overall.

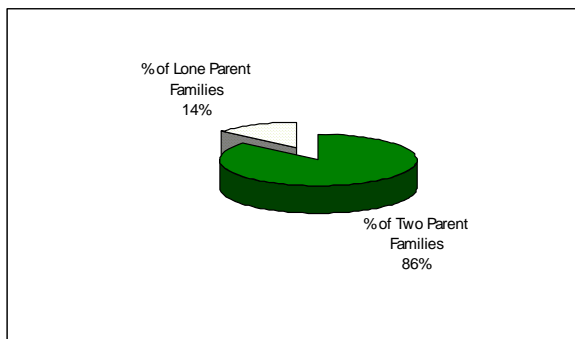


Figure 3 – % of Lone Parent Families in Richmond

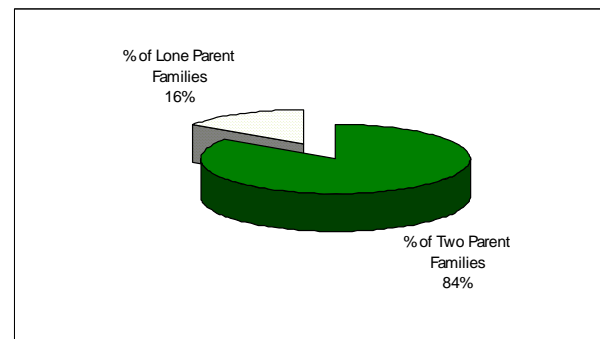


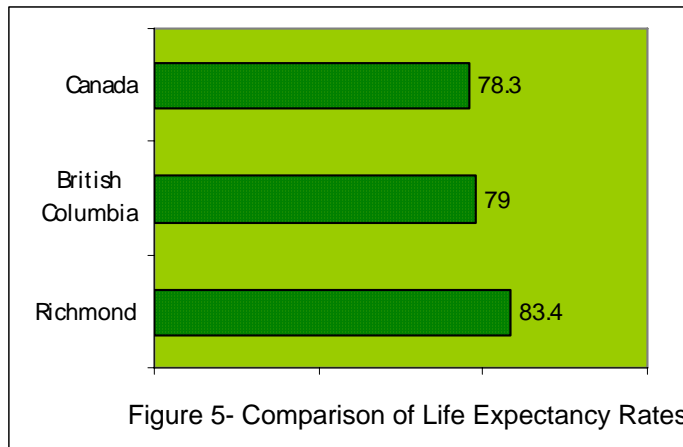
Figure 4– % of Lone Parent Families in BC

⁵Based on 1996 and 2001 Census Data. Richmond Hot Facts (accessed September 2006). www.richmond.ca

⁶ Government of British Columbia: Ministry of Education (December 2005) Student Statistics 2001/02-2005/06: Full-Year Summary Report, District 038–Richmond. <http://www2.sd38.bc.ca:8004/District%20Info/Resources/Statistics/038.pdf>

General Health

According to a recent study, the life expectance for Richmond is the



highest in the country – over four years more than that of the province overall (see Figure 5). In addition, Richmond citizens have the lowest smoking and one of the lowest obesity rates in the country (at 11.2% compared to the national average of 15.5%)⁷.

⁷ Statistics Canada. Canadian Community Health Survey 2006. Accessed September 2006 at http://bodyandhealth.canada.com/channel_health_news_details.asp?news_id=10118&news_channel_id=1055&channel_id=1055

A Food Systems Approach

...There is no single set of practices that will ensure the food security of a community. Rather, food security exists when there is a comprehensive continuum of resources in the community's food system.

Vancouver Food System Assessment

The environmental scan and action plan explore issues of food security through a food systems approach. This approach takes into account all aspects of human activity that contribute to the production: processing, distribution, consumption and disposal of food, including the relationships between each aspect and the information systems that surround them (such as research and education). The key components of a food system (see Figure 6) are identified as:

- the production of plants and animals for food and related products;
- the processing of plants and animals into food products for human consumption;
- the transportation, storing, and marketing of food products to consumers;
- the studying of the nutritional and health aspects of the foods humans consume;
- the waste products subsystem from production and consumption of food; and
- the educational aspects that relate to all of these components in order to have safe food in sufficient quantities for a healthy life.⁸



Figure 6: Food System Model
Developed by the Food System Consortium

Following the food system approach, a number of indicators, grouped by food security "themes", were identified (see Figure 7). Within each of these themes,

⁸ Adapted from the Food System Consortium (accessed 31 May 2006). *Food System Model*.
<http://foodsystemsconsortium.org/foodsystem-model.html>

an environmental scan is given of the national and/or regional context, followed by an assessment of gaps and challenges for the City of Richmond and ideas for future work in strengthening food security in the municipality.

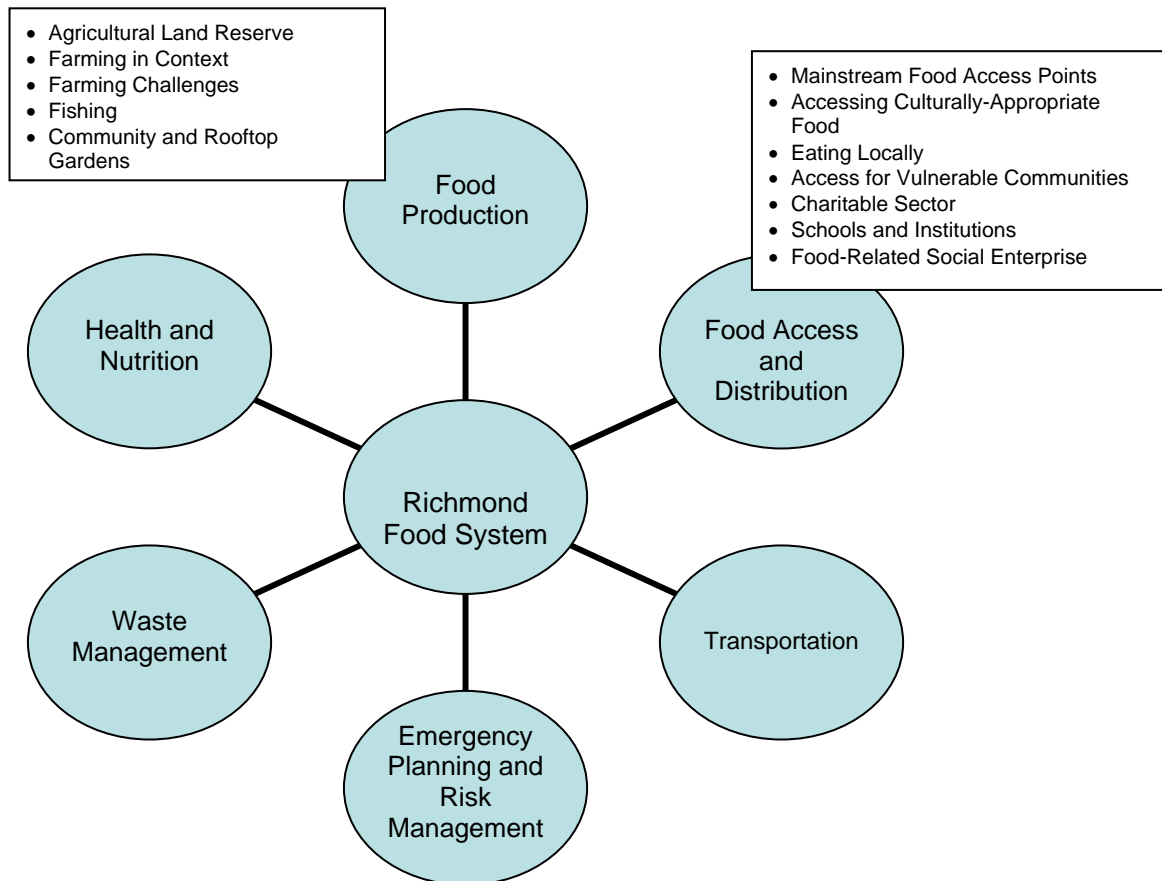


Figure 7: Themes for a Food System Assessment of

It is generally accepted that certain economic, political and social trends facilitate food security generally (see Appendix K). These key trends include:

- a focus on producing and distributing food locally (and therefore decreasing reliance on transportation, preservation and packaging);
- increased emphasis on organic (non-pesticide) and sustainable farming and production methods;
- increased emphasis on crop diversity; and
- increased emphasis on self-reliance and social inclusion through access to food and food production opportunities.⁹

⁹ “Strategies to build community capacity recognize and enhance the expertise and participation of the community and its members and involve the development of new networks...within and amongst communities.” (from CFSI Definitions of Terms, see Appendix M)

In this report, the benefits of these trends are considered in the context of modern farming and urban realities.

Food Security Indicators – How we know...

In order to assess Richmond's food security environment, it is useful to frame our work with a set of indicators that will measure the local level of success.

Until recently, the primary indication of household food insecurity was the large and continually growing numbers of Canadians seeking charitable food assistance programs from ad hoc community programs...

Nicholas T. Vozoris and
Valerie S. Tarasuk (2003)

While there is a general commitment on the part of our national government to addressing issues of food insecurity, consistent and systemic food policy at all levels is slow in coming and there is no national monitoring system or standardized set of food security indicators that can be used to understand the state of food security at a local, regional or national level.¹⁰ The work that has been done on establishing indicators has primarily been undertaken by community-level initiatives to address the immediate needs of citizens where they live.

Table 1 provides a number of indicators, based on other established assessment processes, which were used in this assessment to understand the state of the local food system. While some of the indicators were beyond the scope of this report, they none-the-less provide useful information for gap analysis and ideas for further research.

¹⁰ Community Nutritionists Council of BC (2004, June). *Making the Connection – Food Security and Public Health*: submitted to the Ministry of Health Services and Health Authorities of British Columbia: Author. Pp. viii.

Table 1: Indicators for Richmond Food Assessment

General Food Security

- Local and regional food system planning is happening and supported

Health and Nutrition

- Rate of diet-related health problems, including obesity and diabetes
- Existence of and support for public health and nutrition education efforts
- Availability and affordability of organic and non-GMO food

Food Production

- Support for and preservation of local agricultural land
- Extent to which available agricultural land is utilized for growing food
- Viability of local and regional agricultural sector
- Viability of local fishing industry
- Extent to which food is processed locally
- Availability and accessibility of Community Gardens to all residents, particularly those on low income

Food Access and Distribution: Local Sources

- Availability and accessibility of healthy food choices
- Affordability of healthy food choices
- Availability and accessibility of locally produced food
- Availability and accessibility of culturally-appropriate food

Food Access and Distribution: Charitable Sector

- Availability and accessibility of charitable food relief to those in need
- Extent to which charitable food relief is provided for those with specific health needs
- Extent to which charitable food relief is nutritionally adequate and culturally-appropriate
- Extent to which charitable food relief emphasizes capacity building and increased self-reliance

Food Access and Distribution: Schools and Institutions

- Extent to which nutrition education is part of standard curriculum
- Extent to which school system promotes healthy eating

Food Access and Distribution: Food Related Social Enterprise

- Existence of and support for food-related Social Enterprises

Transportation

- Extent to which food transportation is managed for risk

Emergency Planning and Risk Management

- Extent to which provision is made for supplying safe food and water in case of an emergency or natural disaster

Waste Management

- Extent to which excess food is shared with those in need
- Extent to which food waste is composted
- Extent to which food-related waste is recycled
- Existence of and support for innovative initiatives for managing waste

METHODOLOGY

This environmental scan, gap analysis and action plan was developed using several methods of community engagement:

- An internet-based survey focused on the participation of agencies and organizations serving the Richmond community;
- Community mapping sessions were undertaken at various sites across Richmond;
- Existing literature in the area of food security was reviewed and utilized;
- Existing statistical and policy data on various elements of the food and economic system in Richmond was reviewed and utilized;
- Existing resources, services and food access points were mapped using the community mapping input, internet searches, and a GIS mapping tool;
- Interviews were conducted with key stakeholders in Richmond; and
- A group was brought together by the Food Security Task Force to develop an action plan in response to the preliminary findings of the study using the outcomes measurement model of Splash & Ripple®.

Agency Survey

The internet-based survey gathered approx. 40 responses from service agencies and organizations. For the most part, individual questions were answered by between 25 and 35 respondents. The survey was of primary value for gathering information on existing resources. It was also useful in determining general interest in various food security initiatives that might be supported by the Task Force. And finally, it provided an opportunity to share information about the project and food security issues generally. Respondents identified as being from the following organizations:

Britannia Shipyard	Richmond Fruit Tree Sharing Project
City of Richmond	Richmond Health Department
Richmond Poverty Response Cmte	Brighthouse Elem. School PAC
Family Services of Greater Vancouver	Richmond Food Bank Society
RAISE	Sea Island Elem. School PAC
Cambie Community Centre	Richmond High School
Our Saviour Lutheran Church	Thompson Community Center
	South Arm Community Centre

Community Mapping

The community mapping process took place in several public areas and a few food-specific sites. Large maps were displayed and participants were asked to mark out where and how they access food as well as to provide comments about any challenges they experience around food access. The process engaged 75 to 100 participants at the following sites:

Richmond Caring Place	Richmond Public Library
East Richmond	Richmond Food Bank
Community Kitchen	Gilmore Church Community Kitchen

Key Respondent Interviews

One-to-one interviews were conducted to ensure the needs of vulnerable communities were accurately represented. Interviews were held with:

Liz Augustus	Youth Support Worker, Cambie Secondary School
Bill Bousquet	Aboriginal Outreach, Richmond Youth Services
Brian Campbell	Independent member of Food Policy Committee
Parm Grehwal	Exec. Director, Richmond Multicultural Concerns
Ella Huang	Exec. Director, Richmond Disability Resources Cntr.
Leslie Sherlock	Social Planner, City of Richmond
Yvonne Stich	Coordinator, Terra Nova Park Project: Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services, City of Richmond
Erica Williams	Exec. Director, Heart of Richmond AIDS Society
Bill Zylmans	Farmer and Owner, W&A Farms, Richmond Agricultural Advisory Committee
Anonymous	Food Bank volunteers

In addition, all elementary and secondary schools in Richmond (with a focus on Youth Support Workers) were polled by phone to determine the existence of school-based gardens or greenhouses and food programs for children in need across the city.

Literature and Policy Review

Existing literature and policies (municipal, provincial and federal) were reviewed on themes of food-security and urban agriculture. See List of References for more information.

Action Plan Workshops

Following the overall environmental scan, members of the project Advisory Team and other involved with the Richmond Poverty Response Committee were brought together to create one- and three-year Action Plans. The consultants utilized the Splash and Ripple model to lead the group through the development of an Outcomes Measurement Framework (OMF) and Action Plan. A further workshop was held to determine priority areas and a one-year budget.

Organizations represented at these workshops include:

Peace Mennonite Church	Touchstone Family Services
Fruit Tree Sharing Project	Broadmoor United Church
Richmond Food Bank	Kairos/St. Anne's Church
Vancouver Coastal Health	St. Albans's Church
Salvation Army	Family Services of Greater
City of Richmond	Vancouver

FOOD SECURITY IN RICHMOND: AN ENVIRONMENTAL SCAN



From Global to Local

Richmond Highlights

Existence of and support for local and regional food system planning

Since 1996, policy and planning around food security has been a feature of national and provincial governance. At the municipal level, food security issues are addressed primarily from through a lens of poverty reduction.

We consider it intolerable that more than 800 million people throughout the world, and particularly in developing countries, do not have enough food to meet their basic nutritional needs. This situation is unacceptable. Food supplies have increased substantially, but constraints on access to food and continuing inadequacy of household and national incomes to purchase food, instability of supply and demand, as well as natural and man-made disasters, prevent basic food needs from being fulfilled. The problems of hunger and food insecurity have global dimensions and are likely to persist, and even increase dramatically in some regions, unless urgent, determined and concerted action is taken...

Rome Declaration on World Food Security
United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO)

In November 1996, the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization hosted the World Food Summit in Rome. At that time, Canada joined many other countries in committing to reduce by half the number of hungry and undernourished people around the world, by the year 2015. Two years later, in October 1998, Canada's Action Plan on Food Security was developed, and in 1999, a National Food Security Bureau was set up with a mandate to coordinate and monitor the implementation of

the Action Plan and report on the progress of Canada's international commitments. Canada's Action Plan makes commitments in seven key areas:

1. An Enabling Environment
2. Access to Food
3. Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development
4. Trade and Food Security
5. Emergency Prevention and Preparedness
6. Promoting Investment
7. Implementation and Monitoring

In response to this national framework and to advocacy at the community level, BC municipalities have been working to assess and support local food security. There is a comprehensive regional network

of initiatives and communities that can be drawn on as Richmond moves to address its own food security concerns¹¹.

Two current policy areas are notable at the provincial level.

- First, the Agricultural Land Reserve provides a Provincial framework that supports local food production and a balance between urban and rural landscapes through the preservation of agricultural land.
- Second, the Framework for Core Functions in Public Health identifies food security as a core function and prioritizes action in this area as a key component of overall provincial health.

In Richmond, food security issues are currently being addressed from within a framework of poverty reduction. In 1999, the Richmond Community Services Advisory Committee (RCSAC) submitted a Poverty Report Card to Richmond City Council. Following the recommendations of this document, the Richmond Poverty Response Committee was formed and the Food Security Task Force was created as part of the Committee's mandate to alleviate poverty in Richmond.

¹¹ Community Nutritionists Council of BC (2004, June). Pp. vii.

Health and Nutrition

Richmond Highlights

Rate of diet-related health problems, including obesity and diabetes

Richmond residents have the lowest smoking and obesity rates in the country and live almost three years longer than the national average.

Seniors and people with mental health issues are at risk of poor nutrition.

Existence of and support for public health and nutrition education efforts

Nutritional information is available to the public in a number of different ways, through existing community agencies and services.

There is a lack of language-specific services and integration of nutritional education within the Richmond school system.

Availability and affordability of organic and non-GMO food

BC rates high for organic production nationally. The number of organic farmers in Richmond is not known.

On the surface, lack of food security presents itself as hunger, illness and disease. When we look deeper we find that food security expresses itself in many different forms, including diet-related medical conditions and even obesity. Across Canada, escalating rates of hunger and obesity are observed. Cardiovascular disease remains the number one cause of death in B.C. Type 2 diabetes, usually seen in older people, is now diagnosed in children and is on the rise.

Community Nutritionists Council of BC

Environmental Scan

The health concerns associated with food insecurity are many. In particular, Canada's vulnerable populations often suffer from symptoms of malnutrition.

- High-risk pregnant women (teens or those experiencing poverty or substance abuse) experiencing malnutrition pass the effects on to their children through low birth weight, infant mortality, and lifelong health problems, including chronic illness.
- Poor nutrition in early childhood can result in cognitive damage, reduced resistance to infection, and behavioural problems.
- Seniors who are isolated or living in poverty are a concern. For instance, the South Fraser Health Authority has found that 78% (or 2,500) of their elderly clients are at nutritional risk.
- People with mental health issues are also at risk for malnutrition. Studies in the U.S. and Canada have shown that there are significant links between chronic food insufficiency and depressive disorders.¹²

¹² Community Nutritionists Council of BC (2004, June). Pp. 7.

Food insecurity is also closely associated with the consumption of nutrient-poor, high-calorie foods, which increases the risk factors for obesity and related health concerns.

- Rates of obesity among Canadian children have doubled in the last 15 years and adults and children who are obese are four times more likely to have diabetes, three times more likely to have high blood pressure, and two times more likely to have heart disease than those with healthy weights.
- Chronic disease, particularly cardiovascular disease and diabetes, is strongly linked to food insecurity and poor nutrition. In 2001, 18.5% of deaths in BC were due to cardiovascular disease and over 133 000 people in BC over age 12 were living with diabetes.
- Among Aboriginal people, diabetes rates are three times those in the general population.¹³

Organic farming is an increasing trend across Canada and in BC in particular.

- There are 442 certified organic farmers in British Columbia, 12% of the Canadian total and 2.2% of the farmers in British Columbia.
- Of the 35 million litres of organic milk produced in Canada in 2004-2005, 18% was produced in British Columbia. 49% of organic eggs and 23% of organic meat birds were produced in BC.¹⁴
- There are 87 certified organic processors and handlers in BC, making up 17% of the Canadian total. The majority of organic crops are vegetable produce, orchards and field crops.¹⁵
- Given that there is no mandatory labelling of genetically modified (GM) food products or ingredients; it is not yet possible to have a clear picture of consumer trends in this area.

In many respects, the City of Richmond is doing well on some key food security indicators as they relate to individual health.

- According to Statistics Canada, residents of Richmond have the longest life expectancy in all of Canada.
- They have the lowest smoking and obesity rates in the country and live almost three years longer than the national average.

¹³ Ibid. Pp. 8

¹⁴ Macey, A (2005, November). *Certified Organic Production in Canada 2004*: Canadian Organic Growers.

¹⁵ Ibid

Gaps and Challenges

There are, however, gaps in the area of health and nutrition in Richmond, particularly, for the purposes of this study, in the availability of food-security-specific information:

- Given that there is no mandatory labelling of genetically modified (GM) food products or ingredients; it is not yet possible to have a clear picture of consumer trends in this area.
- There has been no survey of organic farming in Richmond to date.
- Information specific to the health of Richmond's Aboriginal community, particularly in regards to nutrition-related diseases such as diabetes and heart health is not readily available.

Looking Forward

The health costs of food insecurity are individual¹⁶, social¹⁷ and financial¹⁸ and it is important that the municipality continue to support programs which address food and nutrition-related health conditions. As many have argued, it will take "a *coherent food policy* with optimal nutrition for all as its highest purpose"¹⁹ to ensure that these costs are addressed and alleviated for future generations.

Compiling health data as part of a food system is crucial to understanding community food-security. Accessing information and making connections with an understanding of how food security impacts individual health will be an important part of monitoring developments in Richmond's food system.

¹⁶ "New nutritional knowledge on the protective role of antioxidants and other dietary factors suggests that there is scope for enormous health gain if a diet rich in vegetables, fruit, unrefined cereal, fish and small quantities of quality vegetable oils could be more accessible to poor people.": James, W., et al. "Socio-economic determinants of health: The contribution of nutrition to inequalities in health" *British Medical Journal*, 314, 1545.

¹⁷ "An unhealthy diet, along with other lifestyle factors such as smoking and physical inactivity, contribute significantly to the main killers in BC - diabetes, heart disease, cancer, and respiratory disease.": Antonishak, Donna, et al (2004). "The Cost of Eating in BC...". Dietitians of Canada, BC Region. P.1

¹⁸ "Food related illness and disease are costly. Nutritional risk is the single best predictor of physician and emergency room visits, hospital readmission and increased length of stay...Obesity alone costs the BC economy and estimated \$730-830 million a year...": Community Nutritionists Council of BC (2004, June). *Making the Connection – Food Security and Public Health*: submitted to the Ministry of Health Services and Health Authorities of British Columbia: Author. Pp. vii.

¹⁹ Ibid. Pp. 4.

Food Production

Richmond Highlights

Support for and preservation of local agricultural land

Approximately 4,900 ha of Richmond's land base are within the Agricultural Land Reserve, amounting to 34% of the City's lands.

There continues to be a push for exemptions to develop ALR lands, and the municipality takes these requests into consideration.

Extent to which available agricultural land is utilized for growing food

Agricultural land use in Richmond accounts for just over 3,000 ha while remaining ALR land in the municipality is either vacant or dedicated to non-farm uses (roads, institutions, golf courses)

Viability of local and regional agricultural sector

The number of farms in Richmond is decreasing (from 247 in 1996 to 182 in 2001). However, some crops are particularly successful here. For example, in 2001, cranberry production in Richmond covered more than 1/4 of the land for cranberries in Canada and approximately 47% of BC's cranberry acreage.

Richmond has developed an Agricultural Viability Strategy. However, progress on the Strategy is not readily apparent to the general community.

Viability of local fishing industry

Fishing, including processing and distribution, is a significant industry.

Local fish and seafood is also readily available to local residents.

Extent to which food is processed locally

There are many local processors and distributors located in Richmond, especially for fish and seafood (See Appendix C).

The majority of local cranberries, one of Richmond's largest crops, are processed in the United States.

Availability and accessibility of Community Gardens to all residents, particularly those on low income

Of the four public community garden sites in Richmond, only one is accessible by public transit.

There is a need to provide more outreach to the low income community to encourage their access and participation.

While there are a number of private rooftop gardens and green roofs in Richmond, none are known to be food producing.

There is currently no formal process for identifying new community garden sites across Richmond.

Agricultural Land Reserve

Environmental Scan

The ALR is a zone in which agriculture is the priority use and non-farming uses of the land are restricted. The Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) was created by the provincial government over 30 years ago in response to an annual loss of 6000 hectares of prime farmland. The overall size of the reserve is about 4.7 million hectares – which has remained fairly consistent, though the allocation across the province has shifted somewhat towards the north.²⁰ The Agricultural Land Commission (ALC) is an independent Crown Agency that has the authority to make land use decisions for the ALR.

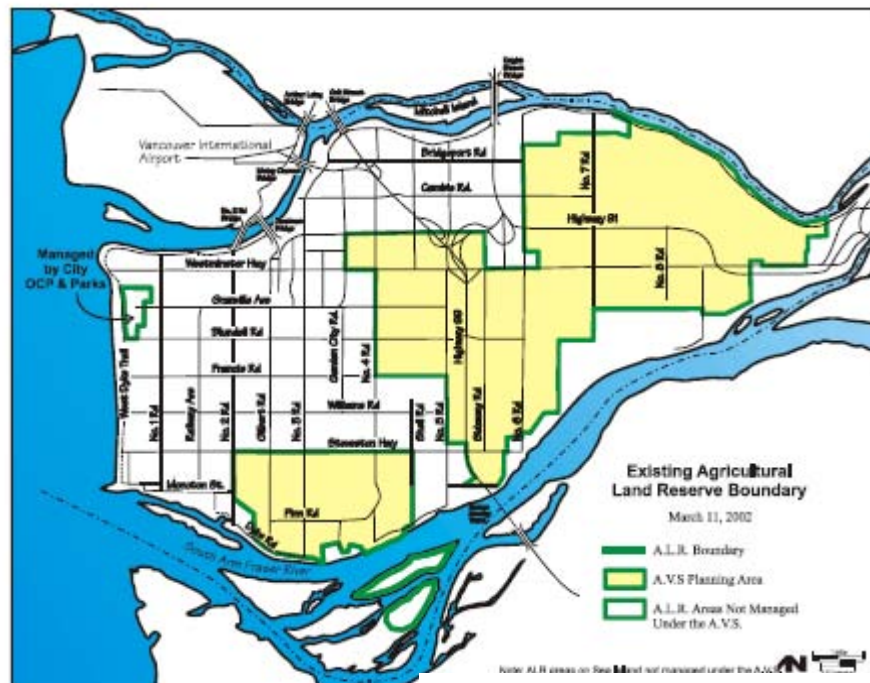


Figure 8: ALR Boundaries in Richmond,

The ALR serves a fundamental role in facilitating the relationship between the rural and urban landscape²¹. In Richmond, this relationship is a defining municipal feature (see Figure 8).

- Approximately 4,900 ha of Richmond's land base are within the Agricultural Land Reserve, amounting to 34% of the City's lands. These are primarily located in the Gilmore and East Richmond areas, with some smaller reserves throughout the municipality.

Gaps and Challenges

- According to the City of Richmond, the amount of land in the ALR has remained relatively stable in the last decade.²² Farms,

²⁰ SmartGrowth BC (2004). State of the Agricultural Land Reserve: Author. Pp. 5

²¹ Ibid.

however, cover just over 3,000 ha while the remaining ALR land in the municipality is either vacant or dedicated to non-farm uses (such as roads, institutions, and golf courses)²³ (see Figures 9 and 10).

“To maintain a high quality of life, communities across BC need to plan for their agricultural future just as they plan for their urban future.”

SmartGrowth BC

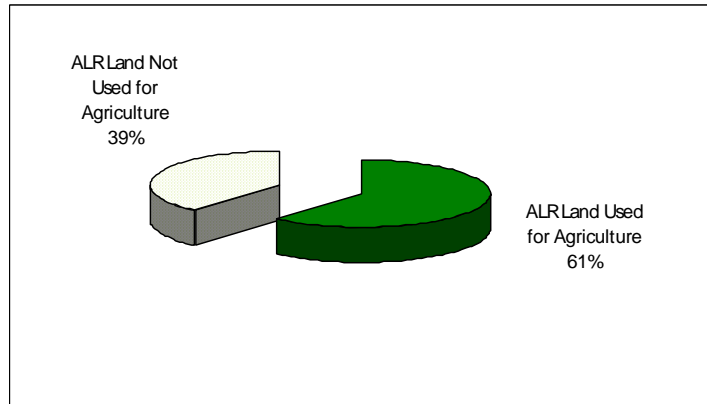


Figure 9 - Percentage of ALR Land Used for Agricultural Purposes

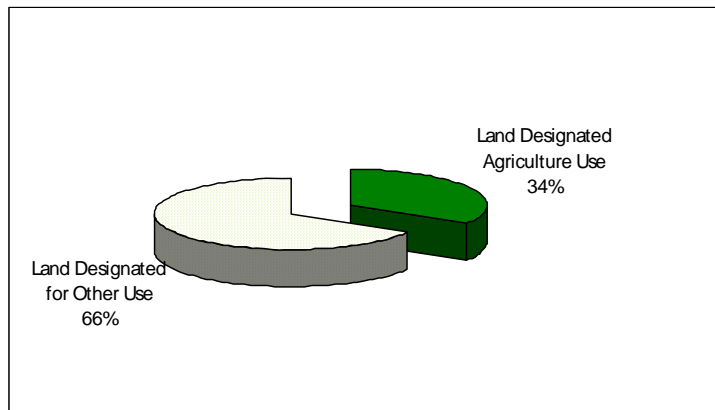


Figure 10 – Percentage of Land in Richmond used for Agricultural Purposes

- Developers continue to seek access to ALR lands through municipal and provincial exemptions and the integrity of the Reserve is by no means assured.

Farming and Fishing

Environmental Scan

Despite an overall shift towards urban living, farming remains a vital part of our national and provincial economic system.

²² City of Richmond (accessed 9 June 2006). *About Agriculture in Richmond*: Author. www.Richmond.ca/services/planning/agriculture/about.htm.

²³ Ibid

- As Agriculture Canada reports, “The Canadian agriculture and agri-food system provides one in eight jobs, employing nearly 2.1 million persons. The system also indirectly generates employment in other sectors such as transportation and retail opportunities.” In BC, this system accounts for close to 15% of provincial employment.²⁴
- In 2003, the Canadian agriculture and agri-food system accounted for 8.3% of the total Canadian Gross Domestic Product (GDP). In BC, food and beverage processing combined with primary agriculture accounts for approximately 2% of the provincial GDP and for 6.6% of the total Canadian Agriculture and Agri-Food Sector GDP.²⁵

Socially and economically, the City of Richmond combines rural and urban living in a unique way.

- The total consumer sales for agriculture, food and fishing industries in British Columbia in 2002 came to \$21.9 billion, while the total jobs serving these industries number 280,279²⁶. The 182 farms in Richmond generated \$38m in revenues in 2000²⁷, down from over \$56 million from 247 farms in 1996²⁸.
- In 2001, cranberry production in Richmond covered more than a quarter of the land devoted to cranberries in Canada²⁹ and approximately 47% of BC’s cranberry acreage³⁰. Other top crops grown in Richmond include hay, blueberries, and potatoes.
- The fishing and aquaculture industry in British Columbia contributes over \$1.9 billion in annual revenues provincially and more than \$601 million in GDP each year. The four main areas of economic activity in this sector are commercial fishing, sport fishing, aquaculture and seafood processing.³¹
- An active port and a large number of packing and distribution companies ensure that fishing remains an important part of the local economy. Several local events, such as the annual Salmon Festival and Fish for the Future highlight the role of the

²⁴ Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (2005, May). *An Overview of the Canadian Agriculture and Agri-Food System*: Government of Canada. Pp. 6-8

²⁵ Ibid

²⁶ Government of British Columbia (2004). *B.C. Agriculture, Food and Fisheries at a Glance*: Author

²⁷ "Growing Together". Fall 2003, Vol 4, No 1, Page 2.

²⁸ City of Richmond and Richmond Farmer’s Institute (2003). *Richmond Agricultural Viability Strategy*: City of Richmond. www.richmond.ca/_shared/assets/viability_strategy6314.pdf. Pp. 13

²⁹ "Growing Together". Fall 2003, Vol 4, No 1, Page 2.

³⁰ City of Richmond (accessed 9 June 2006). *About Agriculture in Richmond*

³¹ Ministry of Agricultural and Lands, Government of British Columbia (Accessed 27 May 2006). Fisheries Statistics: www.agf.gov.bc.ca/fish_stats/statistics.htm

industry and offer potential avenues for public education around maintaining a healthy food system.

...recent local government rural plans and provincial initiatives protecting the practice of farming have made a substantial contribution to supporting agriculture. However, protecting agricultural land is ineffective if farming becomes economically non-viable.

B.C. Select Standing Committee
on Agriculture and Fisheries, 1999

While farming accounts for a significant percentage of Richmond's land, the industry exists alongside a rapidly growing metropolitan area. There are both challenges and opportunities associated with this always dynamic relationship.

The Official Community Plan for Richmond recognizes agriculture as a key component of the city's planning process.

Richmond completed an agricultural land use inventory in 1995 and 2000 as well as an Agricultural Viability Strategy in 2001. However, despite making over 60 recommendations on agricultural decision making; non-farm uses and park and recreation; public education and awareness; and economic growth and diversification,³² progress on the Strategy is not readily apparent to the general community.

Gaps and Challenges

Maintaining an effective balance that values local food production, the broader national agricultural economy and the needs of a growing city remains a challenge. As one long-time Richmond farmer observes,

"Time has progressed. We've become a nice city, but we've forgotten our roots... [we have to ask ourselves] what do we want to become?... we have to pay for these things...you can't just expect these things to survive on their own..."

According to the Agricultural Viability Strategy for the City of Richmond, produced in February 2003, "the main limitations facing the agricultural industry include:

- Biophysical limitations such as excessive wetness of some soils;
- Pressure to urbanize;
- Pressure to subdivide;
- Rural-urban conflicts;
- Conflicting land uses and high land values;
- Economic issues; and
- Service and infrastructure problems"³³

As researchers Huhtala et al (2001) note:

³² City of Richmond and Richmond Farmer's Institute (2003). Richmond Agricultural Viability Strategy: City of Richmond. www.richmond.ca/__shared/assets/viability_strategy6314.pdf

³³ City of Richmond and Richmond Farmer's Institute (2003). Pp. 13

“Urban expansion within Richmond and structural changes in agricultural production, resulting from shifting global market conditions, have placed extreme pressures on some of Canada’s most intensive agricultural producers. According to the 1981 to 1996 Census of Agriculture from Statistics Canada, Richmond lost about one-third of its farms along with most of the inventory and capital value in sheep and lambs, as well as in dairy and beef cattle...”³⁴

There were a range of challenges noted by participants in this study and others, primarily relating to the tension between rural and urban land use and a lack of a cohesive effort on the part of stakeholders (City Council, developers, farmers) to address the viability of local food production.

- In all of Richmond, it is becoming more difficult to find land to lease. Land often sits unused for years waiting for permission to develop, rather than being farmed in the meantime.
- The Richmond Fruit Tree Sharing Project began in 2001 to collect unused fruit from gardens for donation to the local food bank. In the last five years, the project has seen a 50% reduction in fruit sources.
- The Statutory Reserve Fund is voluntary on the part of developers – money is contributed by companies for development permission and funnelled by the City to community projects and green space - but it’s not enforced, most developers don’t volunteer, and the fund remains small.
- “Education is a big factor...here, today, the population is removed from agriculture”. In particular, public knowledge about farming practices is minimal and often results in conflicts such as disrespect for private property (including petty crop theft), damage to crops and equipment from littering, and concern regarding legal spraying.
- There is an increasing conflict between different forms of traffic on Richmond roads. “For example, slow moving farm vehicles often cannot move from one part of a property to another because of their inability to cross a busy road and vehicles owned by recreationists are parked along the side of the road, resulting in the obstruction of important access routes.”³⁵

³⁴ Huhtala, Kari, MCIP, Karen Thomas, Jim Hiley, and Elizabeth Kenney (2001). “Feeding the Apartment Dwellers: A Planning Strategy to Enhance the Long-term Viability of Contemporary Farming in Canada’s Urban Regions” *Plan Canada*, Oct/Nov/Dec 2001, Vol. 41, No. 4: Canadian Institute of Planners. Pp. 12

³⁵ B.C. Select Standing Committee on Agriculture and Fisheries (1999). *Farming in an Urbanized Area: Issues for Agriculture in the Greater Vancouver Regional District*: Author. Pp. 3

- The proliferation of rabbits in central/south Richmond has the potential to cost farmers significant amounts of money in crop loss. Residential attitudes to potential pests differ significantly from those of farmers.
- The GVRD Agricultural Advisory Committee was established in 1992 to preserve and enhance agriculture in Greater Vancouver, provide a forum for focusing the concerns of agriculture in Greater Vancouver, and provide advice to the Board on matters related to agriculture in the region. One Richmond farmer currently serves on the Committee. However, farmers in Richmond lack a unified voice. The Richmond Farmers Institute is a small group that relies on a few advocates but does not have a broad membership encompassing the range of food producers in Richmond.
- There are a number of growers associations to which Richmond farmers belong (The B.C. Blueberry Council, BC Cranberry Growers Association, BC Raspberry Growers Association, Certified Organic Growers Association of B.C.) but none of these are based in Richmond; nor do they focus particularly on local municipal issues.
- Poorly managed drainage systems have caused long-standing conflict between cranberry farms and other agricultural areas and between farms and industrial development sites. For example, as a 1999 study found, "The proliferation of impermeable surfaces throughout residential development increases the velocity and quantity of stormwater run-off in lowland agricultural areas, often damaging or destroying crops and increasing soil erosion."³⁶

In 1996, the Agricultural industry accounted for almost 19% of BC's water use.³⁷ Water management is one of the most pressing current issues to do with land use in Richmond. Effective water management is a municipal jurisdiction and is of critical importance, not only to facilitating agricultural land use but also to the easing of relationships between various land uses in Richmond's unique balance of rural and urban landscape³⁸. For example, some areas of East Richmond have no irrigation at all, while in other areas, different farm commodities compete for available water.³⁹ A recent report on current and future irrigation water requirements in East Richmond, produced for the City

³⁶ Ibid Pp. 6

³⁷ Ministry of Agriculture and Lands, Government of British Columbia (accessed April 27, 2006). *Water Use in the Agricultural Industry by Province, 1996*:

www.agf.gov.bc.ca/stats/environmental/wateruse96.htm

³⁸ Huhtala, Kari, et al (2001). Pp. 13.

³⁹ "Growing Together". Fall 2005, Vol 6, No 1, Pp. 4

and co-funded by federal, provincial and municipal governments as well as local farm groups, has recommended an investment of \$10 million on a combination of infrastructure, city planning, and education programs.

Community and Rooftop Gardens

Environmental Scan

Community Gardens provide small plots of land that members of the community can rent (for no or minimal cost) for personal use to grow fruit, vegetables or flowers. Participants (often neighbours or living in a nearby area) may decide as a group on the code of conduct or rules for the space and usually share responsibility for communal tasks such as composting or water management, or in the case of city-run gardens, these rules may be decided at the city/parks level. Community Gardens offer growing space to people living in apartments or otherwise without access to land of their own. They are an often un-tapped opportunity for people on low-income to develop nutritional self-sufficiency and control over their personal food system.

- The Terra Nova project is part of an extensive garden/farming project connecting urban agriculture with Richmond's agricultural history.
- One new community garden is expected to be developed in East Richmond within the next year, in response to an evident need amongst recent immigrants and refugees in the area, particularly within the Somali community who, as renters, have limited access to yard space.

Gaps and Challenges

Richmond Parks and Recreation is the division of the City currently responsible for developing community gardens in public space. Gardens are slowly "becoming part of the vocabulary at the City" but there is still much to be done to increase community access, knowledge and self-sufficiency.

- There are four public community garden sites in Richmond, one at London Heritage Farm in Gilmore at the South end of the island, one at Palmberg Road at the edge of Fraser Lands in the Southeast, one at South Dyke (Gilbert Road) and one at Terra Nova Rural Park in Thompson at the Northwest corner of the city. However, only one of these, the Richmond Allotment Garden, is accessible by public transit and all are located outside of the main residential areas.
- All community garden plots in the City are currently occupied and waiting lists indicate a demand that outweighs availability.

- There is no formal consultation process for designating new community garden sites and Parks depends on recommendations from community organizations.
- Richmond Parks does not currently have a process to evaluate how or by whom gardens are being used. It does appear that low-income families and individuals are not well-connected to opportunities for community gardening nor specifically targeted to participate in food production.
- One current option for increasing growing space is to utilize land put aside by developers for public use in return for zoning concessions. However, the developer may choose what use this space is put to, and there is a perception that community gardens are “messy” when juxtaposed with new and cultivated urban developments.
- Richmond City Hall has an extensive green roof, but it is not food producing. Most of Richmond’s green roofs are garage roof decks that accompany high-rise residential or hotel towers. There are no known food-producing green roofs in Richmond.

Looking Forward

As evidenced in the Official Community Plan (OCP), Richmond's agricultural land is valued by the general community. Citizen input into the plan has reinforced the City's commitment to maintaining an effective balance between rural and urban uses. As a result, the OCP pledges to support “Productive agricultural land to justify retaining farmland; improvements to farming viability through better agricultural services; measures to reward productive farm use; [and] using some farmland for community benefit, e.g. community gardens; and better urban-rural buffers.”⁴⁰

Maintaining the Agricultural Land Reserve must be a priority for any food security development plan. The City of Richmond continues to focus on densification in designated areas so as not to stress the boundaries of either the ALR or established residential areas. Services are centred around transit routes and it is hoped that densification will encourage “complete communities” and make food resources more accessible. In addition, the City continues to pick up heritage land from individual owners as it comes available, with a mandate “to preserve...agricultural land, culture, heritage, and the environmental habitat”. The ALR Committee and Parks and Recreation does a yearly tour of commercial farms for City staff to promote internal awareness and would like an opportunity to offer similar tours with the general

⁴⁰ City of Richmond (accessed 13 June 2006). *Official Community Plan*: Author. <http://www.richmond.ca/services/planning/ocp/sched1.htm>

public and kids in particular. Other city initiatives might include using local bylaws to support community access to unused farm land.

Rooftop greening is an excellent way to increase agricultural space in an urban environment. These may be gardens or green spaces created on the roof levels of industrial, commercial, or residential structures and may be designed to grow produce or herbs. The agency survey found that most respondents were not aware of any rooftop gardens in the city. Many (76%) felt there was a need for more of these kinds of gardens/greening initiatives.

Food Access and Distribution: A Local Focus

Richmond Highlights

Availability and accessibility of healthy food choices

For the most part, food stores in Richmond appear fairly well distributed and cover a wide range of consumer choices.

One exception is East Richmond, where there are few choices for shops selling food and produce.

Affordability of healthy food choices

This study did not do a survey of food costs in Richmond. However, an annual study (using regionally-based data) on the cost of eating in British Columbia indicates that an average Canadian family can expect to spend approximately 15% of their income on food, while a family living on income assistance in BC can expect to spend 31-44% of their income on food.

Availability and accessibility of locally produced food

Richmond is well known for its farm stands and U-picks, selling seasonal produce along main roads throughout the agricultural areas of the city.

There are no Richmond-based social enterprises or Farmer's Market promoting local food consumption and no known restaurants or caterers focusing on local food.

Availability and accessibility of culturally-appropriate food

For immigrant groups in Richmond, culturally-appropriate food sources are largely dependent on the size of the specific population. Smaller immigrant groups have trouble accessing culturally-appropriate food and food support.

Mainstream Food Access Points

Environmental Scan

While we have seen how food insecurity is significantly linked to income levels, it is also true that Canadians experience some of the lowest costs for food in the world, "with food and non-alcoholic beverages purchased from stores accounting for only a 10% share of household expenditures."⁴¹

- Nationally, Canadians "tend to rate nutrition as the most important factor and rate price and safety as less important when choosing food."⁴² They are generally eating less red

⁴¹ Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (2005, May). *An Overview of the Canadian Agriculture and Agri-Food System*: Government of Canada. Pp. vii

⁴² Ibid. Pp. 38

meat and more poultry, cereal products and fruit & vegetables.⁴³

- There is also a trend towards consumption of organic products, as evidenced by the significant annual growth in retail sales claimed by the sector (20%). Notably, BC is one of the main Canadian producers and exporters of organic food.⁴⁴
- On a broad scale, the national food system is becoming increasingly consolidated and focused on large-scale operations, rather than smaller, local businesses. According to Agriculture Canada, “the five largest food retailers in Canada account for about 60% of national grocery sales, up from 50% a decade ago. Large food processing establishments comprise only 5% of the total number of establishments but account for half of the value of processed shipments. While only one-third of census farms have sales over \$100,000, these farms account for nearly 90% of farm production.”⁴⁵

Gaps and Challenges

There are a good number of grocery stores and supermarkets in Richmond (see Appendix B), which are, for the most part, well-distributed and covering a wide range of consumer needs. There are, however, some areas of concern.

- East Richmond is notably under-served by retail food outlets. Many residents shop for staple items at Shoppers Drug Mart (which has a surprising range of food available at seemingly competitive prices). There is a fruit and vegetable shop in the area, however, and new developments may address the concerns of some residents.
- It was beyond the scope of this research to compare local costs by neighbourhood or in comparison to the Province as a whole. Therefore, it is not known if there are significant disparities in food costs for Richmond residents.

Accessing Culturally-Appropriate Food

Environmental Scan

The ability to access culturally-appropriate food is an internationally-recognized measure of food security. Culture is an important factor that “determines, in part, what foods are acceptable and preferable, the

⁴³ Ibid. Pp. 41

⁴⁴ Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (accessed 15 June 2006). *Canada's Agriculture, Food and Beverage Industry - Canada's Organic Industry*.http://atn-riac.agr.ca/supply/3313_e.htm

⁴⁵ Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (2005, May). Pp. vii

amount and combination of foods to eat, when and how to eat, and the foods considered ideal or improper.”⁴⁶

- Not surprisingly, culturally-specific sources are focused on Asian foods, especially Chinese.
- At least one organization, Richmond Multicultural Concerns, offers programs to immigrant and refugee groups on diet and nutrition. In the past, they have offered tours on services in Richmond and found them to be a good way to connect cultural groups with appropriate resources.

Gaps and Challenges

For immigrant groups in Richmond, finding culturally-appropriate food sources is largely dependent on the size of the specific population. In many places, being 10% of the population means that there are enough services in place, however this does not seem to be the case in Richmond.

- For Filipino, Somali, Afgan, Japanese and other minority immigrants, food-specific resources are limited. For example, there are few sources for halal meat in Richmond and many Richmond residents shop in Vancouver or Surrey for culturally-specific items.

Eating Locally

Environmental Scan

Food security is known to be profoundly affected by how much access a community has to produce food locally. While much of the food produced in Richmond is exported, and much of the food consumed is imported, there are also many opportunities for Richmond residents to purchase local food in season. In the agency survey, for example, the vast majority of respondents (92.6%) knew of places to buy food directly from a farmer in Richmond.

- Richmond is well known for its farm stands selling seasonal produce along main roads throughout the agricultural areas of the city. The number of farm stands varies seasonally and it is not known how many are in operation across Richmond at any one time.
- U-Picks , farms at which consumers pick their own produce (mostly fruit) directly from the field, are common in Richmond and provide a fresh, local, low-cost alternative to supermarket shopping. As with farm stands, the number of operating u-picks varies seasonally.

⁴⁶HL MacMillan cited in Willows, Noreen D. (2005). “Determinants of Healthy Eating in Aboriginal Peoples in Canada”. Canadian Journal of Public Health. Vol 96, Supp 3, July/August 2005. Pp. S33

Gaps and Challenges

There are currently few initiatives in Richmond to develop local capacity for individual or community food security.

- In 2004 and 2005, a farmer's market was run in East Richmond on a similar model to the highly successful Vancouver Farmer's Markets. The market did not experience much success, however, and was discontinued in 2006. The reasons for this may have been that the market was not centrally located; that the model did not suit local farmers who run their own farm stands with less investment in dedicated labour; and the emphasis on organic rather than low-cost items. Many feel (for example, 80% of agency survey respondents) that there is a need for additional farmers' markets in the area. Some respondents felt any new farmers' market should be centrally located or in Steveston, while others noted the absence of services in East Richmond. One suggested that such markets could be an opportunity for education and community building.
- There are no known restaurants or caterers in Richmond that are exclusively or explicitly serving locally-grown food.
- As discussed in the chapter on Food Related Social Enterprise below, other ways to access local products are through Good Food Boxes, Buying Clubs and Community Shared Agriculture (CSA) agreements. None of these are common in Richmond but models for future development are readily available in other parts of the Lower Mainland, BC and across Canada.

Access for Vulnerable Communities

Environmental Scan

For the purposes of this report, the term "vulnerable communities" refers broadly to those who are at greater risk of experiencing food insecurity than the general population, namely: seniors; recent immigrants; aboriginal people; people living with disabilities, chronic disease, and mental health conditions; and families living in poverty. Access to culturally-appropriate food and the effects of poverty are dealt with elsewhere in this report.

- The Heart of Richmond, an agency serving clients with HIV/AIDS feels their clients are less likely to be food insecure than others living with chronic illness, since they are generally well-integrated into the health system. Where people with HIV/AIDS are not engaged with a service provider, however, their nutritional needs would likely be significant.
- Aboriginal people make up .7% of the overall population and are geographically dispersed - with many Aboriginal children in

Richmond living in non-Aboriginal foster care. There is one Aboriginal-specific community resource person for the area, who works out of Richmond Youth Services and two Aboriginal resource teachers available within the schools.

Gaps and Challenges

Due to physical, developmental or mental health challenges, people with disabilities can have trouble planning, may lack the ability/need support on diet planning; may not be motivated because of their condition; or find shopping and food preparation difficult.

- Service providers estimate that about half of the “disability” population in Richmond experiences food insecurity.

Larger influxes of refugees are arriving in Richmond, and in general, their needs are high while resources are few. Newcomers often have financial restrictions and with the high cost of housing, other aspects of settlement, especially food provisions, are suffering.

- There is growing recognition that for refugees in particular, cooking and nutrition management skills have suffered from long stays in refugee camps with no resources for passing on traditions or exercising self-sufficiency.

Generally speaking, Aboriginal individuals experience poorer health than other Canadians, particularly health problems related to diet, including heart disease and diabetes. Aboriginal families are also over-represented among those experiencing hunger in Canada. According to a 1998/99 National Population Health Survey, “the prevalence of food insecurity among Aboriginal respondents living off reserve was 27.0%, and 24.1% had a compromised diet, meaning that they did not have enough food to eat or that they could not eat the quality or variety of foods they wanted because of lack of money.”⁴⁷ In the local context, however, it is difficult to know how Aboriginal people in Richmond are managing in terms of food security.

- The needs of the broader Aboriginal population do not appear to be served comprehensively and it is difficult to assess their relative food security in Richmond.
- Currently, there are no representatives of the Aboriginal community involved in the Food Security Task Force.

Looking Forward

Focusing on local solutions is the most direct way to increase food security in Richmond. As SmartGrowth BC asserts, “The range of crops and livestock found on BC farms would make most areas of the world

⁴⁷ Willows, Noreen D. (2005). Pp. S32-34

envious. Together these products meet more than 50% of our provincial food needs and provide British Columbians with many choices for a healthy, locally grown diet. Provincial food sources reduce our dependence on external markets, provide higher quality, fresh products and reduce the huge amount of energy needed to truck our feed from faraway lands.”⁴⁸

The recommendations of study participants regarding meeting the needs of vulnerable populations focused on empowerment models, supporting the idea that “community control over food decisions that affect the community is key to developing and maintaining food security”⁴⁹:

- Organizations need to develop models with the consumer in mind...Support services need to reach out and not wait for clients to come to them
- Efforts need to be put into sharing skills and mentoring. Participants need to see themselves as involved, not just as being helped
- Richmond could support more community kitchens, especially accessible to those with disabilities
- Creation of Good Food Boxes and/or a food buying co-op could support those with disabilities or who are homebound. Shopping support could potentially be provided by increased services from HandyDART, or by a volunteer shopping-buddy program.
- Promote information on and affordability of existing delivery programs, such as SPUD and Meals on Wheels.

⁴⁸ SmartGrowth BC (2004). State of the Agricultural Land Reserve: Author. Pp. 3

⁴⁹ Community Nutritionists Council of BC (2004, June). Pp. 3.

Food Access and Distribution: Charitable Sector

Richmond Highlights

Availability and accessibility of charitable food relief to those in need

The Richmond Food Bank has two locations that provide three weekly distribution sites for those in need. St. Albans Church, Nanak Sar Gursikh Temple and the Salvation Army offer free meals on a weekly basis.

Access to the Food bank by public transportation is a notable concern.

Extent to which charitable food relief is provided for those with specific health needs

The Richmond Food Bank provides extra resources for people with diabetes or HIV/AIDS.

Extent to which charitable food relief is nutritionally adequate and culturally-appropriate

The overall perception is that Food Bank resources are healthier and more varied than in the past.

The Richmond Food Bank does not provide culturally-specific food and this may deter some potential clients from accessing this support.

Extent to which charitable food relief emphasizes capacity building and increased self-reliance

In general, the charitable food sector does not currently provide specific opportunities for capacity development amongst low-income "clients".

Environmental Scan

It is a fundamental principal of food security work that income levels have a close relationship to food security. In fact, as Valerie Tarasuk, in a review of income and diet, has found, "those living on income

In many places food banks and other food providers refer to themselves - and others refer to [them] as an emergency food sector. Having been around since 1984...and growing almost every year, this is...not an emergency response, but rather a down-loaded and institutionalized response to hunger. In other words, A Charitable Food System.

Herb Barbolet, Food Activist

assistance are *three times* more likely to report food insecurity"⁵⁰ than those with higher incomes. In 2001, the Statistics Canada Community Health Profile for BC "revealed that almost 12% of the population during the past 12 months were worried that there would not be enough food because of a lack of money."⁵¹

⁵⁰ Tarasuk, Valerie (2003). "Low income, welfare and nutritional vulnerability": *Canadian Medical Association Journal*, March 18, 2003; 168 (6). Pp.2

⁵¹ Antonishak, Donna ,et al (2004). Pp.3

According to the annual Dieticians of BC report published in 2005, the potential for food insecurity among low-income families has increased in the last year.

The average monthly cost to feed...a family of four (two parents, two children) is \$654, up from last year by 3.5%. A family of four on income assistance receives \$991/month. The estimated cost of shelter for this family (3 bedroom) would be almost \$900/month, leaving little, if anything, for food, clothing and other necessities such as transportation, child care, household supplies and medical and dental care. While the average Canadian family with one income spends about 15% of their disposable income on food, those on temporary income assistance living and buying food in BC would need to spend 31% to 44% of their income on food.⁵²

For a family of four living in a major Canadian city, the low-income cut-off, or poverty line, rests at an annual before-tax family income of \$32,546. In Richmond, in 2004, there were 15,730 households earning less than \$30,000 a year and the estimated cost of shelter for a family of four (3 bedroom) in 2003 was \$1,064. This means that while the average household income in Richmond is just over \$60,000, close to 30% of Richmond households are living below the national poverty line and the costs of daily life are rising.⁵³ As the Community Nutritionist Council of BC argues,

The view of food as a commodity permeates North American culture. This, coupled with loss of knowledge, skills and structures for local food self-sufficiency (which accompany consolidation and control of the food supply), means that for a majority of the population, food access is almost completely dependent on income...⁵⁴

There are a number of ways in which people living on low-income can access food. One of these is through a charitable donations system, exemplified by the Food Bank model but also reflected in community meals provided by churches or other free food services provided on the basis of income.

Across Canada, there are 650 food banks; 97 of these in British Columbia. Significantly, 38% of BC food bank recipients are children⁵⁵. In Richmond, two Food Banks provide three weekly distribution sites for

⁵² Ibid Pp. 1

⁵³ Based on Statistics Canada data. City of Richmond (accessed June 10, 2006). *Hot Facts Sheets*: www.richmond.ca/discover/demographics.htm

⁵⁴ Community Nutritionists Council of BC (2004, June). Pp. 12

⁵⁵ Antonishak, Donna, et al (2004). Pp.3

those in need. St. Albans Church, Nanak Sar Gursikh Temple and the Salvation Army offer free meals on a weekly basis. According to study participants,

- The overall perception is that Food Bank resources are healthier and more varied than in the past.
- Student nurses do a practicum placement at the Food Bank, where they offer healthy snacks, recipes, nutritional information, heart rate testing, etc.
- The Food Bank and some other charitable food sources are able to offer appropriate and supplementary dietary items for those with AIDS/HIV and diabetes

Gaps and Challenges

According to the Canadian Association of Food Banks, "The number of registered food banks in BC rose to 105 in 2003. There has been a 23% increase in the number of people using food banks since 1997."⁵⁶ This increase is a concern in itself. In addition, there are challenges associated with how those in need are accessing food and how they are developing their own capacity for self-sufficiency wherever possible.

- The locations of the Food Bank distribution sites are not readily accessible by public transportation. The organization is working on finding a new, more centrally located site, in the next two years.
- The Richmond Food Bank does not provide explicitly culturally-specific food, except where such is donated.
- Richmond Churches and Temples often fundraise for the Food Bank. Very few, however, are using their land to grow food for community access or to develop community self-sufficiency.

Looking Forward

Across the continent, food banks are re-imagining their position on the food security continuum. As Mustafa Koc reminds us, "Food banks need to reconsider their original premise that they are temporary structures. A person who thinks that he/she has six months to live acts differently than a person who believes he/she has 60 years to live."⁵⁷ There appears to be energy, within the food bank community, to work towards more sustainable, "structural solutions to hunger and food insecurity."⁵⁸

⁵⁶ Canadian Association of Food Banks cited in Antonishak, Donna, et al (2004). Pp.2

⁵⁷ Koc, Mustafa (July, 2005). Food Banks for Community Food Security. (Associate Professor, Department of Sociology & Director of Centre for Studies in Food Security, Ryerson University). Paper presented at the Annual General Meeting of the Canadian Association of Food Banks.

⁵⁸ Canadian Association of Food Banks (2005). *Time for Action: Hungercount 2005*: Author

The Richmond Poverty Report Card study conducted interviews and focus groups with those living in poverty and found two major social themes. First, as a result of their poverty, participants overwhelmingly felt excluded from broad community life. And second, participants felt they had little choice in the decisions they were making.⁵⁹ Several participants in the current environmental assessment expressed the idea that the people who are best placed to provide solutions to food insecurity are those who are experiencing it in their daily lives. Systems must be in place to not only serve the immediate needs of those in crisis, but to also build capacity towards sustainable long term food security for the community as a whole.

An opportunity for building capacity may come with the relocation of the Richmond Food Bank in the next two years. A site that could provide for partnership with a community garden and that allows for easy access by public transit could dramatically increase the ability of clients to access resources while increasing their own self-sufficiency.

⁵⁹ Vancouver/Richmond Health Board (2001, Sept). *Community Health Area 7: A Health and Social Profile*. www.rhss.bc.ca/data/1/rec_docs/58_CHA7_HealthSocial_Profile.pdf

Food Access and Distribution: Schools and Institutions

Richmond Highlights

Extent to which nutrition education is part of standard curriculum

There is no standard curriculum for nutritional education in Richmond schools.

A few schools access a greenhouse or garden for student instruction and two schools have elective teaching cafeterias.

Extent to which school system promotes healthy eating

Cafeterias in Richmond schools are privately contracted and there is no District-wide policy regarding the nutritional value of the food provided. Policies on vending machines and food provision are currently under review.

There is no District-wide policy regarding food resources or nutritional support for students living in poverty or otherwise experiencing food insecurity. These needs are currently met on an ad hoc basis by school administrators and teachers.

Environmental Scan

There are two programs run provincially and one nationally that are designed to increase education and support around nutrition in the schools.

“Kids want healthy food for breakfast.... but the cost is enormous, so we can’t [provide that].”

School-based Youth Support Worker

BC Agriculture in the Classroom Foundation runs the BC School Fruit and Vegetable Snack Program with the objectives: “to increase consumption of local fruits and vegetables; to increase awareness of the health benefits of fruits and vegetables; to increase the awareness of fruits and vegetables grown in BC; to increase the awareness of the safe handling practices of fruits and vegetables”⁶⁰.

CommunityLINK (Learning Includes Nutrition and Knowledge) is run by the BC Ministry of Education and provides “services and supports in schools for vulnerable children and youth across the province”⁶¹. School districts can work with CommunityLINK to develop programs and strategies that target funding in the best way for their community.

⁶⁰ BC Agriculture in the Classroom website (accessed 14 June 2006). <http://www.aitc.ca/bc/snacks/>.

⁶¹ CommunityLINK website (accessed 14 June 2006). www.bced.gov.bc.ca/communitylink/

Breakfast for Learning “is the only national, non-profit organization solely dedicated to supporting child nutrition programs in Canada”⁶². The organization provides Nutrition Program Grants to schools. Meals are served by a network of volunteers in communities in every province and territory in Canada.

In order to assess current resources in the Richmond’s schools, a telephone survey was conducted (see Appendix D). There are a few of ways in which schools attend to students in need.

- 15 elementary schools keep snacks on hand for kids who forget their lunches.
- 21 elementary and secondary schools have informal lunch or breakfast programs to meet the needs of low-income children who do not have regular meals or bring regular lunches to school. These programs are used by anywhere from two or three kids over the course of the year, to 12 or 15. Funding comes from a variety of sources, including the Parent Advisory Council (PAC), the school budget, teachers and staff personal funds.
- At Station Stretch, ten of the 45 children attending the school utilize the food program, which is supplemented by the Food Bank.

On the subject of nutritional education, schools integrate learning in a few different ways.

- There are two teaching cafeterias established at McNair Secondary and Richmond Secondary where kids learn cooking skills (and minimal gardening skills) through an elective course.
- Two elementary schools (Quilchena and Spul’u’kwuks) are participating in the Edible Schoolyard Project at the Terra Nova site, exploring the curriculum through gardening, harvesting and cooking together.
- Two secondary schools (Boyd and MacNeil) have greenhouses that are used in student instruction. Five schools have non-food producing gardens and two have food producing gardens.
- Two initiatives, Connect and the Good Grub Project, provide youth food related programming outside the school system. Both offers a community kitchen style program that brings kids together on a weekly basis around food preparation and nutrition.

⁶² Breakfast for Learning website (accessed 14 June 2006).
www.breakfastforlearning.ca/english/index.html

Gaps and Challenges

While Richmond Schools may be meeting the food security needs of their students on an ad hoc basis, there is no sustainable and consistent process for doing so. With no formal district-wide policy, kids are identified by teachers on a case-by-case basis and are often provided for by the good will of school staff. It is also impossible to determine, at this time, exactly how many kids are served by the current system or how many are in need.

- According to the survey, only one school noted use of the Healthy Schools Program (VHC), and one had funding from the Breakfast for Learning Program. There is also a Breakfast Club Fund at the District that appears to be underemployed by those most directly in contact with students in need.
- A couple of food programs are student-driven. While these initiatives are inspiring, they can be difficult to sustain as children graduate and their energy for the work is difficult to maintain.
- It is difficult to determine what the need for food assistance is in these cases, since there is no record kept of kids use and no formal program for tracking their nutritional circumstances.
- Cafeterias run in the schools are privately operated through contract with the individual school. There do not appear to be district-wide regulations or guidelines regarding nutritional content of food services within the school setting.

Looking Forward

Resources currently underused (as identified above) could provide the support for accelerated development in the area of nutritional education and capacity building in local schools.

A variety of policies concerning food and nutrition in the schools are currently under review by the School District. Following this review, there may be interest in developing new and innovative approaches to ensuring students are accessing nutritious meals, integrating nutrition and food knowledge, and learning food production skills. The District may be best situated to implement a consistent and formalized system for identifying students in need and accessing support to meet those needs.

Food Access and Distribution: Food Related Social Enterprise

Richmond Highlights

Existence of and support for food-related Social Enterprises

There are no known food-related social enterprises based in Richmond.

There is interest, in the community service sector, in the development of social enterprises for Richmond (i.e. Good Food Boxes, etc.)

Environmental Scan

A social enterprise is an initiative that seeks to provide capacity building and/or employment opportunities through a business model. These are often, but not always, supported by a social services non-profit organization. The model may focus on making profit and redirecting those profits towards a social benefit, it may seek to create a social benefit through the act of profit making, or it may pursue the idea that profit making must *necessarily* be tied to social benefit⁶³.

Examples of food-related social enterprises may be community shared agriculture programs (CSAs), good food boxes, food buying clubs, community kitchens, community stores, farmers markets, farm-to-cafeteria programs, or individual business initiatives.

- There are seven community kitchens or cooking clubs currently operating in Richmond, six that are focused on new immigrants, and one focused on serving youth-at-risk. Community kitchens, cooking clubs or shared kitchens, are opportunities for people to cook and eat together. Most community kitchens meet regularly with the same group of people and have a specific focus such as single people cooking for one, vegetarian, new immigrants, cooking for people with diabetes, or families cooking for young children. Often, these are subsidized and are not profit-making ventures.

Gaps and Challenges

In Richmond, few social enterprises are an active part of the food system.

- CSA programs provide city dwellers with a box of seasonal produce direct from a local farm every week during the growing season. CSA members buy shares in a farm's yield early in the season and thereby assume part of the farmer's risk through the season. While individual residents may take part in CSA programs, there are none located in Richmond itself.

⁶³ Omidyar Network website (accessed 14 June 2006). www.omidyar.net/group/community-general/news/8/

- A good food box is a wholesale buying program which supplies members with a box of food about once a month. Members usually pay a small fee at the beginning of the month, and receive their box closer to the end of the month when funds tend to be tighter. Boxes may be subsidized for low-income participants. In Richmond, a Food Box is provided by *Healthiest Babies Possible*, but participation is limited to mothers enrolled in the program.
- Food buying clubs or food cooperatives are formed by groups of people who purchase bulk food directly from wholesalers, thereby cutting their costs and accessing nutritional or culturally-appropriate food they might otherwise have limited access to. There are no food-buying clubs or food cooperatives known to operate in Richmond.
- A community store may be a cooperative or a locally owned store with a mandate to participate in and give back to the community in which it is located. There are no community stores known to be operating in Richmond.
- Farmers' markets provide consumers with a local place to gather, to meet farmers and to purchase a variety of fresh produce and food products. Farms sell directly to the consumer at a weekly in-season venue. A farmer's market was operational in Richmond for the last two years, but has been discontinued due to poor farmer participation and low consumer attendance.
- Farm-to-cafeteria Initiatives focus on creating direct links between growers and institutions in order to increase the amount of fresh, locally or regionally grown products used in the cafeterias, and to provide a reliable source of income for family farms. There are no known Farm-to-Cafeteria Initiatives operating in Richmond.
- Community economic development initiatives include projects that give people the opportunity to develop food-related small business and cottage industries, as well as efforts to bring supermarkets to underserved areas. No community economic development Initiatives were found to be operating in Richmond at this time.

Looking Forward

For the most part, agency survey respondents were unaware of existing good food boxes, food buying clubs, community stores or community shared agriculture projects, but were generally supportive of these potential new initiatives. Since these kinds of programs are designed to be community-based and community-directed, further market research

would need to be done to understand how such social enterprises might best meet the needs of and involve Richmond residents.

Transportation

Richmond Highlights

Extent to which food transportation is managed for risk

A survey of food transportation systems for Richmond was beyond the scope of this project. However, the global trend is towards an increasing number of miles that food travels to the plate. Given its geographical circumstances, the environmental impacts of food transportation, and the health consequences of food preservation, the current dependence on food imports presents a significant risk for food security in Richmond.

Research conducted by the Leopold Centre for Sustainable Agriculture (2001) found produce arriving by truck travelled an average distance of 1,518 miles to reach Chicago in 1998, a 22 percent increase over the 1,245 miles traveled in 1981.

Community Nutritionists Council of BC

Environmental Scan

The transportation of food is an international industry that implicitly supports the national economy. All methods of transportation contribute significantly to the use of fossil fuels and depletion of non-renewable energy sources, increased dioxide production and global warming. It is

estimated by a UK study that the production, processing, packaging and distribution of the amount of food consumed by a family of four creates about eight tonnes of CO₂ emissions each year⁶⁴. In addition, travel over long distances and time significantly affects the nutritional quality of food and increases the need for food processing and chemical preservatives⁶⁵.

Gaps and Challenges

While assessing the amount and nature of transportation for Richmond's food system was beyond the scope of the project, global trends indicate an increasing reliance on imported food and food products.

Looking Forward

Further study could be done on the average Food Miles that are travelled by products consumed in Richmond. Such research would

⁶⁴ Sierra Club of Canada (accessed 14 June 2006). "Food Miles": Author.

<http://www.sierraclub.ca/national/programs/health-environment/food-agriculture/campaign.shtml?x=840>

⁶⁵ Worthington, V. (2001) and Organic Retailers and Growers Association (1999) cited by Sierra Club of Canada (accessed 14 June 2006). "Food Miles": Author.

<http://www.sierraclub.ca/national/programs/health-environment/food-agriculture/campaign.shtml?x=840>

and Smith et al. (2005). *The Validity of Food Miles as an Indicator of Sustainable Development*. Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) (UK)

provide an indicator of how well Richmond is doing in developing local self-reliance.

Emergency Planning and Risk Management

Richmond Highlights

Extent to which provision is made for supplying safe food and water in case of an emergency or natural disaster

Policies for emergency planning exist at a Federal, Provincial and Municipal level. A focus on consumption of local goods can significantly minimize the risk of food shortages in case of an emergency or natural disaster.

Environmental Scan

Richmond is connected to the rest of the Lower Mainland by several bridges and a tunnel. There are two major freeways and two railway lines into Richmond, as well as two international seaports and the Vancouver International Airport on Sea Island. The city is well connected to the regional infrastructure of the GVRD and Lower Mainland.

In the event of an emergency or a natural disaster preventing [the import of food]...communities in BC would run out of food in an estimated 2 to 3 days.

Farmfolk Cityfolk 1996

Gaps and Challenges

Any natural disaster would likely destroy at least part of this infrastructure and greatly hamper the ability of Richmond residents to receive food supplies.

Barring such dramatic events, we have already seen how national and international politics can affect the local food system, through the consequences of the BSE crisis since 2003. Since that time, many borders have been closed to Canadian imports of potentially affected meat and meat products which, for a time, effectively stopped the industry in its tracks. The Canadian market is now recovering, but the impacts have had ripple effects throughout the domestic supply chain and provides us with a sobering example of the risks associated with a heavy reliance on cross-border trade.⁶⁶

Looking Forward

Emergency planning for various political, economic and natural events must consider the food system as a whole in order to protect local citizens from undue risk.

⁶⁶ Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (2005, May). Pp. 16

Waste Management

Richmond Highlights

Extent to which excess food is shared with those in need

Many community agencies and some local businesses donate excess food to the Food Bank.

Extent to which food waste is composted

The City runs a compost demonstration garden and offers composting workshops.

There is no city-wide composting program in Richmond.

Extent to which food-related waste is recycled

The City of Richmond first began offering recycling services in 1990. In 2000, the total estimated residential waste was 54,532 tonnes with an estimated 49.8% being recycled.

Existence of and support for innovative initiatives for managing waste

The GVRD runs a number of innovative projects to manage and reduce waste for the region, including a Waste-to-Energy Facility and a biosolids processing project.

Environmental Scan

The management of food waste is an often neglected element of the food system at any scale. Managed effectively, food waste can provide the building blocks for a naturally healthy cycle from production, through consumption and back again to composted or energy-resourced material. The City of Richmond depends on several systems of waste management, based municipally and regionally.

- The GVRD supports a number of innovative projects, including a Waste-to-Energy facility that turns approximately 250,000 tonnes of garbage into 800,000 tonnes of steam every year. A percentage of the steam is sold to a local paper recycling facility and another percentage used to power a turbo generator which produces energy then sold to BC Hydro and a local greenhouse system.
- In another area, the Nutrifor Project treats biosolids (containing anything that goes down toilets and drains in our communities and that pass through the screens at the wastewater treatment plants) for use as organic material. While there are some concerns about the use of this soil in growing food, Nutrifor products are currently being used in land reclamation, silviculture, ranch land fertilization, and landscaping. The

GVRD continues to monitor and research contamination levels, but believes the product to be safe for food production.

- The City of Richmond first began offering recycling services in 1990. In that year, the total estimated residential waste for the city was 37,018 tonnes with 8% recycled. In 2000, the total estimated residential waste was 54,532 tonnes with an estimated 49.8% being recycled.
- The City of Richmond runs a compost demonstration garden, located at Terra Nova Rural Park, and offers workshops from April through September. Information on composting in the Lower Mainland can be found at the Compost Hotline web site at www.cityfarmer.org/hotline73.html.

Gaps and Challenges

The agency survey conducted for this research revealed that a low percentage of organic waste is being composted at the organizational level and there was little knowledge on the part of respondents about how their organic waste is handled.

While recycling is happening with more regularity, in general, the barriers to both composting and recycling appeared to be a lack of information and a lack of resources available to facilitate the process.

Looking Forward

Governments and community-based organizations have a role and responsibility to champion innovative waste reduction models and their general public use as part of an overall strategy to support agricultural land and promote a sustainable urban food system.

GOOD PRACTICES: SOME CASE STUDIES

This section provides examples of food security initiatives undertaken by other cities. These examples provide ideas that the Richmond Food Security Task Force could undertake as they implement their action plan.

Nanaimo Foodshare

Since 1997 Nanaimo residents concerned with food security have been working collaboratively to establish and develop the Nanaimo Foodshare Society. The mission of the Society is to increase individual and community food security by providing programs and services that facilitate equitable access to food in empowering ways.

Their mandate is to:

- Operate a food resource and referral centre;
- Facilitate gleaning and distribution of surplus foods in the community;
- Operate a summer lunch program for low-income, school age children;
- Operate a food box program to provide access to affordable, nutritious food; and
- Develop and operate new programs that meet food needs through skill-building and self-reliance.

The Foodshare Centre is a hub of activity in Nanaimo's downtown. As well as Foodshare, the centre houses the Nanaimo Community Kitchens and Community Garden Programs. The gardens are located on the adjoining city property. Community groups use the centre for meetings and events. There are many workshops in food preparation and preservation offered that make use of the Health Authority's "Approved Kitchen."

Highlights from Foodshare's 2003 activities include:

- The Summer Lunch Munch Program served 6000 lunches The Living Well Program for diabetes prevention offered monthly workshops on "cooking out of the box" (the Good Food Box) and canning, as well as a community walking program;
- Reorganized the Good Food Box Program;
- Implemented a community food growers gleaning program;
- Developed funding proposals for a youth scratch cooking program and for a women's entrepreneurial training program; and
- Worked with the city's Social Planning Committee to create a food security umbrella organization, Nanaimo Food Link, to accommodate the continuum from food banks to policy creation.

For further information contact: foodshare@shaw.ca

Linking Land and Future Farmers

Linking Land and Future Farmers (LLAFF) is a non-profit organization that matches small-scale organic farmers with landowners who want their land to be farmed. Although members must make their own matches, LLAFF offers other assistance to new farmers including: a tool lending library, farming and education grants, sample leases and partnership planning information.

The first match was made in 1994. By agreement, no cash changes hands. In exchange for the use of their property, the owners get all the fresh fruit and vegetables they can eat, and retain their farm status for tax purposes. In return, the farmer has access to the land and farm equipment seven days a week during daylight hours, and takes care of everything but the lawn and flower beds. The farmer can sell any produce not used by the owner.

Since that first match, three other farmer-owner pairs have been brought together, and Mary Alice Johnson, who coordinates LLAFF, now has a data base of 25 land owners and 25 land seekers. All that is required of either is a commitment to work together, and keep the land in production without chemical pesticides and fertilizers.

Victoria residents buy organic produce every Saturday at Moss Street Market, located on the grounds of Sir James Douglas School. Community support for the market was so strong that the City changed a municipal by-law that previously prohibited such activities on school grounds.

For more information contact: Mary Alice Johnson at (604) 642-3671

Toronto Food Policy Council

Established in 1990, the Toronto Food Policy Council (TFPC) was Canada's first official Food Policy Organization (FPO). The TFPC partners with business and community groups to develop policies and programs that promote food security. The aim of the TFPC is *"a food system that fosters equitable food access, nutrition, community development and environmental health"*. The council has three primary goals:

- to reduce hunger and the need for a charitable food distribution system;
- to increase access to sufficient, nutritious, affordable, safe and personally acceptable foods; and

- to promote equitable food production and distribution systems which are nutritionally and environmentally sound.

The TFPC is a subcommittee of the Toronto Board of Health, having a yearly budget of \$200,000. It consists of 21 volunteer members appointed by city council. Members come from a diverse range of food-related backgrounds. The TFPC is co-chaired by a city counselor and a community member. The organization has three full time staff. Community action, advocacy, education, research, networking, communication and policy development are the principle activities of the council.

Since its inception, the TFPC has acted as a catalyst spurring on an explosion of community food security programs. Community shared agriculture, breast feeding programs, farmers markets, good food box programs, incubator kitchens, community restaurants, community gardens, rooftop gardens and school food programs proliferate. These programs are designed to provide Toronto residents access to an affordable, nourishing diet, to rebuild food skills, and to foster community around food. Decreased social isolation, increased consumption of fruits and vegetables, increased community food self-sufficiency and increased sustainable food production are but a sample of the health outcomes reported in the literature (Biehler *et al.* 1999, Toronto Food Policy Council 2001, Welsh and MacRae 1998). On the policy front, the organization has developed a number of discussion papers, and in 2001, the City of Toronto adopted a Food Policy Charter (TFPC 2001a).

Toronto Food Policy Council's successes, like those of FPOs across North America, have hinged on their capacity to:

- Access leadership in health, municipal and agricultural sectors;
- Access core funding to support the activities of the organization;
- Conduct research and share information;
- Organize diverse partnerships;
- Access decision-makers;
- Develop food policy; and
- Highlight and take positions on food issues... (Biehler *et al.* 1999).

The TFPC was inspired by the Knoxville Food Policy Council and the United Kingdoms London Food Commission and differs from most other FPOs in the Canada in that it is based in government institutions.

For more information visit www.city.toronto.on.ca/health/tfpc_index.htm or contact Wayne Roberts, Coordinator tfpc@toronto.ca

Occidental College - Farmers Market Fruit and Salad Bar (Los Angeles, CA)

The Farmers' Market Fruit and Salad Bar was started by Occidental College's Center for Food and Justice and was funded in 1999 by a Community Food Project grant of \$104,000 over a two year period. It has led to the development of dozens of fruit and salad bars in the second-largest school district in the nation.

The primary goals of the Fruit and Salad Bar program are to increase the availability and consumption of fruits and vegetables for school age children, and to provide education on food production and healthy food choices. School gardening activities and field trips to farmers' markets and local farms provide rich opportunities for hands-on nutrition education.

Pilot programs, with food sourced from local farmers' markets, were launched at Castelar Elementary School in the Chinatown neighborhood, which is predominantly low-income Asian, and at 59th Street School, which is mainly low-income African-American and Latino. As a control for the farmers' market model, a third pilot program was launched at 42nd Street School, with a student body of primarily low-income African American, using a conventional salad bar that purchases produce through traditional wholesale channels. All schools have a universal free lunch policy. The schools marketed the program with an all-school assembly on salad bar food choices and etiquette, presented by 5th-grade students.

Classroom curriculum was also developed to promote healthy food choices. While buying from local farmers worked well for the model project in Santa Monica, it proved very challenging to translate this model to LAUSD. Problems cited include lack of quality control when buying directly from farmers, transportation and logistics difficulties, increased labour for food service staff, and a lack of priority on the part of the produce buyer and food service to buy from farmers directly. In addition, the conventional control salad bar did just as well as the farmers' market salad bars. So after the first year, Food Services decided to discontinue the pilot farmers' market purchasing program, and instead purchase produce through conventional channels with already prepared and ready to serve food.

The Fruit and Salad Bar has been very effective in meeting its primary goals. Conventional salad bars are now offered at more than 50 schools. They are very popular, and have improved the nutritional value of student meals by increasing fruit and vegetable consumption an average of one serving per day, according to a public health research team from UCLA. The team conducted a follow-up study to

document the impact of this project and found the students' daily caloric intake decreased by 200 calories, and their daily fat intake by 2%. Furthermore, parents are now allowed to volunteer in school cafeterias, strengthening links between the schools and the community and increasing parental understanding and involvement in issues related to student meals.

For information about the Center for Food and Justice: call (323) 341-5095 cfj@oxy.edu

Seattle's P-Patch Program and Cultivating Communities

The Department of Neighborhoods' P-Patch Program, in conjunction with the not-for-profit P-Patch Trust, provides community garden space for residents of 44 Seattle neighborhoods. Over 1900 plots serve more than 4,600 urban gardeners on 12 acres of land. There are programs to serve low-income, disabled, youth and non-English speaking populations.

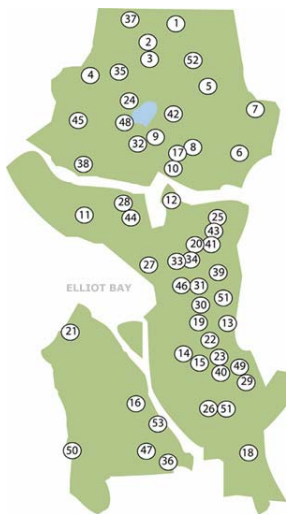
P-Patch gardeners show their concern for the value of fresh organic vegetables by supplying 7 to 10 tons of produce to Seattle food banks each year. Supporting a strong environmental ethic, the P-Patch Program allows organic gardening only.

Cultivating Communities

Cultivating Communities goal is to help establish safe, healthy communities and economic opportunity through the development of community gardens and Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) enterprises in Seattle Housing Authority public housing communities. It is a partnership between the Friends of P-Patch and the Seattle Housing Authority (SHA). The program also works closely with SHA community councils to set priorities for garden development.

The project was begun in 1995 to address a need by SHA to provide safe garden sites for residents and to help build a community among the residents. In the first year, seven community gardens were developed. During 1996 and 1997 the project added two income generating gardens, continued to build new community gardens, and worked with gardeners to develop leadership among the gardeners to help manage and operate the gardens. The program is primarily grant funded. It has a project manager and four quarter-time staff who serve as community organizers, interpreters, and garden coordinators.

The program now has ten community gardens with four low-income housing communities providing organic gardening space for 120 families. Most of the gardeners are recent immigrants primarily from Southeast Asia. The gardens provide food for their families and friends



and help provide a sense of community. Most of the gardeners participate in community building events such as work parties and pot-lucks. The gardens help to promote healing for those who have experienced the stress of civil war.

Cultivating Communities has two community supported agriculture (CSA) enterprises which provide supplemental income for 17 families. There are 39 families which purchased produce shares in 1997 at a cost of \$350. The subscribers received a bag of fresh organic produce for 24 weeks. Many of these shares are split among several families. The interaction between customers and gardeners helps the gardeners practice their English skills and links them to the broader Seattle Community. The customers have a better sense of people living in low-income communities. The gardeners are gaining skills, experience and confidence which will help them adjust to life in the United States and become productive citizens. The enterprise is also helping to build community among the gardeners themselves. Most of the gardeners had little contact with their fellow gardeners when the project began.

Cultivating Communities' approach to program development is to involve the residents with the development of the gardens beginning with gardener recruitment and site selection. The residents are also taking responsibility for many aspects of management. This has contributed to the success of establishing active and productive gardeners from one season to the next. It also has helped to build relationships among neighbors contributing to community building and crime prevention.

For more information please contact:

Martha Goodlett, Cultivating Communities Coordinator. Phone: (206) 684-0264.

FOOD SECURITY IN RICHMOND: AN ACTION PLAN



Outcomes Measurement Framework: 2006 – 2007

Purpose: To work towards food security, when all people in the community, at all times, have access to nutritious, safe, personally acceptable and culturally appropriate foods, produced in ways that are environmentally sound and socially just.				Situation Assessment: See Environmental Assessment	
Timeframe: 5 June 2006 – 31 March 2007					
Principles <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Create spaces that are safe for and respectful of low income participation▪ Embrace collaboration and support networks for food security▪ Support a focus on local solutions as a principle of food security					
INPUTS	ACTIVITIES	OUTPUTS	SHORT TERM OUTCOMES	INTERMEDIATE OUTCOMES	LONG TERM OUTCOMES
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ 1 part-time coordinator▪ Office space▪ Meeting space▪ Telephone, fax, computer and other office equipment▪ Transportation budget▪ Participation support▪ Desktop publishing and printing fees▪ Materials and supplies for projects▪ Speaker fees▪ Conference fees▪ Training fees	Consultation and Mobilization Develop informational materials and reach out to community organizations to promote involvement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ 1 pamphlet distributed electronically to existing networks and at special events▪ 3 consultation meetings with 40-50 community organizations and 200-300 community residents▪ 1 PowerPoint presentation▪ Two annual special events held: Earth Day and World Food Day	Community members are aware of the action plan, know how to get involved and the plan is strengthened by their input.	More Residents of Richmond are growing, preserving and consuming local food.	In Richmond, people are making healthy choices supported by a sustainable, affordable and equitable food system that maximizes community self-reliance and cultural inclusion.
	Committee Development – Build committee skills and relationships with targeted community organizations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ 1 proposal writing workshop▪ 1 monitoring workshop▪ 10 participants per workshop▪ 2-3 monitoring tools▪ 1 long term sustainability plan	The committee has the skills and resources to deliver on the action plan.	Community organizations, businesses, schools, governments and churches work together to achieve food security.	
	Partnership and Community Capacity Building Recruit and support low income participants to be involved in leadership roles on food security.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Contacts with 6 community organizations▪ 3 new committee members representing groups serving the aboriginal community, people with disabilities and seniors▪ 2 low income residents attend Food Security conference▪ 4-5 new residents identified and supported to participate in Task Force	Low income participants gain confidence in their role as decision makers on the food security task force and in the projects of the action plan.	People in our community who are isolated feel included in the community and are better able to access healthy food resources.	

	Food Programs Identify best practices, share information and investigate the viability of establishing a food-based social enterprise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Report on best practices ▪ Food security project workshop ▪ 10 participants representing community partners ▪ Project Feasibility plan ▪ Subcommittee with 6-8 members 	The Social Enterprise subcommittee understands what works in food security projects and has begun planning for a project that addresses community needs.	take leadership roles in influencing public policy on food security.	
	Advocacy and Policy Development Survey community organizations to seek input into policy change and convene a committee to promote policy change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 20 organizations contacted ▪ 1 committee of 10-15 community organizations ▪ 1 plan to promote policy change 	Community organizations know how they will promote a City-wide food policy and begin lobbying activities		

Outcomes Monitoring Plan: 2006 – 2007

SHORT- TERM OUTCOMES	INDICATORS	SOURCE	METHODS/ FREQUENCY	WHO WILL DO IT
Community members are aware of the action plan, know how to get involved and the plan is strengthened by their input.	# and type of organizations involved in consultation % of organizations who indicate that they know how to get involved. Examples of changes from community input	Meeting sign in sheets Participating organizations Committee members	Review of sign in sheets/semi-annually Consultation feedback form/semi-annually Focus group/semi-annually	Coordinator Coordinator Coordinator
The committee has the skills and resources to deliver on the action plan.	% of committee members who indicate that they have the skills they need to implement the plan Examples of changes in skills.	Committee members Committee members	Focus group/annually Focus group/annually	Coordinator Coordinator
Low income participants gain confidence in their role as decision makers on the food security task force and in the action plan.	% increase in low-income participation in Feed Security Task Force % of participants who express confidence that their voices are heard	Committee members Committee members	Informal interview /annually Informal interview /annually	Coordinator Coordinator
The Social Enterprise subcommittee understands what works in food security projects and has begun planning for a project that addresses community needs.	% of Social Enterprise committee members who indicate an increased knowledge of food security social enterprise Extent to which planning occurs	Committee members Meeting minutes	Focus group/annually Review of minutes /annually	Coordinator Coordinator
Community organizations know how they will promote a City-wide food policy and begin lobbying activities	# and type of organizations involved Plan for promotion # and type of promotion activities	Meeting minutes Meeting minutes	Review of minutes /semi-annually Review of minutes /semi-annually	Coordinator Coordinator

MONITORING PLAN CONTINUED

MEDIUM- TERM OUTCOMES	INDICATORS	SOURCE	METHODS /FREQUENCY	WHO WILL DO IT
More Residents of Richmond are growing, preserving and consuming local food.	% change in the number of residents growing their own food. Examples of low-income residents and families growing food	Residents Residents	Community survey/biannually Community survey/biannually	Volunteers Volunteers
Community organizations, businesses, schools, governments and churches work together to achieve food security.	% change in the number of organizations involved in working together by type Examples of collaborative projects	Community organizations Community organizations	Collaboration mapping /annually Collaboration mapping /annually	Volunteers Volunteers
People in our community who are isolated feel included in the community and are better able to access healthy food resources.	% of participants of community organizations who indicate that they are better able to access healthy food. Examples of people who were previously isolated playing a role in community based food production.	Consumers of community services Consumers of community services	Focus groups annually Focus groups annually	Volunteers Volunteers
Residents, especially those on low-income, take leadership roles in influencing public policy on food security.	Change in the # of low-income residents who take leadership roles Examples of low-income residents taking on a leadership role.	Committee members Committee members	Focus group annually Focus group annually	Coordinator Coordinator

Outcomes Measurement Framework: 2006 – 2009

Purpose: To work towards food security, when all people in the community, at all times, have access to nutritious, safe, personally acceptable and culturally appropriate foods, produced in ways that are environmentally sound and socially just.				Situation Assessment: See Environmental Assessment	
Timeframe: 5 June 2006 – 31 March 2009					
Principles <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Create spaces that are safe for and respectful of low income participation▪ Embrace collaboration and support networks for food security▪ Support a focus on local solutions as a principle of food security					
INPUTS	ACTIVITIES	OUTPUTS	SHORT TERM OUTCOMES	INTERMEDIATE OUTCOMES	LONG TERM OUTCOMES
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ 1 full-time coordinator▪ Office space▪ Meeting space▪ Telephone, fax, computer and other office equipment▪ Transportation budget▪ Participation support▪ Desktop publishing and printing fees▪ Materials and supplies for projects▪ Speaker fees▪ Conference fees▪ Training fees	Consultation and Mobilization – Consult with residents, businesses, churches, schools, government agencies, service agencies and clubs and other community organizations on the action plan and mobilize community support for the plan through festivals and events.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ 1 pamphlet distributed electronically to existing networks and at special events▪ 3 consultation meetings with 40-50 community organizations and 200-300 community residents▪ 1 PowerPoint presentation▪ Two annual special events held: Earth Day and World Food Day	Community members are aware of the action plan, know how to get involved and the plan is strengthened by their input.	More Residents of Richmond are growing, preserving and consuming local food.	In Richmond, people are making healthy choices supported by a sustainable, affordable and equitable food system that maximizes community self-reliance and cultural inclusion.
	Committee Development – Develop resource base to fulfil action plan; expand food security committee and build committed partnerships to implement action plan; develop monitoring tools and long-term sustainability plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Action Plan Budget▪ 4-6 funding proposals developed to support the action plan▪ 5-8 community orgs not currently represented will join the FS task force▪ 3-5 organizations agree to partner on specific action plan projects▪ 2-3 youth join FS task force	The FS task force is representative of diversity of community organizations and has resources it needs to deliver on the action plan.	Community organizations, businesses, schools, governments and churches work together to achieve food security.	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 2-3 monitoring tools ▪ 1 long term sustainability plan ▪ 3 annual monitoring reports 		Residents, especially those on low-income, take leadership roles in influencing public policy on food security.	
	Partnership and Community Capacity Building –Recruit and support low income participants to be involved in leadership roles on food security.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 12 presentations per year as identified in the action plan ▪ 2-3 Partnership agreements with community organizations ▪ 4-5 new residents identified and supported to participate in Task Force ▪ 2-3 low income participants supported to attend Food Security Conference 	Low income participants gain confidence in their role as decision makers on the food security task force and in the projects of the action plan.		
	Food Programs and Community Capacity Building – Identify best practices and promote multi-generational food security projects across programs; design, implement and promote food related social enterprise (SE) initiatives and develop public education workshops with a particular focus on low-income and vulnerable populations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 1 social enterprise sub-committee formed ▪ 1 workshop series ▪ 1 asset inventory ▪ 1 guide to food in Richmond (focused on low-income) ▪ 1 list of food security materials ▪ At least 1 food related social enterprise initiative developed in Richmond 	Residents, especially those on low-income and those living with disabilities or chronic illness, are aware of food options and involved in food security activities.		
	Advocacy and Policy Development – Advocate on food security issues and work to influence policy change in key areas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Strategic lobbying strategy ▪ All local, provincial and federal politicians contacted and engaged in dialogue 	Government and public institutions in Richmond are more aware of food security issues as they relate to policy.		

Action Plan Framework: 2006 – 2007

Activity groups have been identified and described for a three-year period. This first year action plan identifies key “Actions to be Taken” in the first year of funding. The focus in the first year is on strengthening community representation on the Food Security Task Force, developing community and funding relationships and building community capacity for future projects.

Activity	Action to Be Taken	Timeframe	Resources Needed	Who will do it
Consultation and Mobilization Develop informational materials and reach out to community organizations to promote involvement.	1. Develop and produce an informational brochure on the committee and action plan 2. Identify and prioritize community organizations and invite to meetings and special events. 3. Reconnect with Richmond Youth Services and explore partnerships with other youth-related agencies: MCFD youth team, Reconnect, etc. 4. Expand mailing list to include SRS and Daycares and nurses 5. Develop relationships with key contacts at RSD #38 6. Hold meetings and special events (Earth Day and World Food Day)	Fall 2006 Ongoing Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Action Plan ▪ Content for brochure ▪ Existing community directories ▪ Use of computer ▪ Translating services ▪ Existing special events funds 	Coordinator
Committee Development – Build committee skills and relationships with targeted community organizations.	1. Identify funding sources, criteria and deadline dates; develop funding relationships 2. Develop budget that includes in-kind resources and multiple sources of funding 3. Seek letters of support from community partners 4. Explore partnership with RYSA Aboriginal Family Program and other aboriginal-serving agencies; Multicultural Concerns Society and other immigrant-serving agencies; Disability Resource Centre and other disability-related agencies; senior-serving agencies in Richmond 5. Research and develop monitoring plan and tools 6. Collect and report on monitoring data	2006/07 2006/07	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Commitment from committee members ▪ Brochure ▪ Information on contacts within organizations ▪ Meeting space and supports ▪ Draft budget ▪ Outcomes Measurement Framework 	Coordinator and committee members

Partnership and Community Capacity Building Recruit and support low income participants to be involved in leadership roles on food security.	1. Contact food bank, festivals, churches, mosques, temples, welfare to create dialogue; make presentations to clients 2. Support low-income committee members to attend Bridging Borders FS conference	Ongoing October 2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Brochure ▪ Conference fees ▪ Participation supports ▪ Training facilitator 	Coordinator and Committee
Food Programs Identify best practices, share information and investigate the viability of establishing a food-based social enterprise	1. Research best practices in food oriented social enterprises 2. Conduct a feasibility study for a social enterprise food security project 3. Develop community-based sub-committee to build SE partnerships within our community	2006-2007 Fall 2006 2006-2007 2006-2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Commitment from committee members ▪ Brochure ▪ Information on key contacts ▪ Meeting space and supports 	Committee Sub-Committee Coordinator
Advocacy and Policy Development Survey community organizations to seek input into policy change and convene a committee to promote policy change	1. Survey community organizations to determine how the community can work together to lobby for a Richmond Food policy 2. Convene a policy subcommittee 3. Develop a plan for lobbying for change	2006-2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Brochure ▪ Broad partnerships ▪ Commitment from committee members 	Committee Coordinator

Action Plan Framework: 2007 – 2009

The three-year action plan builds on groundwork laid in the first year of funding. The next three years will focus on developing partnerships, building capacity, and pursuing innovative projects and initiatives towards improved food security for Richmond. A more detailed plan will be developed for each of the second and third years at the end of the previous year, following a review of ongoing monitoring reports.

Activity	Action to Be Taken	Timeframe	Resources Needed	Who will do it
Consultation and Mobilization – Consult with residents, businesses, churches, schools, government agencies, service agencies and clubs and other community organizations on the action plan and mobilize community support for the plan through festivals and events.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify and prioritize community organizations and invite to meetings and special events. 2. Hold meetings and special events (Earth Day and World Food Day) 	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Brochure and other materials Existing special events funds 	Coordinator
Partnership and Committee Development – Develop resource base to fulfil action plan; expand food security committee and build committed partnerships to implement action plan; develop monitoring tools and long-term sustainability plan	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Pursue ongoing funding 2. Seek letters of support from community partners 3. Continue to identify and develop new community partners as appropriate 4. Collect monitoring data 5. Analyse and prepare annual monitoring 	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>2007-2009</p> <p>Annually (2008 and 2009)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Budget ▪ Outcomes Measurement Framework ▪ Brochure and other materials 	Coordinator and committee members
Community Capacity Building – Recruit and support low income participants to be involved in leadership roles on food security.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Contact food bank, festivals, churches, mosques, temples, welfare to create dialogue; make presentations to clients 2. Invite new members to offer their skills for specific tasks/projects and provide training to develop presentation skills 	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Brochure and other materials ▪ Conference fees ▪ Participation supports ▪ Training facilitator 	Coordinator and Committee
Food Programs, Outreach and Community Capacity Building – Identify best practices and promote multi-generational food security projects across programs; design, implement and promote food related social enterprise (SE) initiatives and develop public education workshops (speaker series, community inventory etc.) with a particular focus on low-	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Support community-based sub-committee to research good practices, models, successes, and how to build SE partnerships within our community 2. Build on funding relationships to target social enterprise support (ie. VanCity, Coast Capital) 3. Create workshop series, identify potential speakers and choose a theme, org. list 4. Conduct asset inventory; develop/support 	<p>2006-2007</p> <p>2007-2008</p> <p>2008-2009</p> <p>2008-2009</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Meeting space and supports ▪ Speaker fee(s) ▪ Venue ▪ Advertising/marketing resources ▪ Printing costs ▪ Design costs 	Committee Sub-Committee Coordinator

income and vulnerable populations.	development of and distribute guide to food and food resources in Richmond 5. Identify SE food program(s) and support their development by community partners	2008-2009		
Advocacy and Policy Development – Advocate on food security issues and work to influence policy change in key areas.	1. Develop and implement a lobbying strategy 2. Advocate to City Council, School Board and VCH for a Food Policy Council	2007-2008 2008-2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Brochure and other materials ▪ Broad partnerships ▪ Commitment from committee members 	Committee Coordinator

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Appendix A: Comparison of Organic vs. Conventional Food Costs

Organic(Org) and Conventional(Conv) Average Retail Food Prices (\$) In Four Canadian Cities January 10, 2004									
		Vancouver		Toronto		Montreal		Halifax	
Product	Unit	Org(6)*	Conv(2)*	Org(6)*	Conv(2)*	Org(6)*	Conv(2)*	Org(4)*	Conv(2)*
Cereal									
Oats ¹	kg	4.58	3.74	2.38	1.98	3.89	1.67	4.60	1.83
Pasta ²	kg	9.05	6.91	6.22	4.99	7.20	4.54	5.99	5.04
Flour ³	Kg	3.07	1.73	1.76	1.83	1.93	2.09	2.27	1.36
Dairy&Eggs									
Cheese ⁴	kg	31.96	14.50	25.86	10.75	20.98	11.34	23.96	13.95
Eggs	1 doz	4.79	3.09	5.35	2.44	5.28	2.79	4.50	1.99
Milk 2%	1 L	2.92	1.92	2.62	2.24	2.18	1.43	2.64	1.58
Yogurt	750 g	4.07	3.19	3.90	2.94	3.81	2.99	2.74	2.63
Fruit									
Apples	kg	4.49	3.27	2.96	2.84	6.09	2.17	3.85	3.29
Meats									
Chicken ⁵	kg	13.66	5.95	6.98	4.83	9.96	6.57	11.09	4.72
Hamburger	kg	17.26	7.72	8.98	7.09	22.19	5.60	NA	3.18
Pork chops	kg	NA	9.54	15.90	8.80	27.54	10.45	NA	6.59
Vegetables									
Beans ⁶	kg	4.24	5.49	8.00	6.60	4.50	7.16	7.69	6.59
Carrots	kg	3.18	1.39	2.59	1.86	2.76	1.37	2.23	0.86
Cucumber	each	6.12	0.74	2.99	2.50	1.99	0.80	2.29	1.19
Lettuce ⁷	each	2.16	1.64	2.73	1.59	2.19	1.79	2.99	1.84
Onions ⁸	kg	2.85	1.75	2.81	1.00	3.12	2.19	1.63	0.66
Pepper ⁹	kg	6.23	4.39	10.04	3.84	12.49	4.39	NA	5.27
Potatoes ¹⁰	kg	2.35	1.72	2.13	2.18	2.48	1.48	1.83	0.33
Tomatoes ¹¹	kg	4.49	6.60	7.31	3.84	7.23	8.80	6.59	3.95
Zucchini	kg	4.80	4.12	7.60	3.28	8.27	4.18	8.80	4.17
¹ Oats for cooking ⁴ Cheddar ⁷ Romaine ¹⁰ White ² Whole wheat spaghetti ⁵ Whole Bird ⁸ Yellow ¹¹ Red ³ Whole wheat ⁶ String ⁹ Green * Number of Retail Stores Surveyed									

Organic and Conventional Retail Food Prices(\$) Averaged in Four Canadian Cities Across Canada January 10, 2004							
Product	Unit	Organic			Conventional		
		Average	Lowest	Highest	Average	Lowest	Highest
Cereal							
Oats ¹	kg	3.86	1.99	8.81	2.30	1.35	3.79
Pasta ²	kg	7.12	4.95	12.27	5.37	4.51	7.17
Flour ³	Kg	2.26	1.27	4.49	1.75	0.92	2.19
Dairy&Eggs							
Cheese ⁴	kg	25.69	17.45	52.50	12.64	3.78	18.90
Eggs	1 doz	4.98	4.00	5.89	2.58	1.89	3.99
Milk 2%	1 L	2.59	1.35	2.99	1.79	1.31	2.39
Yogurt	750 g	3.63	1.79	4.39	2.94	2.59	3.79
Fruit							
Apples	kg	4.35	1.98	10.98	2.89	1.49	4.39
Meats							
Chicken ⁵	kg	10.42	5.98	15.41	5.52	4.17	6.99
Hamburger	kg	16.14	8.98	22.19	5.90	2.18	8.80
Pork chops	kg	21.72	15.90	27.89	8.84	6.59	11.38
Vegetables							
Beans ⁶	kg	6.11	2.16	8.00	6.46	4.39	8.82
Carrots	kg	2.69	1.64	3.96	1.37	0.83	2.18
Cucumber	each	3.35	1.79	7.32	1.31	0.69	2.99
Lettuce ⁷	each	2.52	1.75	4.38	1.72	1.49	1.99
Onions ⁸	kg	2.60	1.49	6.35	1.40	0.44	3.28
Pepper ⁹	kg	9.59	3.65	19.78	4.47	3.28	6.59
Potatoes ¹⁰	kg	2.20	1.32	4.37	1.43	0.22	2.18
Tomatoes ¹¹	kg	6.40	3.89	11.00	5.79	3.28	9.90
Zucchini	kg	7.37	4.37	8.80	3.94	2.23	6.00
¹ Oats for cooking ⁴ Cheddar ⁷ Romaine ¹⁰ White ² Whole wheat spaghetti ⁵ Whole Bird ⁸ Yellow ¹¹ Red ³ Whole wheat ⁶ String ⁹ Green							

Appendix B: Food Access Points in Richmond

Please note: the following table shows most relevant resources at the time of research, but may not be a completely exhaustive list.

COMMUNITY GARDENS						
Project/Program	Organization	Address	Contact and Phone	E-mail Address	Description	Web
London Heritage Farm Gardens and Bee Hives	London Heritage Farm Society	6511 Dyke Road	604-271-5220	londonhf@telus.net	The farm is on a 4.6 acre site at the south arm of the Fraser River. On the east side of the house are heritage style herb and flower gardens, fruit trees and a fruit garden. In the west pasture there are 80 allotment gardens and several bee hives. Members (\$15) may rent a plot, for about \$25/year. Partnered with City of Richmond.	www.londonheritagefarm.ca/
Richmond Allotment Garden	Richmond Allotment Garden Association	10711 Palmberg Road	604-275-4100		The association has approximately 130 garden plots, 20ft x 50ft, with water for rental at \$50.00 per year. Membership fee is \$5.00 for the first year, \$1.00 per year for subsequent years. The plots can be found at 10711 Palmberg Road, north of Steveston Highway. The organization address is 4811 Duncliff Rd.	
Rose Project Community Gardens	Rosewood Manor	6260 Blundell Road	Carol Rogers or Linda Howard 604-274-1232		Garden is available to residents of the manor	
South Dyke Community Gardens	City Parks Department	Gilbert Road	604-244-1208		Provides 33 plots. A waiting list is in operation.	www.richmond.ca/parksrec/ptc/parks/community.htm
Terra Nova Community Garden	City Parks Department	Terra Nova Rural Park, 2631 Westminster Hwy	604-244-1208		This is a new site, part of the Terra Nova Rural Park plan that will be developed over the next five years. Provides 100 plots. A waiting list is in operation. Not accessible by public transit.	www.richmond.ca/parksrec/ptc/parks/community.htm
COMMUNITY KITCHENS AND COOKING CLUBS						
Project/Program	Organization	Address	Contact and Phone	E-mail Address	Description	Web
Community Kitchen	Family Services of Greater Vancouver	8880 Williams Road	Vanessa 604-272-1681		A community kitchen, or cooking club, is made up of people who get together once or twice a month to prepare meals for themselves and/or their families. Everyone helps with shopping,	www.fsgv.ca/programpages/communityeducationanddevelopment/communitykitchens.html

					<p>cooking and cleanup. People take turns shopping and demonstrating how to cook their favourite recipes. It's an opportunity to learn new recipes, make new friends, practice speaking English and learn about other cultures. Cooking in bulk together also is a great way to save money.</p> <p>Held every 2nd and 4th Wednesday. 9:00-11:00 See schedule, available from Family Services, for more details</p>	
Community Kitchen	Family Services of Greater Vancouver	8060 # 1 Road	Jean 604-277-5377		<p>Held every 1st and 3rd Wednesday. 9:30-11:30 See schedule, available from Family Services, for more details</p>	See above
Community Kitchen	Family Services of Greater Vancouver	Cambie and No. 5 Road	Minoo 604-244-3165		<p>Held 4th Monday of every month. 12:30-3:00. See schedule, available from Family Services, for more details</p>	See above
Community Kitchen	Family Services of Greater Vancouver	Cambie and No. 5 Road	Minoo 604-244-3165		<p>Held 1st Monday of every month. 12:30-3:00. See schedule, available from Family Services, for more details</p>	See above
Community Kitchen	Family Services of Greater Vancouver	11571 Daniels Road	Minoo 604-244-3165		<p>Held 4th Wednesday of every month. 12:30-3:00. See schedule, available from Family Services, for more details</p>	See above
Community Kitchen	Family Services of Greater Vancouver	Rm. 340 - 7000 Minoru Blvd	Minoo 604-244-3165		<p>Held twice a month, 9:30-11:30. See schedule, available from Family Services, for more details</p>	See above
Connect Project	Family Services of Greater Vancouver	Suite 101 - 6411 Buswell	Linda Robertson 604-710-5696		<p>The Connect Project is an outreach and group support service for multi-barriered youth, addressing social factors that contribute to a healthy transition to independence. Youth between the ages of 15 to 24 are assisted in developing personal health, coping, independent living, and goal setting skills through meaningful connection to social supports in the context of a responsive social environment. The project features a weekly community kitchen for youth.</p>	
Muslim Women's Project	Richmond Multicultural Concerns Society	210-7000 Minoru Boulevard	Parm Grehwal	rmcs@amssa.org	<p>The Muslim Women's Project will cover diet and nutrition in the recognition that following long stays in refugee camps, people are often lacking cooking and nutrition management skills.</p>	www.rmcs.bc.ca/

GOOD FOOD BOXES

Project/Program	Organization	Address	Contact and Phone	E-mail Address	Description	Web
Good Food Box -Healthiest Babies Possible	Richmond Health Department	7000 Westminster Highway	604-877-4673		Healthiest Babies Possible is a prenatal outreach program supporting pregnant women of all ages living in Richmond. Services are free and available in many languages. Healthiest Babies Possible supports women to have healthy pregnancies and improved lifestyles, with a focus on nutrition. The program offers: Nutrition and Prenatal Lifestyle Counseling; Prenatal vitamins; Breastfeeding information; Milk, vegetable and egg coupons; Good food bag	www.vch.ca/women/pregnancy/docs/hbp_richmond.pdf

COMMUNITY MEALS AND FOOD BANKS

Project/Program	Organization	Address	Contact and Phone	E-mail Address	Description	Web
Food Services Unit	The Pathways Clubhouse	7351 Elmbridge Way	604-276-8834		Membership to Pathways is open to anyone who has been diagnosed with a mental illness. The Food Services Unit operates as a restaurant with a full menu and waiter service. Lunch is served from 12:00 to 12:30. The cost of most meals is \$2.00. The Unit also provides a free pancake breakfast every Wednesday morning. The Food Services Unit also runs a Snack Bar, located by the dining room, which sells juice, coffee, chocolate bars, fruit, sandwiches, etc. Pricing strives to meet the financial limitations of many members of the Pathways community.	www.cmha-rmd.com/pathways.html
Nanak Sar Gursikh Temple	Nanak Sar Gursikh Temple	18691 Westminster Hwy.	604-270 7369		Serves 3 free vegetarian meals daily. Food available any time of day.	
No. 2 Road Distribution Site	Richmond Food Bank Society	#7 - 12491 No. 2 Road	604-271-5609	Margaret Hewlett info@richmondfoodbank.org	The Richmond Food Bank Society distributes food for free to anyone who lives in Richmond and needs grocery help in a safe and confidential place. Three hundred and seventy families are served in an average week. Of these 850 people, almost 300 are children. Recipients must bring personal ID for each member of the household and a recently dated proof of residence. The Society office is located at 7 - 12491 No. 2 Road. Office Hours are Monday to Friday, 9:00 to 2:30, closed on public	http://richmondfoodbank.org

					holidays. Both outlets are wheelchair accessible. Distribution at the No. 2 Road site is from 11am to 1pm on Wednesday and Thursday. For people who are working , at school, or prefer a quieter time, distribution is also offered on the 3 rd Wednesday of the month from 6pm to 7pm	
Peace Mennonite Church Gym Distribution Site	Richmond Food Bank Society	11571 Daniels Road	Margaret Hewlett 604-271-5609	info@richmondfoodbank.org	Distribution at the Daniels Road site is from 1 PM to 2 PM on Tuesday.	http://richmondfoodbank.org
Salvation Army Community Meal		8280 Gilbert Rd	604-277-2424		Held Thursday from 12:30 - 1:30 PM. Closed over the summer months	
Salvation Army Emergency Food Bank		8280 Gilbert Rd	604-277-2424		Provides a grocery bag with non-perishable items and bread. MON to FRI from 9:00am-4:00pm. (Closed 12:30-1:30pm daily)	
Single Parents' Food Bank of Richmond			Ella 604-463-6767			
St. Alban's Community Meal	St. Alban's Church	7260 St. Alban's Road	604-278-2770	info@opertrain.co	A weekly community meal is served at no cost. Meals are prepared and served by volunteers. Funders include St. Alban's Anglican Church, Air Canada Employee's Association, Coast Capital Savings, London Drugs Foundation, Milan and Maureen Illich Foundation, Richmond Firefighter's Association, Ritchie Bros. Auctioneers, VanCity Savings, and Canadian Tire. The hall is wheelchair accessible. Approx. 25,000 people have been served since 1998. Tuesdays 5:30, September-June	www.richmondfoodbank.org/documents/stalban.pdf

FARM AND ORCHARD STANDS/MARKET

Project/Program	Organization	Address	Contact and Phone	E-mail Address	Description	Web
A. R. Savage and Sons		4060 No. 7 Road			Dairy Farm	
Baykey's Farm Market		5954 River Road, Lander	604-940-2358		Activities: Corn maze, pumpkins, vegetables, fruits, free range eggs	
Chan Farm		14400 Westminster Hwy				
Fishers Blueberry Farm		9311 No. 6 Road	604-272-1921	bobyvonne@paralynx.com	Offer fresh-packed blueberries direct from the farm.	
Heatherbrae		15400				

Farms		Westminster Hwy				
Keefers Farms and Greenhouses		17080 Cambie				
KNN Blueberries (Farm Stand)		15300 Westminster Hwy			Blueberry Farm	
May Acres Farm		14731 Cambie			Dairy Farm	
Richmond Country Farm		12900 Steveston Highway	604-274-0522		Activities: pumpkin patch and festival, fruits, vegetables. Runs October 9-30, 2004, Mon-Fri 9am-2pm, Sat 10am-5pm, Oct 11, 10am-4pm, moonlight (weather permitting), Oct 22 & 29 6:30pm-8pm.	www.countrypumpkinpatch.ca/index.html
Tai On Farm Stand		7651 No. 5 Road	Helen Yang		Two-acre family vegetable farm and market store	
Vic Chan Farm Stand		5 th and Westminster Hwy				
W & A Farms and Farm Stand	W & A Farms and Farm Stand	17771 Westminster Hwy	Bill Zylmans		Strawberries and other produce. Farm stand sells seasonal vegetables including a variety of potatoes, pickling cucumbers, dill, garlic, onions, beans, cabbage, broccoli, and corn. Upick is available in season. Farm Stand is open end of July to October.	

FOOD DELIVERY SERVICES

Project/Program	Organization	Address	Contact and Phone	E-mail Address	Description	Web
Dairyland Home Service	Saputo, Inc.	6800 Lougheed Highway, Burnaby	1-800-667-1228		Delivery is free of charge. In addition to Dairyland dairy products, they deliver organic produce and groceries, fresh baked goods, popular juices and beverages, desserts, and household cleaning products. Deliveries are made through a regularly scheduled order. Payment can be made by credit card, preauthorized payments, telebanking or online banking. A 10% seniors' discount is available.	www.morethanmilk.ca
Ladybug Organics	Ladybug Organics	#1B 9525 189th St.	604-513-8971	bugus@ladybugorganics.com	Fresh organic produce and groceries delivered. Serving residential locations in the Lower Mainland.	http://ladybugorganics.com/
Meals on Wheels	Victorian Order of Nurses Health Home Care Society of BC	1525 West 7th Avenue, Vancouver	604-732-7638	meals@vonbc.ca	In operation in Vancouver and Richmond since 1967. Every weekday, volunteers deliver more than 500 meals and social contact to homebound people, including: seniors; caregivers; individuals with chronic or acute	www.vonbc.com

					medical conditions; individuals recovering from surgery, illness or injury; new mothers In addition to providing a friendly visit, volunteers also offer an informal check on the safety of meal recipients by alerting the authorities if they spot a concern for someone's well-being. For service in Cantonese, call (604) 292-7200. Supported by Vancouver Coastal Health, Province of BC, Nissan Canada Foundation.	
Small Potatoes Urban Delivery		1660 E. Hastings Street	604-215-7783	vancouver@spud.ca	Grocery delivery service with a complete range of groceries available (and an emphasis on organic food). Orders are flexible with free delivery. Offer a fair price to growers and food producers. Based in Vancouver, with delivery to Richmond.	www.spud.ca/index.cfm
Volunteers for Seniors Shopping Program	Volunteer Richmond	190-7000 Minoru Boulevard	604-279-7030	seniors@volunteerrichmond.ca	Project works in partnership with Richmond Health Services to provide grocery shopping assistance to seniors and others with long-term health problems. For seniors and others who cannot shop for their own groceries, volunteers fill orders placed over the phone. Service operates several mornings a week. Volunteers assist Richmond Health Services Continuing Health clients with weekly shopping for groceries and personal items at a local mall.	www.volunteerrichmond.ca

OTHER SERVICES

Project/Program	Organization	Address	Contact, Phone	E-mail Address	Description	Web
Grocery Vouchers	The Heart of Richmond AIDS Society	#203 - 6411 Buswell St.	604-277-5137	contact@heartofrichmond.com	This service provides monthly grocery assistance to people living with HIV/AIDS. To qualify you must meet a criteria of low income and have been a member of the Society for 3 months. Priority is given to Richmond residents. The Heart of Richmond provides support services to people living with HIV/AIDS, as well as those affected (family members, partners, friends, caregivers) by the disease. In addition, the Society's work includes a prevention/awareness component. Society also offers HIV education and services in Chinese.	www.heartofrichmond.com
Milk Bank	Children's Hospital		604 875-2282		Call for information about donating or receiving breastmilk. A pick-up service is available at clients' home in Vancouver and Richmond.	
Neighbours		Westminster Hwy	Grant Watson	admin@nowbc.ca	Neighbours Organic Weekly Buying Clubs is a	www.nowbc.ca/

Organic Weekly Buying Club		& No 2 Rd	604-872-4060		network of clubs. Each club has a member's home or common room designated as a pickup point. Each member orders for themselves on the website. The Richmond club is run by Marcela.	
Richmond Fruit Tree Sharing Farm	Richmond Fruit Tree Sharing Project	Terra Nova Rural Park, 2631 Westminster Hwy	Brenda Crockett: 604 856-1479	info@richmondfruittree.com	The Sharing Farm occupies city land adjacent to the Terra Nova Community Garden. The project's three main activities are growing food at the Sharing Farm, picking fruit, and gleaning second harvests from farmer's fields. They are partnering with community organizations such as Family Place, Richmond schools, and youth agencies	www.richmondfruittree.com/

FISHING PIERS

Project/Program	Organization	Address	Contact and Phone	E-mail Address	Description	Web
Gilbert's Beach Fishing Pier	City of Richmond	Dyke & No. 2 Road				
Fisherman's Wharf		End of 2nd Avenue			Fish sales float at Steveston Landing is administered through the Steveston Harbour Authority.	
London Landing and Fishing Pier	City of Richmond	London Road & No. 3. Road				
Sports Fishing Pier		No.2 Road & Shell				
North Arm		No. 7 Road & River Road				

COMMERCIAL MARKETS

Project/Program	Organization	Address	Contact and Phone	E-mail Address	Description	Web
Richmond Night Market	Target Event Production Ltd	12631 Vulcan Way, Richmond	604-244-8448	info@targetevent.com	Established in the summer of 2000, the Richmond Night Market was founded to integrate cultures with an array of activities, merchandise and amusement. The event includes 400 vendors selling fabrics, decorations, trinkets, toys and foods, and entertainers with cultural performances from Asian and Western traditions. Target Event office located at #3063 - 8700 McKim Way. Event is held weekend evenings from the end of	www.richmondnightmarket.com/home.html

Richmond Public Market		8260 Westminster Hwy (at Cooper)	604-821-1888		May to the beginning of September With more than 75 shops and services, the market features numerous vendors, selling everything from fresh seafood and vegetables to jewelry, artwork and novelty items. You must visit the food court to sample a variety of delicacies and refreshments from all different parts of Asia.	www.fsgv.ca/programpages/communityeducationanddevelopment/communitykitchens.html
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GROCERY STORES/SUPERMARKETS

Project/Program	Organization	Address	Contact and Phone	E-mail Address	Description	Web
2000 Supermarket Ltd.		1418-8388 Capstan Way	604-232-1318			
99 Mart		2-9371 No. 5 Road	604-241-9000			
Acme General Store		180-3031 Beckman Place	604-278-0212			
Amron's Meats		170-8180 No. 2 Rd				
Asian Way Supermarket Ltd.		130-6280 No. 3 Road	604-278-2006			
Automall Mini Mart		106-13340 Smallwood Place	604-270-2400			
Blundell Safeway	Canada Safeway	6140 Blundell Road	604-274-7244		Departments: Deli, Bakery, Pharmacy, Floral, Produce	
Budget Foods		126-4857 Elliott, Lander				
Buns Master Bakery and Deli		5960 No. 6 Road, #604	604-278-8231			
Central Mart		10011 Blundell	604-278-7218			
China Can Enterprises Ltd		110-13431 Maycrest Way	604-231-0949			
Choices Market and Bakery		1-3531 Viking Way	604-303-9991			
Costco		9151 Bridgeport Road	604-270-6523		Shopping warehouse selling food products in bulk, including bakery, food court, fresh meat and service deli.	
Daddy's Delight		110-4020 #5 Road	604-207-9091		South Asian/Grocery, halal	
Danny's Market		9040 Francis	604-274-3610			

Danny's Market		9040 Francis Road	604-274-3610		Meat/Grocery/Deli (pizza, samosas) - Halal	
Dollar Empire		5223 Ladner Trunk Road	604-946-7026			
Dollar World Enterprises Ltd.		116-10151 No. 3 Road	604-275-7528			
Eddie's Farm Market		7360 No. 6 Road				
Galloway's Specialty Foods		9851 Van Horne Way				
Gene's Supermarket		9171 No. 2 Road	604-277-7319			
Grand East Supermarket Ltd.		4551 No. 3 Road	604-233-0435			
Grand Value Asian Supermarket		20-8251 Westminster Highway	604-273-9885			
Great One Supermarket		8131 Park Road	604-279-8928			
Happy Family Dim Sum		180-8100 Ackroyd	604-278-8748			
Herringers Olde Fashioned Quality Meats		#190 - 12251 No. 1 Road	604-274-6328			
IGA		11800 Cambie Road	604-278-1317			
Japan Grocer		135 - 6091 Dyke	604-271-9026			
Judi's Farm Market		No. 3 Road and Steveston Highway				
Ka Rex Sari Sari Store		100 - 4020 No. 5 Road	604-276-2294			
King's Market		4771 Blundell	604-277-7515			
Kwik Mart		6011 No.1 Road	604-270-8625			
Langley Farm Market	Lansdowne Centre	640-5300 No.3 Road	604-274-3750			
Lee Men International Enterprises Co. Ltd.		1580-8260 Westminster Hwy	604-279-8730			
Lu & Sons Enterprise Ltd.		12051 No. 1 Road	604-271-2787			
Mac's		103-8780 Blundell	604-277-6950			

Convenience Store						
Mac's Convenience Store		11000 Williams Road	604-241-8135			
Marketplace IGA		370-9100 Blundell Road	604.244.7425			
Minato Food Market		105-3900 Steveston Highway	604-271-7732			
Ming's Mart		181-5951 Minoru Boulevard	604-232-2469			
Nature's Essence Health Products Inc.		#1166, 3779 Sexsmith Road, Richmond	604-273-6176		Nature's Essence online vitamin store offers health supplements, herbal extracts, minerals, organic food and cosmetics at competitive price in Greater Vancouver.	www.nevitamins.com/login.php
New Harvest Market		7900 Williams Rd				
New Hong Kong Supermarket Ltd.		1178-3779 Sexsmith	604-231-0810			
No. 5 Road Produce		7900 No. 5 Road				
One Stop Convenience		8980 No. 3 Road	604-277-1333			
Osaka Supermarket		1000-3700 No. 3 Road	604-276-8808		The largest Japanese supermarket in the Greater Vancouver area. Sushi, Asian deli, Japanese snacks	
Parker Place Shopping Centre		4380 No. 3 Road	604-273-0276		One of the largest Asian malls in Western Canada, Parker Place features over 150 shops, including many specialty merchants offering fashions, food and gadgets from Japan, Korea and China.	
President Plaza		8181 Cambie Road	604-270-8677		Located in the Golden Village shopping district and next to the Radisson President Hotel & Suites. Features merchants offering everything from Chinese tea and ginseng, specialty gifts and cosmetics to a food fair and Chinese restaurant, an Asian supermarket and professional services.	
Quality Foods		5481 No. 3 Road	604-273-1712			
Real Canadian Superstore		4651 Number 3 Road			General retail store selling food, produce, meals to go and deli selections.	
Richlea Square Safeway	Canada Safeway	10151 No. 3 Road	604-271-8678		Departments: Deli, Bakery, Pharmacy, Floral, Produce	

RPM Lucky Store		1205-8260 Westminster Highway	604-278-8118			
S&N Supermarket Ltd.		5381 No. 3 Road	604-303-9601			
Sahand Supermarket		140--7771 Westminster Highway	604-244-0113			
Save On Foods		11666 Steveston Highway	604-448-1224			
Save On Foods		5186 Ladner Trunk Road	604-946-5251			
Save On Foods		8200 Ackroyd	604-278-3229			
Save On Foods		3673 Westminster Highway	604-273-5755			
Seafair Safeway	Canada Safeway	No. 1 Road & Francis	604-271-8790		Departments: Deli, Bakery, Pharmacy, Floral, Produce	
Shell Canada Products		5277 Ladner Trunk	604-940-0577			
Shoppers Drug Mart	Shoppers Drug Mart	11800 CAMBIE ROAD	604-278-9105		Large packaged and frozen food section. No fresh produce.	
Super Grocer		12051 No. 1 Road	604-271-2722			
T&T Supermarket		1000-8181 Cambie	604-279-1818			
Taiwan Kwong Leung Hing Dried Food	Aberdeen Centre	4151 Hazelbridge Way	604.232.9182			
Taiwan Yong Lai Xiang Dried Food	Aberdeen Centre	4151 Hazelbridge Way	604.295.6619			
The British Home Store		3986 Moncton	604-274-2261		British specialty shop with deli	
Thrift Foods		1207-56th Street, Tsawwassen	604-940-8300			
Tindhan Grocery		100-5960 Minoru Blvd	604-304-0469			
Tsawwassen Beach Grocery Store		130 English Bluff	604-948-0193			
Union Square Mall		8388 Capstan Way	604-684-1151		This Asian themed shopping centre is located in the Golden Village. Union Square features restaurants, a supermarket, and retail shops.	
Urban Farm		No. 5 Road and				

Market		Westminster Hwy				
Wah Shang Supermarket Ltd.		1600-4151 Hazelbridge Way	604-233-1968			
Yaohan Centre		3700 No3 Road	604-231-0601		Yaohan Centre provides a large supermarket specializing in Asian foods which caters to the President Plaza Hotel complex and nearby Aberdeen Centre and Parker Place. The food court also sells authentic Chinese dishes, ranging from Manchu China to Japan.	
Yue Wah Enterprise Ltd.		10-8271 Westminster Hwy	604-231-5818			
Yum Jim Kee		1025-8888 Odlin Crescent	604-244-9128			
Zellers Inc	Zellers Inc	5300 No. 3 Road	604-270-3322		Source for staple groceries (ie. milk, bread, etc)	

Appendix C: Food Production, Manufacturing, Distribution, and Waste Management in Richmond

Please note: the following table shows most relevant resources at the time of research, but may not be a completely exhaustive list.

FISH AND SEAFOOD						
Project/Program	Address	Web	Contact	Phone/Fax	E-mail Address	Description
Arctic Pearl Ice & Cold Storage	2460 Viscount Way			(604) 278-8301/ (604) 278-8326	georgetang2811@shaw.ca	Products: Salmon-WildPac, Sablefish/blackcod, Salmon-Roe, Rockfish, Prawns, Herring-Roe, Halibut,
Blundell Seafoods	11351 River Road	http://www.blundellseafoods.com/		604-270-3300/ 604-270-6513	info@blundellseafoods.com	Established in Richmond, B.C. in 1975, and is one of the major wholesalers of seafood products in the Greater Vancouver and Whistler/Squamish area. Facility has processing and packing facilities and a cold storage facility that can accommodate 4 million pounds of fresh and frozen seafood products.
Canada Seafood Inc. Int.	8731 Citadel Crescent			(604) 272-1823/ (604) 272-1897	georgewymok@yahoo.com	Products: Sablefish/blackcod, Pollock-Alaska, Salmon-Pacific, Squid, Salmon-Canned, Cod-Pacific, Halibut-Pacific, Halibut-Greenland, Salmon-Atl Fmd, Cod-Rock, Snapper, Shrimp,
Canadian Select Enterprises Ltd.	180 - 6260 Graybar Road	www.canadianselect.com		(888) 640-9917/ (888) 571-6988		Products: Salmon, Salmon-Smoked
Clear Bay Fisheries Inc.	Unit #15 - 12200 Vulcan Way		Julian Ng	604-276-2515/ 604-276-2213	clearbay-seafood@shaw.ca	Products: Sablefish/blackcod, Crab-Live, Salmon-Atl Fmd, Sea Cucumber, Oysters-Pacific, Prawns-Live, Lobster-Live, Clams-Manila, Clams-Geoduck
Clearwater Fisheries Ltd.	Unit 15-16 12200 Vulcan Way			(604)276-2515		
Coastwide Fishing Ltd.	12411 Vulcan Way			(604) 272-0992/ (604) 272-1106	cwf@telus.net	Products: Salmon-WildPac, Salmon-Caviar, Herring-Kazunoko, Salmon-Canned, Cod-Pacific, Salmon-Roe, Sardines, Tuna, Mackerel, Herring, Hake, Dogfish
Fjord Pacific Marine Industries	2400 Simpson Road			(604) 270-3393/ (604) 270-3826	jbomhof@fjordpacific.com	Products: Salmon-WildPac, Salmon-Smoked, Bait, Salmon-Retort, Halibut-Pacific, Herring-Marinaded, Salmon-Marinaded, Salmon-Jerky, Salmon-Salted, Herring, Halibut
FMI Food Marketers International Ltd.	#233 - 11951 Hammersmith Way	www.salmoncanada.com		(604) 275-3664/ (604) 275-3624	harry@salmoncanada.com	Products: Sablefish/blackcod, Salmon, Salmon-Caviar, Seafood-Canned, Salmon-Jerky, Rockfish, Perch-P-Ocean, Mackerel, Halibut, Hake, Cod
Grand Hale Marine Products Co.	11551 Twigg Place			(604) 325-9393/ (604) 325-9310	francis@grandhale.com	Products: Salmon-WildPac, Salmon-Caviar, Salmon-Canned, Oysters-Pacific, Herring Roe-Kelp, Sea Urch-Roe/Uni, Sea Urchin, Salmon-Salted,

						Prawns, Herring-Roe Products: Salmon, Salmon-Atl Fmd, Trout
Heritage Salmon Co. Ltd., BC	5726 Minoru Blvd., Suite 230			(604) 277-3093/ (604) 275-8614	kurtturner@mainstreamcanada.com	
Kawaki (Canada) Ltd.	6160 London Road			(604) 277-7158/ (604) 277-1845		Products: Sablefish/blackcod, Salmon, Salmon-Smoked, Salmon-Roe, Herring Roe-Kelp, Tuna, Salmon-Salted, Prawns, Herring-Roe
Luxury Smokers Ltd.	145 - 6660 Graybar Road			(604) 278-4409/ (604) 278-4846	info@luxurysmokers.com	Products: Salmon-Smoked, Sablefish/blackcod, Trout-Smoked, Salmon-Marinaded, Salmon-Jerky, Mackerel-Salted, Tuna, Salmon-Salted
Mid-Ocean Fisheries Ltd.	150 - 12831 Clarke Place			(604) 270-7370/ (604) 276-8371		Products: Shrimp, Prawns
Moon Enterprises (Man Ming Seafood)	Unit #2 -11720 Voyageur Way		Thomas Lee	604-270-0088/ 604-270-8988	thomasleemoon@fido.ca	Products: Scallops, Clams-LittleNeck, Crab-Live, Sea Cucumber, Oysters-Pacific, Prawns-Live, Trout, Shrimp, Lobster, Clams-Manila, Clams-Geoduck
Nexus Seafood Trading Ltd.	110 - 8851 Beckwith Road	www.nexus-seafood.com		(604) 278-2998/ (604) 278-6829	nexus@axionet.com	Products: Crab-King-Live, Ikura, Ling Cod-Live, Clams-Live, Crab-Live, Prawns-Live, Scallops-Live, Oysters, Lobster-Live, Clams-Geoduck
Ocean Fisheries Ltd.	13140 Rice Mill Road	www.oceanfish.com		(604) 272-2552/ (604) 272-2564	tomh@oceanfish.com	Products: Salmon-WildPac, Sablefish/blackcod, Dover, Salmon-Caviar, Salmon-Canned, Cod-Pacific, Salmon-Dressed, Pollock, Sardines, Rockfish, Perch, Halibut, Flounder
Pacific Link Enterprises Ltd.	2500 Viscount Way			(604) 278-8301/ (604) 278-8326	articp@telus.net	Products: Sablefish/blackcod, Salmon-Wild, Salmon-Roe, Sea Cucumber, Rockfish, Clams-Geoduck
Paramount Seafood International Ltd.	9920 Francis Road	www.paramountseafood.com		(604) 272-8188/ (604) 448-9128	stu-paramountseafood@shaw.ca	Products: Salmon, Sole, Squid, Pollock, Crab-Imitation, Cod-Salted, Cod
Sea Plus Marketing Inc.	3900 Viking Way			(604) 273-6686/ (604) 273-7795	seapluscan@telus.net	Products: Salmon, Sablefish/blackcod, Tuna-Albacore, Shrimp, Rockfish
T. C. Trading Inc.	163 - 5980 Miller Road			(604) 270-3862/ (604) 270-9815	pangroupfish@yahoo.com	Products: Tilapia, Clams-Manila, Crab, Hake, Halibut, Lobster, Oysters, Turbot, Sea Urch-Roe/Uni, Scallops-Live, Clams-Geoduck, Prawns-Live, Salmon-WildPac, Oysters-Pacific, Salmon-Roe, Trout-Rainbow, Crab-Live, Cod-Pacific, Clams-LittleNeck, Salmon-Smoke
Tri-Star Seafood Supplier Ltd.	11751 Voyageur Way	www.tristarseafood.ca	Claude Tchao	604-273-3324/ 604-273-2785	gnelsen@tristarseafood.bc.ca	Products: Crab-King, Salmon-Smoked, Crab-Live, Sea Cucumber, Prawns-Live, Scallops-Live, Shrimp, Oysters, Lobster-Tails, Lobster-Live, Cod, Clams-Geoduck
Vancouver Int. Enterprises Ltd.	126 - 11786 River Road			(604) 231-3703/ (604)	vie@viecanada.com	Products: Prawns, Oysters, Crab, Clams-Manila, Clams-Geoduck, Abalone

				231-3708		
MEAT/DAIRY						
Project/Program	Address	Web	Contact	Phone/Fax	E-mail Address	Description
A. R. Savage and Sons	4060 No. 7 Road					Dairy Farm
May Acres Farm	14731 Cambie					Dairy Farm
Steveston Stock and Seed Farm	2871 Steveston Hwy	www.stevesfarm.com	Harold Steves		hsteves@canada.com	Farm has been passed down through several generations to Harold and Kathy Steves, who are the current owners and operators along with their son, Jerry. The Steveston Stock and Seed Farm raises commercial beef, specializing in Belted Galloway and hybrid animals.
FRUIT/VEGETABLE PRODUCE						
Project/Program	Address	Web	Contact	Phone/Fax	E-mail Address	Description
BC Blueberry Council	PO Box 8000-730	http://www.bcblueberry.com/		604-864-2117/ 604-864-2197	bcblueberries@direct.ca	
BC Raspberry Growers Association	130-32160 South Fraser Way	http://www.bcraspberries.com		(604) 854-8010/ (604) 854-605	council@bcraspberries.com	
Chan Farm	14400 Westminster Hwy					
Columbia Cranberry Co Ltd	16351 Cambie Road			604-273-3026		Cranberry Farm
Fishers Blueberry Farm	9311 No. 6 Road			604-272-1921/ 604-272-1928	bobyvonne@paralynx.com	Offer fresh-packed blueberries direct from the farm.
Fraser Valley Strawberry Growers Association	#100 32160 South Fraser Way	http://www.bcstrawberries.com/		(604) 864-0565/ (604) 864-0575		
J S Nature Farms Ltd	11500 McKenzie Road			604-273-6922		
Heatherbrae Farms	15400 Westminster Hwy					
Jagbar Farms Ltd.	19740 River Road					Cranberry Farm
Johal Berry Farms Ltd.	8311 No 6 Rd			(604) 241-7677 100		Cranberries, Greenhouses, Nursery
H. Kang Farm	5 th and					

	Westminster Hwy					
Keefers Farms and Greenhouses	17080 Cambie					
KNN Blueberries	15300 Westminster Hwy					Blueberry Farm
Maybog Farms Ltd.						Cranberry Farm
Ocean Spray Of Canada Ltd	5400 No. 6 Road			604-273-3210		
Richberry Farms Ltd.			Peter Dhillon			Cranberry Farm
Steveston Stock and Seed Farm	2871 Steveston Hwy	www.stevesfarm.com	Harold Steves		hsteves@canada.com	Produces seed for the Heritage Seed Program, which preserves heirloom and endangered seeds, fruits, grains, and herbs.
Tai On Farm	7651 No. 5 Road					
W & A Farms and Farm Stand	17771 Westminster Hwy		Bill Zylmans			Produces strawberries and other produce. Farm stand sells seasonal vegetables including yellow European potatoes, red, white & russet potatoes, pickling cucumbers, dill, garlic, onions, beans, cabbage, broccoli, corn plus much more fresh home-grown produce from the farm. Upick is available in season. Farm Stand is open from the end of July until October 31, every day from 9:00am till 5:00pm.
Vic Chan Farm	5 th and Westminster Hwy					

ORGANIC PRODUCTS

Project/Program	Address	Web	Contact	Phone/Fax	E-mail Address	Description
Garden Gourmet Fine Foods Inc.	185-11960 Hammersmith Way		Mark Wilkie	604-231-0375	mark@g2you.com	Processor of Certified Organic Soy Sauce, Beverage Flavouring Syrups
Nutri-Loc Dried Foods Inc.	12791 Blundell Rd		Andrew Small	1-877-794-7878/ 604-648-9670	asmall@nutriloc.com	Products: Certified organic dehydrated fruit and vegetables
ProOrganics	4535 Still Creek Ave., Burnaby	http://www.proorganics.com/home.html				A distributor of organic food, ProOrganics represents over 500 Certified Organic farms worldwide, in: Canada, USA, Central America, South America, Mexico, Europe, Australia and New Zealand. Provides point of purchase support, in-store demos, and a bi-monthly newsletter, "Organic

						Living". Also supports community development projects
Rabbit River Farm Ltd.	18360 River Rd		Stephen Easterbrook	604-244-9309/ 604-214-2942	rabbitriver@shaw.ca	Total Acres: 12.7, Certified Acres: 12.75 Products: Certified organic cabbage and hay, handler of eggs
Van Rice Products	#8 1350 Valmont Way		Bob Takagaki	604-273-8038/ 604-653-4423	btakagaki@vanrice.com	Products: Certified organic rice cakes
West Coast Seeds	3925 64th St, RR#1, Delta, BC	https://secure.westcoastseeds.com/menu.cfm		604-952-8820/ 877-482-8822		West Coast Seeds provides seeds to distributors and consumers locally, nationally and internationally. The company does not carry any treated seeds (seeds with a fungicide on them) and do not, to their knowledge, carry any Genetically Modified seeds. Some seeds are grown Organically and these are marked in the description of the variety. The company actively promotes local food security.
Wild West Organic Harvest	2120 Van Dyke Place		Deb Foote	604-276-2411/ 604-214-2942	dfoote@wwoh.ca	Distribution & Handling of Certified Organic Fresh Produce, Dairy, Bulk, Packaged Grocery & Frozen Food

OTHER

Project/Program	Address	Web	Contact	Phone/Fax	E-mail Address	Description
Art Knapp Plantland	10840 No. 5 Road		Roy Van Hest	604-271-9581/ 604-271-4151	artknapp@telus.net	
Art's Green Acres Tree Farm	5440 No. 6 Road		Thomas Wong	604-273-1553/ 604-273-1589		
B K Ranch Ltd	21551 Westminster Hwy			604-270-1619		
East Richmond Nurseries Inc.	18431 Westminster Hwy	http://www.erniplants.com/index.html		604-278-0976/ 604-244-2924	info@erniplants.com	A grower of various high quality commercial landscape trees, shrubs, and ground cover, including fruit trees.
Garden City Greenhouses	9240 Cambie Road		Bing Chin	604-278-0722/ 604-278-0723		

WASTE MANAGEMENT INFRASTRUCTURE

Project/Program	Address	Web	Contact	Phone/Fax	E-mail Address	Description
Blue Box Program & Recycling Depot - City of Richmond	5555 Lynas Lane			604-233-3337/ 604-233-3336	garbageandrecycling@richmond.ca	Accepts newspapers, magazines, plastic bottles, glass bottles and jars, paper products, cardboard, tin cans, scrap metal items, large appliances, and yard waste. Contact the Depot to pick up replacement blue boxes and yellow/blue bags, to report a missed pick-up, or to receive more

Compost Demonstration Garden - City of Richmond	6080 River Road			604-276-4010	garbageandrecycling@richmond.ca	information. On the site of a Community Garden, offers a self-guided tour hoping to further involve Richmond residents in composting activities. Interpretive signs and examples of backyard composting units are open for viewing year round from dawn to dusk.
Nutrifor Program - Greater Vancouver Regional District (GVRD)		http://www.gvrd.bc.ca/nutrifor/pdfs/Factsheet-Soil.pdf				The GVRD's Nutrifor Program is now investigating how biosolids can be used for landscaping and horticulture applications within the region. The program has developed a growing medium, or landscaping soil made with biosolids, and is market testing this product.
Sewerage & Drainage Department - City of Richmond	5599 Lynas Lane			604-233-3301/ 604-244-1248	danganderson@richmond.ca	Department is responsible for the draining of ground water and the conveyance of sanitary sewage for Richmond. It is divided into 3 sections: Drainage/Storm Sewer, Sanitary Sewer and Pump Stations.
Water Services Section - City of Richmond	5599 Lynas Lane			604-244-1262/ 604-244-1248	stevemcclurg@richmond.ca	The Section provides, operates and maintains services necessary to the supply of good quality drinking water. Responsibilities include maintenance of Watermains, Water Connections, Water Heaters, Fire Hydrants, Valves, and Customer Service.

Appendix D: Resources for Children and Youth in Richmond

Please note: the following table shows most relevant resources at the time of research, but may not be a completely exhaustive list.

PROVINCIAL PROGRAMS					
Project/Program	Organization	Address	Phone	Description	Partners
BC School Fruit and Vegetable Snack Program	BC Agriculture in the Classroom Foundation	http://www.aitc.ca/bc/snacks/		Part of ActNowBC, an initiative to improve the health of BC children and families. The objectives of the Program are: to increase consumption of local fruits and vegetables; to increase awareness of the health benefits of fruits and vegetables; to increase the awareness of fruits and vegetables grown in BC; to increase the awareness of the safe handling practices of fruits and vegetables	A collaborative Program with support from the BC Ministries of Health, Education, and Agriculture and Lands.

Breakfast for Learning	Breakfast for Learning	http://www.breakfastforlearning.ca/english/index.html	604-583-1114	BREAKFAST FOR LEARNING is the only national, non-profit organization solely dedicated to supporting child nutrition programs in Canada. Organization provides Nutrition Program Grants to schools. Meals are served by a network of more than 30, volunteers in over 6,900 communities, across Canada	
CommunityLINK	BC Ministry of Education	http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/communitylink/		CommunityLINK (Learning Includes Nutrition and Knowledge) provides services and supports in schools for vulnerable children and youth across the province. Schools districts and their communities will choose the approach and strategies to improve the educational outcomes of vulnerable students. School districts can target their funding to have the most impact in each community and benefit those most in need.	

SCHOOL GARDENS

Project/Program	Organization	Address	Phone	Description	Partners
(Planned) Anderson School Garden	Anderson Elementary	9460 Alberta Road	604-668-6355	No garden but teachers working on starting one.	
Blundell School Garden	Blundell Elementary	6480 Blundell Rd	604-668-6562	Flower garden. Non-food producing	
Boyd Greenhouse	Boyd Secondary	9200 No. 1 Rd	(604) 668-6615	Greenhouse is used in student instruction.	
Burnett School Garden	Burnett Secondary	5011 Granville Ave	(604) 668-6478	Students have started a garden project but it is not food producing yet.	
Ferris School Garden	Ferris Elementary	7520 Sunnymead Crescent	604-668-6538	Students plant some vegetables and make salad in June. Garden was created following a proposal by students, teachers, and administrators for land that was scheduled for blacktop. Each class signed up to maintain a section of the school, with CUPE staff doing annual sod breaking and soil delivery. Project has been successful so far.	
Grauer School Garden	Grauer Elementary	4440 Blundell Rd	604-668-6547	A garden is available to students. Not food producing.	
Lee School Garden	Lee Elementary	9491 Ash St	604-668-6269	A garden is kept by the kindergarten class. Primarily a flower garden.	

McNair Garden Program	McNair Secondary	9500 N.4 Rd	604-668-6575	Garden is used by teaching cafeteria chef to teach students to grow herbs.	
MacNeill Greenhouse	MacNeill Secondary	6611 No. 4 Road	(604) 668-6212	School has a greenhouse that engages approx. 30 students a year in curriculum activities.	
The Edible Schoolyard Project	Quilchena Elementary	2631 Westminister Hwy	604-668-6224	Chef Ian Lai's has developed an Edible Schoolyard project for pre-school and elementary school children in partnership with the Richmond Fruit Tree's Sharing Farm at Terra Nova. 54 kids from Quilchena in grades 3/4 and 6 are receiving instruction through a dedicated a garden plot.	Richmond Fruit Tree Project, Spul'u'kwuks Elementary
The Edible Schoolyard Project	Spul'u'kwuks Elementary	2631 Westminister Hwy	604-668-6660	25 Students in one class are receiving instruction through a dedicated a garden plot.	Richmond Fruit Tree Project, Quilchena Elementary
Tomsett Garden Project	Tomsett Elementary	9671 Odlin Rd	604-668-6448	School garden with flowers and a fish pond.	

SNACK PROGRAMS

Project/Program	Organization	Address	Phone	Description	Partners
Anderson Snack Program	Anderson Elementary	9460 Alberta Road	604-668-6355	PAC keeps school supplied with snacks for students who forget lunch.	PAC
Blundell Snack Program	Blundell Elementary	6480 Blundell Rd	604-668-6562	School provides snack to students who forget lunches; Parents are called; other students donate their food as well.	
Brighthouse Snack Program	Brighthouse Elementary	6800 Azure Rd	604-668-6522	If students forget lunch the school has a few snacks, teachers buy students lunch or give them their own.	
General Currie Snack Program	General Currie Elementary	8220 Gen. Currie Rd	(604) 668-6440	No official food program. If students forget lunch, home is phoned. Very limited snacks are kept.	
Hamilton Snack Program	Hamilton Elementary	5180 Smith Dr	(604) 668-6514	School provides snack to students who forget lunches.	
Homma Snack Program	Homma Elementary	5100 Brunswick Dr	(604) 668-7844	School provides snack to students who forget lunches.	
Kingswood Snack Program	Kingswood Elementary	11511 King Rd.	604-668-6280	School provides snack to students who forget lunches.	
Lee Snack Program	Lee Elementary	9491 Ash St	604-668-6269	Snacks are kept for students identified as being in need.	

McKinny Snack Program	McKinny Elementary	10451 Lassam Rd	(604) 668-6133	Snacks kept for occasional student access.	
School Snack Program	Staves Elementary	10111 Fourth Ave	604-668-6660	School provides snack to students who forget lunches. Used approx. once a week.	
Spul'u'kwuks Snack Program	Spul'u'kwuks Elementary	5999 Blanshard Dr	604-303-5100	School provides snack to students who forget lunches; not used very often.	
Talmey Snack Program	Talmey Elementary	9500 Kilby Dr	604-668-6275	School provides snack to students who forget lunches.	
Thompson Snack Program	Thompson Elementary	6211 Forsythe Cr	604-668-6420	School or teachers provides snack to students who forget lunches.	
Tomsett Snack Program	Tomsett Elementary	9671 Odlin Rd	604-668-6448	School provides snack to kids who forget lunches; approx. 2 students a day use this resource.	
Westwind Snack Program	Westwind Elementary	11371 Kingfisher Dr	604-668-6497	If kids forget their lunch, staff (principal) buys them food. 5 or so kids use the service each year.	

SCHOOL FOOD PROGRAMS

Project/Program	Organization	Address	Phone	Description	Partners
Blair Lunch Program	Blair Elementary	6551 Lynas Lane	(604) 668-6330	School subsidizes food for one or two students a year. Snacks also kept for occasional student access.	Funded by the school budget.
Bridge Lunch Program	Bridge Elementary	10400 Leonard Rd	(604) 668-6236	Snacks kept for occasional student access.	
Burnett Lunch Program	Burnett Secondary	5011 Granville Ave	(604) 668-6478	Students demonstrating a need are provided with a drink or sandwich by the Youth support worker. 2-3 Students access this service a month.	Funded by the school budget.
Cambie Lunch Program	Cambie Secondary	4151 Jacombs Road	(604) 668-6430	Program provides food for students in need to make a healthy meal for themselves. 12-15 students use the program in a year; frequency varies	Funded by Healthy Schools Program (VCH) and parent's fundraising.
Cook Breakfast Club	Cook Elementary	8600 Cook Rd	(604) 668-6454	Breakfast club is available Tuesday and Thursday mornings. Anyone is welcome to drop-in. 30-40 students participate on a regular basis.	
DeBeck Food Program	DeBeck Elementary	8600 Ash St	(604) 668-6281	Snacks kept for occasional student access.	
Dixon Breakfast Program	Dixon Elementary	9331 Diamond Rd	604-668-6608	Breakfast Program held for kids in need. Around 12 kids take part.	Funded by the school budget.

Ferris Food Program	Ferris Elementary	7520 Sunnymead Crescent	604-668-6538	School cafeteria is run by a caterer, which school administrators work closely with. Teachers can nominate any student who needs food but cannot afford it.	Costs are covered by the caterer and the school.
Grauer Food Fundraiser	Grauer Elementary	4440 Blundell Rd	604-668-6547	Students can order meal of their choice from a list.	Food fundraisers are held by the PAC.
Kidd Food Program	Kidd Elementary	10851 Shell Rd	(604) 668-6602	School provides food for students in need on a case by case basis.	Funded by the school budget.
London Food Program	London Secondary	10331 Gilbert Rd	(604) 668-6668	Program provides food for kids in need - primarily juice, tea and coffee, bread and packaged items. 10-15 students use the program in a year; frequency varies	Program is funded through counselling budget and by staff.
MacNeill Lunch Program	MacNeill Secondary	6611 No. 4 Road	(604) 668-6212	Lunch cards for the cafeteria are organized by the school administration through self-identification to a staff member. 5-6 students are provided for over the year.	Funded by the school budget.
McKay Food Program	McKay Elementary	7360 Lombard Road	604-668-6470	A small bin of nutritious food is kept for students who are identified as being in need.	Funded by the PAC.
McMath Secondary Food Program	McMath Secondary	4251 Garry Street	(604) 718-4050	Staff members identify students in need and provide them with food on a personal basis. It is very rare to have a hungry student.	
McNeely Food Program	McNeely Elementary	12440 Woodhead	(604) 668-6250	Breakfast program offered on Monday and Wednesday. Available to all students free of charge.	Funded by PAC
McRoberts Breakfast Program	McRoberts Secondary	8980 Williams Rd	(604) 668-6600	Program is run by students for students. Counsellors provide administrative support. 10-15 students are served by this program.	Funding is provided by School District through Louise Walker
Mitchell Food Program	Mitchell Elementary	12091 Cambie Rd	(604) 668-6225	Snacks kept for occasional student access.	
Palmer Food Program	Palmer Secondary	8160 St. Alban's Rd	(604) 668-6288	Kids in need supported by Health Nurse.	
Quilchena Lunch Program	Quilchena Elementary	3760 Moresby Dr	604-668-6224	Lunches are provided to students in need. The program is funded by the PAC. Approximately 3 students use the service in a week.	Funded by the school budget.
Richmond Lunch and Breakfast Program	Richmond Secondary	7171 Minoru Blvd	(604) 668-6400	Program provides lunch and breakfast for students in need. 5-10 students use the program daily. Kids/parents self-identify.	Funding is provided by the District, Breakfast for Learning and some local charitable donations
Station Stretch School Breakfast and Lunch Programs	Station Stretch	5280 Minoru Blvd	604-668-6204	Lunch food program, food bought by school. Food Bank delivers to school. 10 out of the 45 kids use these food services.	Funded by the school budget. Food Bank delivers food.

TEACHING CAFETERIAS

Project/Program	Organization	Address	Phone	Description	Partners
McNair Teaching Cafeteria	McNair Secondary	9500 No. 4 Rd	(604) 668-657	The full service cafeteria is run as part of the curriculum. Students can opt for this hands-on elective course.	
Richmond Teaching Cafeteria	Richmond Secondary	7171 Minoru Blvd	(604) 668-6400	School runs a teaching cafeteria program.	

OTHER PROGRAMS

Project/Program	Organization	Address	Phone	Description	Partners
The Connect Project	Family Services of Greater Vancouver	Suite 101 - 6411 Buswell	604-710-5696	The Connect Project is an outreach and group support service for multi-barriered youth, aged 15 to 24, addressing social factors that contribute to a healthy transition to independence. The project features a weekly community kitchen for youth.	
GOOD GRUB PROJECT	East Richmond Community Association/ Healthy Communities	4111 Jacombs Road	604-233-8372	Youth are invited to select and prepare nutritious meals that are appealing to them in a food preparation activity to be held every third Friday of the weekly Nightshift Program. This food preparation activity provides an opportunity to work with youth and to empower them with the capacity to create a youth-driven healthy school menu that can be used as an advocacy tool to school boards across the province. Number of participants varies weekly; however, the goal is to have a core group of 8 to 10 youth.	Current funder(s): Vancouver Coastal Health

Appendix E: Food Related Events in Richmond

Please note: the following table shows most relevant resources at the time of research, but may not be a completely exhaustive list.

Project/Program	Organization	Address	Web	Phone	E-mail	Description	Schedule Details
Blueberry Sale and Llama Picnic	City of Richmond	11851 Westminster Hwy	www.geog.ubc.ca/courses/klink/g448/2000/rnp/	604-718-6188	nature@city.richmond.bc.ca	Blueberry pie and blueberry sale fundraiser.	Held annually in August 1:00am-4:00pm
Canada Day at The Cannery	Gulf of Georgia Canner	12138 Fourth Avenue		604-664-9001	info@pc.gc.ca	Free admission: Bring the whole family where you can see the canning process from start to finish with interactive displays	July 1
Cranberry Harvest Festival		1185 Westminster Hwy.		604-273-7015		Cranberries are indigenous to British Columbia's bogs, and the Richmond Nature Park has one of the few remaining wild patches	Held annually in Late September or early October.
Earth Day	East Richmond Community	King George Park/Cambie Community Centre					April 22 nd annually
Family Farm Fair	London Heritage Farm	6511 Dyke Road	http://www.londonheritagefarm.ca/	604-271-5220			Held annually in August 10:00 am - 4:00 pm
Fish for the Future 2006		London's Landing, London Road & No. 3. Road, Steveston				Fish for the Future 2006 promotes sport fishing and other outdoor activities. Families across the GVRD are invited to participate in hands-on activities, including fishing for local fish species, fish & bugs identification, and many other games. Event informs the general public of the importance of conservation and respect. FREE	Held annually in July 10:00am - 3:00pm
Garlic Festival	New Moon Acres	12260 No. 2 Rd	www.newmoonacres.com	604-271-1645			August
Multifest	City of Richmond		www.richmond.ca/home.htm	604-233-8372		Offers a wide range of cultural foods, dance performances, and activities for children. This event features EnviroFair, Farmers Market, Multifest, and Kids zone.	
Nibbles and Bites	Thompson Community	5151 Granville	www.richmond.ca/parksrec/centres/	604-718-8422	thompson@city.richmond.bc.ca	Food festival offering events and samples from participating restaurants.	Held annually in September

Project/Program	Organization	Address	Web	Phone	E-mail	Description	Schedule Details
	Centre	Avenue	thompson.htm				
Seasonal Teas	London Heritage Farm	6511 Dyke Road	//www.londonheritagefarm.ca/	604-271-5220	londonhf@telus.net	A wide variety of seasonal teas are offered to celebrate various cultural days.	
Seedy Saturday	VanDusen Botanical Gardens		www.city.vancouver.bc.ca/Parks/parks/vandusen/website/	604-540-4987		Heritage Seed Day is a celebration of heritage varieties and organic gardening. Featuring more than 30 growers, seed companies and exhibitors, Heritage Seed Swap, Great Bean Count. Admission by donation.	Held annually in February
Seedy Saturday		13723 Crescent Road, Surrey BC		604-592-6956		Shop for heritage and native seeds and plants, fruit trees, and environmentally friendly garden products from local specialty vendors. View displays on heritage seeds and organic gardening. Bring your gardening questions to Master Gardeners. Admission by donation.	Held annually in April
Steveston Salmon Festival	Steveston Community Society	4111 Moncton Street	www.stevestonsalmonfest.ca/	604-718-8094	admin@stevestonsalmonfest.ca	Festival highlights include a large public salmon barbecue. Organized by the Steveston Community Society.	July 1
World Food Day	World Food Day		www.fao.org			<p>The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations celebrates World Food Day each year on 16 October.</p> <p>The Richmond Food Security Committee first celebrated World Food Day in 2005 and plans to make it an annual event taking place at the Richmond Cultural Centre. At least 12 other groups took part in 2005, making it a public opportunity to raise awareness about food security in Richmond</p>	October 16, annually

Appendix F: Food Security Resources

Please note: the following table shows most relevant resources at the time of research, but may not be a completely exhaustive list.

Project/Program	Organization	Address	Web	Contact and Phone	E-mail Address	Description
Agricultural Advisory Committee	Greater Vancouver Regional District			Daryl Arnold, Chair		A long-standing GVRD advisory committee established in 1992. The mandate of the Committee is to preserve and enhance agriculture in Greater Vancouver, provide a forum for focusing the concerns of agriculture in Greater Vancouver, and provide advice to the Board on matters related to agriculture in the region. The Committee currently has 15 members including a diversity of farmers from throughout the region and representatives of several agricultural organizations. Staff from the Agricultural Land Commission and from the Ministry of Agriculture serve as resources to the Committee.
Breakfast for Learning	Breakfast for Learning		http://www.breakfastforlearning.ca/	Kathy Cassels 604-583-1114	breakfastforlearning@shaw.ca	BREAKFAST FOR LEARNING is the only national, non-profit organization solely dedicated to supporting child nutrition programs in Canada. Organization provides Nutrition Program Grants to schools. Meals are served by a network of more than 30, volunteers in over 6,900 communities across Canada.
British Columbia Emergency Response Management System (BCERMS)	Province of British Columbia, Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General		http://www.pep.bc.ca/management/Emergency_Management_in_BC.pdf			The Province has adopted a coordinated emergency management system called the British Columbia Emergency Response Management System (BCERMS). The program's mandate encompasses educating the public about prevention and personal emergency preparedness, as well as providing support to local government emergency plans. The emergency management structure is activated when a BC community or any significant infrastructure is threatened by an emergency or disaster which may overwhelm a local authorities' ability to respond.
Canadian Food Security Bureau	Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada		www.agr.gc.ca/misb/fsb/fsb-bsa_e.php?			References Canada's Action Plan for Food Security (1998), as well as, two progress

Project/Program	Organization	Address	Web	Contact and Phone	E-mail Address	Description
			page= index			reports (1999, 2002), issued to the UN World Food Summit in response to the 1996 Rome Convention.
Community Kitchens Website	Community Kitchens Website		http://www.communitykitchens.ca/			
CommunityLINK	BC Ministry of Education		www.bced.gov.bc.ca/communitylink/			CommunityLINK (Learning Includes Nutrition and Knowledge) provides services and supports in schools for vulnerable children and youth across the province. Schools districts and their communities choose the approach/strategies to improve the educational outcomes of vulnerable students. School districts can target their funding to have the most impact in each community and benefit those most in need.
Healthy Communities Program	East Richmond Community Association	Cambie Community Centre, 4111 Jacombs Road		Cara-Lee Melange 604-233-8372	cmalange@richmond.ca	East Richmond Healthy Community Committee works with many partners, particularly the Cambie Community Centre Association, to enable residents in the East Richmond area to live in a safe and healthy community.
Richmond Beekeepers Association	Richmond Beekeepers Association			Chris Kraemer 604-992-7431		
Seeds of Diversity			http://www.seeds.ca/en.php		mail@seeds.ca	Seeds of Diversity is Canada's premier Seed Exchange for the passionate gardener. A source for information about heritage seeds, seed saving, plant diversity, garden history and your own garden heritage. Members collect and share over 1500 varieties of fruits and vegetables. Provides a network for gardeners from coast to coast.
West Coast Seeds	West Coast Seeds	3925 64th St, RR#1, Delta, BC	https://secure.westcoastseeds.com/menu.cfm	604-952-8820		West Coast Seeds provides seeds to distributors and consumers locally, nationally and internationally. The company does not carry any treated seeds (seeds with a fungicide on them) and do not, to their knowledge, carry any Genetically Modified seeds. Some seeds are grown Organically and these are marked in the description of the variety. The company actively promotes local food security.

Appendix G: Policies Affecting Aspects of Richmond's Food System

Please note: the following table shows most relevant resources at the time of research, but may not be a completely exhaustive list.

ORGANIZATIONAL POLICY PAPERS				
Title	Author	Year	Source	Description
Growing Together: Canadian Food Security Assembly 2004	Canadian Food Security Assembly	2004	http://www.foodsecurityassembly.ca/assembly2004.pdf	In October 2004, over 150 food activists, policy advocates, researchers and front line service providers gathered for Growing Together: Cultivating Food Security in Canadian Society. The Assembly was supported by: Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives; Manitoba; Manitoba Eco-Network; Social Planning Council of Winnipeg; Winnipeg Regional Health Authority. This report brings together many of the conference presentations, presenter biographies and closing reflections from the assembly.
The Cost of Eating in BC: The Challenge of Feeding a Family on a Low Income	Dietitians of Canada, Community Nutritionists Council of BC	2005	http://www.dietitians.ca/resources/resourcesearch.asp?fn=view&contentid=1944	Dietitians of Canada, BC Region in partnership with the Community Nutritionists Council of BC produced this 2005 report to demonstrate that those living on a low income will have difficulty accessing safe and healthy food in a dignified manner. The 2005 report was endorsed by 12 provincial agencies. This report is produced annually.
MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT LEVEL				
Title	Author	Year	Source	Description
Action Plan for Creating a Just and Sustainable Food System for the City of Vancouver	Mendes, Wendy: Food Policy Task Force	2003	http://www.city.vancouver.bc.ca/ctyclerk/cclerk/20031209/rr1.htm	Details a three-step action plan for the City of Vancouver regarding food security. These steps are: 1.The creation of a Vancouver Food Policy Council; 2.Interim work plan; 3.Implementation Support System. Lists City functions and community organizations to be included, as well as, a membership for the Food Policy Task Force.
Emergency Management Organization Establishment: Bylaw 7898	City of Richmond	2005	http://www.richmond.ca/__shared/assets/bylaw_7898448.pdf	Legal document detailing responsibilities and accountabilities of the city in case of an emergency disaster situation. No direct reference to food provision.
Property Tax Exemption: Bylaw 7968	City of Richmond	2005	http://www.richmond.ca/__shared/assets/bl_79689287.pdf	Legal document detailing the exemptions tax provided to religious, educational and charitable lands. Contains database of currently exempted lands.
Public Health Protection: Bylaw 6989	City of Richmond	2000	http://www.richmond.ca/__shared/assets/bylaw_6989431.pdf	Legal document detailing various health protection restrictions and exemptions. Those relating to the food system include: waste disposal, noise control, animal control and the pesticide use.
Public Parks and School Grounds Regulation: Bylaw 7310	City of Richmond	2001	http://www.richmond.ca/__shared/assets/bylaw_7310453.pdf	Legal document detailing the restriction of action on parks or school grounds, notably regarding fruit and vegetables (sec 1.3).
Tree Protection: Bylaw	City of Richmond	2005	http://www.richmond.ca/	Legal Document detailing the restrictions placed upon tree removal and the method

8014			__shared/assets/bylaw_801412506.pdf	of obtaining removal permits.
Water Use Restriction: Bylaw 7784	City of Richmond	2004	http://www.richmond.ca/__shared/assets/bylaw_77849253.pdf	Legal document detailing water restrictions in Richmond, as well as notable exceptions, including vegetable gardens (sec. 2.5)

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT

Title	Author	Year	Source	Description
A Framework for Core Functions in Public Health	BC Ministry of Health Services	2005	http://www.healthservices.gov.bc.ca/prevent/pdf/core_functions.pdf	An outline of the Provincial Government of BC's goals for health care. Outlines key operating areas to be supported by funding. Shows the role of health within the overarching goals of provincial governance and in the economic functioning of BC. Notably, Food Security is considered one of the health improvement core programs.
Agricultural Land Commission Act	Agricultural Land Commission	2002	http://www.alc.gov.bc.ca/Legislation/Act/alca.htm	Primary legal document detailing the administrative structure of the Agricultural Land Commission, its functions and purpose: to administer the Agricultural Land Reserve in BC.
Agricultural Land Reserve Use, Subdivision and Procedure Regulation	Agricultural Land Commission	2002	http://www.alc.gov.bc.ca/legislation/Reg/ALR_Use-Subd-Proc_Reg.htm	Outlines the legal status and available activities lawful on land zoned in the Agricultural Land Reserve.
British Columbia Nutrition Survey: Report on Energy and Nutrient Intakes	BC Ministry of Health Services	2004	http://www.health.gov.bc.ca/prevent/nutrition/pdf/nutrientsreport.pdf	The B.C. Nutrition Survey was conducted in 1999 by Health Canada and the B.C. Ministry of Health Services, in association with University of British Columbia, to obtain comprehensive information on the eating habits of adult British Columbians. This report is the first of a series from the BCNS and focuses on the energy and nutrient intakes from food and from food plus supplements. It presents selected data on food security and on Body Mass Index (BMI). Four additional reports on physical activity and body weight, on food and food group use, on supplement use and on seniors' issues complete the series.
Emergency Program Act	Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General	2004	http://www.qp.gov.bc.ca/statreg/stat/E/96111_01.htm	Act mandates for a Provincial Emergency Program and provides regulations around implementation.
Select Standing Committee on Agriculture and Fisheries: First Report	Select Standing Committee on Agriculture and Fisheries	2000	http://www.legis.gov.bc.ca/cmt/36thParl/cmt08/reports/report000516.htm#Food%20Security	Report outlining the various issues the committee is actively addressing with regards to BC's agri-food industry and the methods used to address them. Several key areas of function in BC's agri-food industry where outlined, including food security, the agricultural land reserve and organic production.

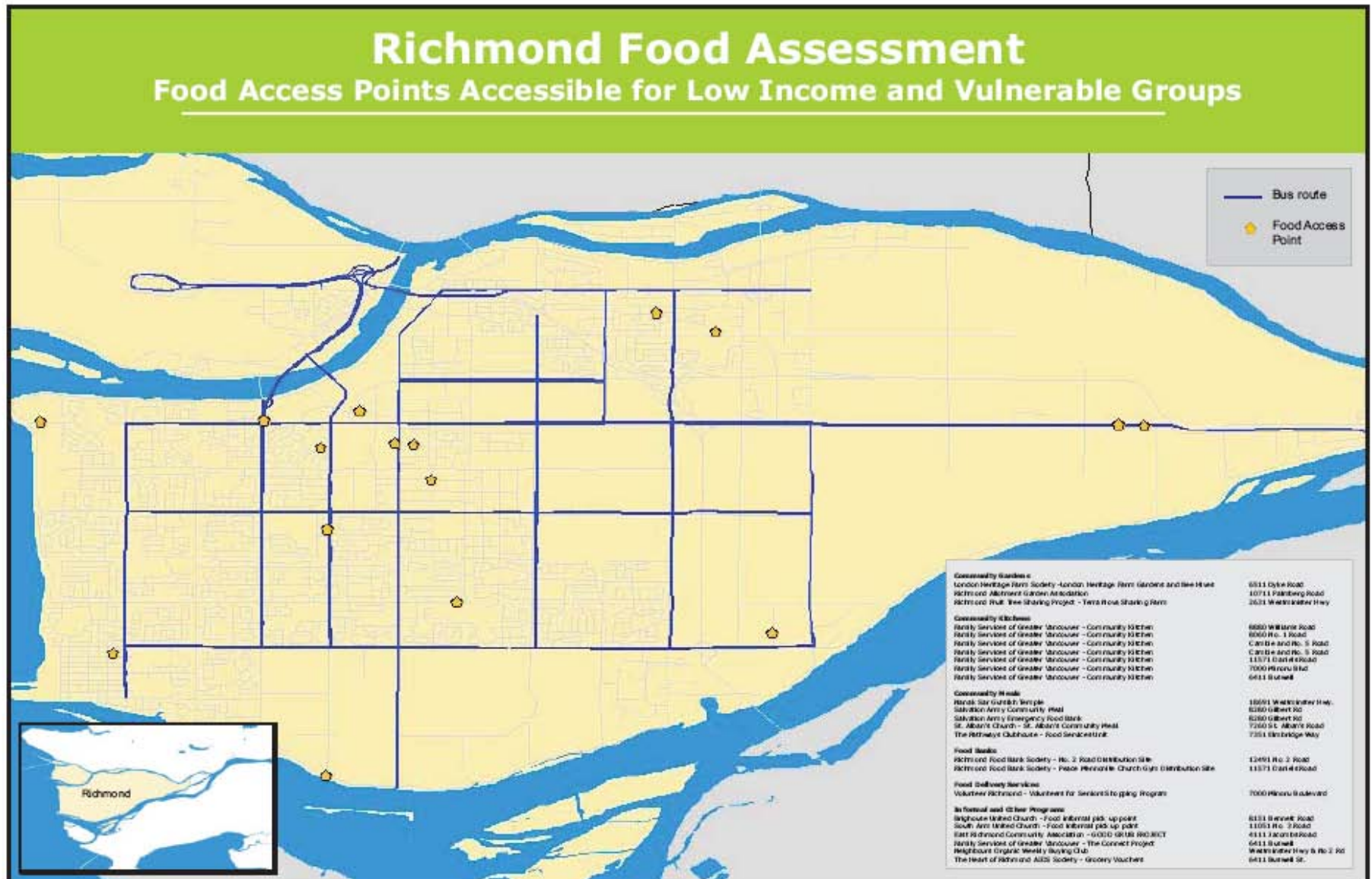
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT LEVEL

Title	Author/Department	Year	Source	Description
Agricultural Framework Policy: Federal-Provincial-Territorial Programs	Canadian Federal, Provincial, Territorial Governments	2005	http://dsp-psd.pwgsc.gc.ca/Collection/A34-3-2005E.pdf	Outlines Provincial and Federal commitments to the agriculture industry. It details a wide variety of support programs at both the federal and provincial/territorial level. Describes the goal of making Canada a leader in safe food production, innovation and sustainability, through co-operation between farmers and levels of government.
Canada Water Act	Department of Justice	Curren	http://lois.justice.gc.ca/e	An Act to provide for the management of the water resources of Canada, including

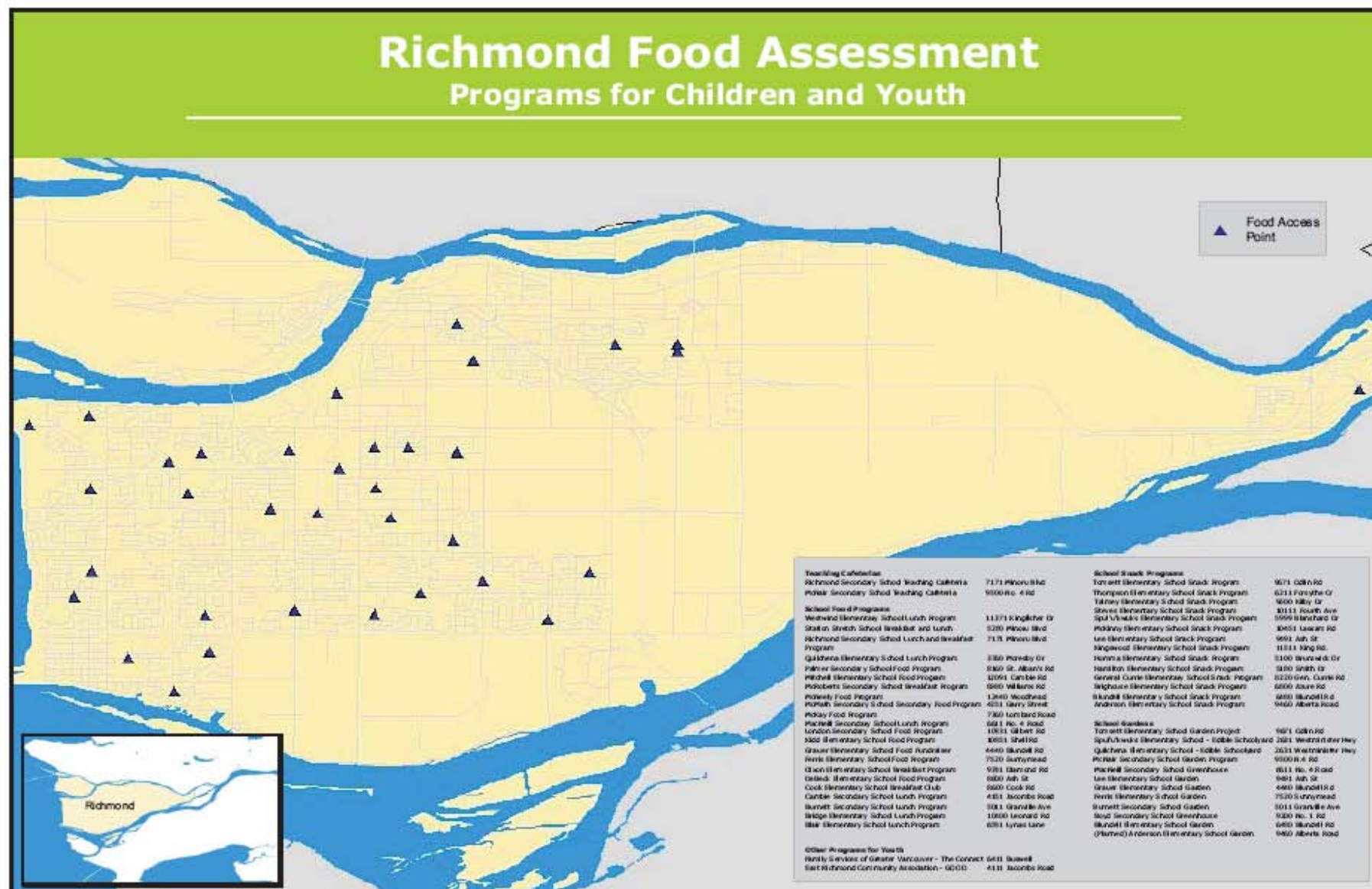
		t March 2006	n/c-11/225339.html	research and the planning and implementation of programs relating to the conservation, development and utilization of water resources.
Canada's Action Plan for Food Security	Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada	2003	http://www.agr.gc.ca/misb/fsb/fsb-bsa_e.php?section=fspa&group=plan&page=to c-tdm	Canada's Action Plan for Food Security is Canada's response to the World Food Summit (WFS) commitment made by the international community to reduce by half the number of undernourished people no later than the year 2015. It builds on a wide range of existing international commitments which affect food security, including agreements on international trade and environmental issues, conventions on human rights, education, housing and urban development. It builds on current domestic programs such as Canada's Nutrition for Health: An Agenda for Action; Gathering Strength: Canada's Aboriginal Action Plan; the Fisheries Act; and many of Canada's economic, social and environmental programs and policies. Two progress reports are also available.
Canadian Dairy Commission Act	Department of Justice	Curren t March 2006		An Act respecting the Canadian Dairy Commission.
Department of Agriculture and Agri-Food Act	Department of Justice	Curren t March 2006	http://lois.justice.gc.ca/en/a-9/219347.html	An Act respecting the Department of Agriculture and Agri-Food.
Emergency Preparedness Act	Department of Justice	1985	http://lois.justice.gc.ca/en/E-4.6/238423.html	The Act provides that all federal departments and agencies are required to be prepared to respond to emergencies that relate to their areas of accountability. Relevant Departments might include the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, Health Canada, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, and Transport Canada.
Experimental Farm Stations Act	Department of Justice	2006	http://lois.justice.gc.ca/en/e-16/236927.html	An Act respecting experimental farm stations
Farm Improvement and Marketing Cooperatives Loans Act	Department of Justice	Curren t March 2006	http://lois.justice.gc.ca/en/f-2.7/240728.html	An Act to increase the availability of loans for the purpose of the improvement and development of farms and the processing, distribution or marketing of farm products by cooperative associations, to amend the Farm Improvement Loans Act and to amend certain other Acts in consequence thereof
Farm Improvement Loans Act	Department of Justice	Curren t March 2006	http://lois.justice.gc.ca/en/f-3/241290.html	An Act to encourage the provision of intermediate term and short term credit to farmers for the improvement and development of farms and for the improvement of living conditions thereon.
Farm Income Protection Act	Department of Justice	1991	http://lois.justice.gc.ca/en/f-3.3/241242.html	An Act authorizing agreements between the Government of Canada and the provinces to provide for protection for the income of producers of agricultural products and to enable the Government of Canada to take additional measures for that purpose.
Fish Inspection Act	Department of Justice	Curren t March 2006	http://lois.justice.gc.ca/en/f-12/240401.html	An Act respecting the inspection of fish and marine plants.
Fisheries Act	Department of Justice	Curren t	http://lois.justice.gc.ca/en/F-14/	An Act respecting Fisheries.

		March 2006		
Freshwater Fish Marketing Act	Department of Justice	Current March 2006	http://lois.justice.gc.ca/en/f-13/240427.html	An Act to establish the Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation and to regulate inter-provincial and export trade in freshwater fish.
Meat Inspection Act	Department of Justice	1985	http://lois.justice.gc.ca/en/m-3.2/250736.html	An Act respecting the import and export of and inter-provincial trade in meat products, the registration of establishments, the inspection of animals and meat products in registered establishments and the standards for those establishments and for animals slaughtered and meat products prepared in those establishments

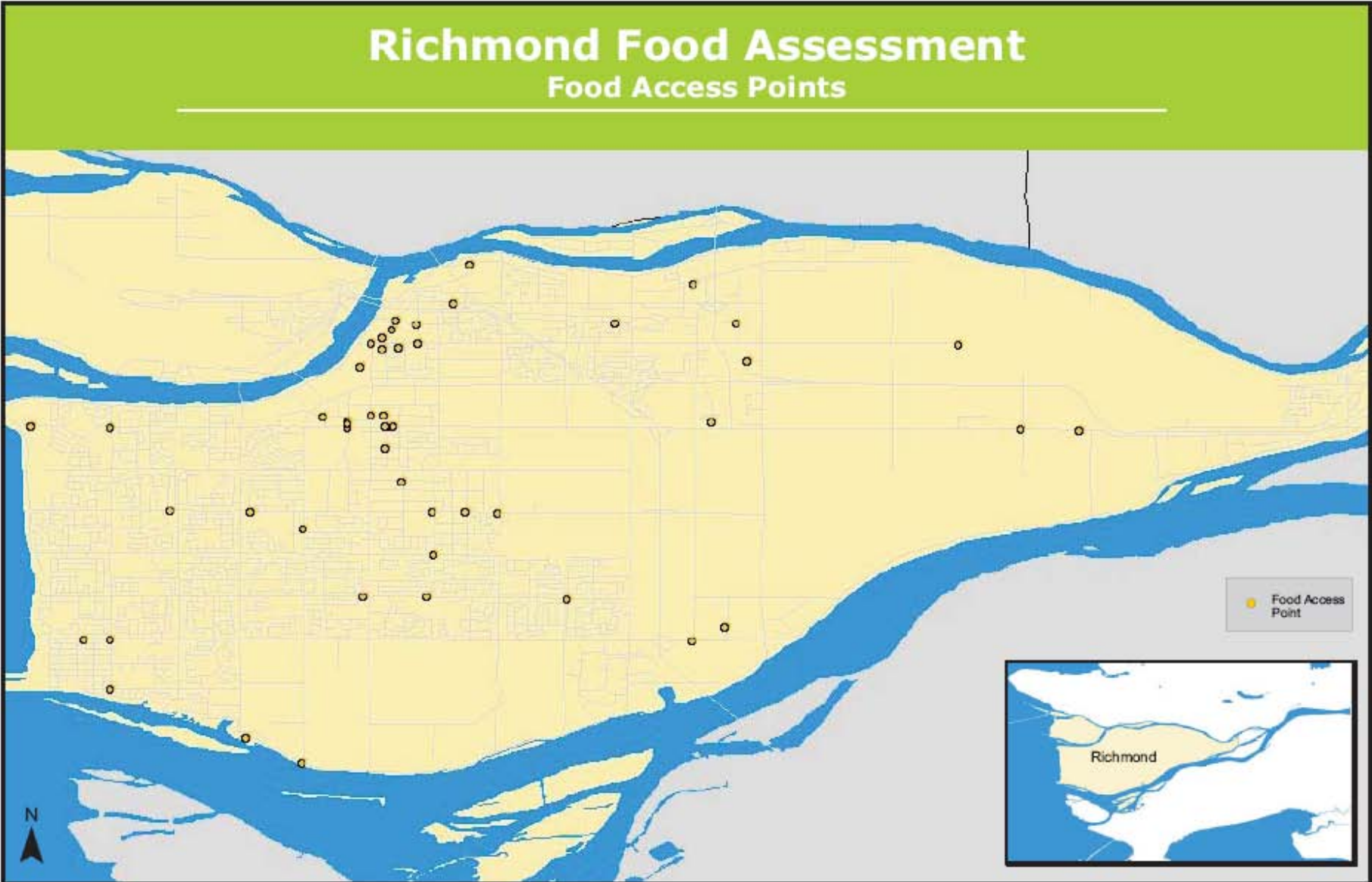
Appendix H: GIS Map of Food Access Points Accessible for Low Income and Vulnerable Groups



Appendix I: GIS Map of Food-Related Programs for Children and Youth



Appendix J: GIS Map of Food Access Points in Richmond



Appendix K: A new direction for the food system⁶⁷

The Industrialized System	A Healthy, Sustainable Food System
globalization	vs localization
urban/rural divisions	vs urban-rural partnership
long trade routes (food miles)	vs short trade routes
import/export model of food security	vs food from own resources
intensification	vs extensification
fast speed, pace and scale of change	vs slow pace, speed, scale of change
non-renewable energy	vs re-usable energy
few market players (concentration)	vs multiple players per sector
costs externalized	vs costs internalized
rural depopulation	vs vibrant rural population
monoculture	vs biodiversity
science replacing labour	vs science supporting nature
agrochemicals	vs organic/sustainable farming
biotechnology	vs indigenous knowledge
processed (stored) food	vs fresh (perishable) food
food from factories	vs food from the land
hypermarkets	vs markets
de-skilling	vs skilling
standardization	vs diversity
niche markets on shelves	vs real variety on field and plate
people to food	vs food to people
fragmented (diverse) culture	vs common food culture
created wants (advertising)	vs real wants (learning through culture)
burgerization	vs local food specialties
microwave reheated food	vs cooked food
fast food	vs nutritious, home-style food
global decisions	vs local decisions
top-down controls	vs bottom-up controls
dependency culture	vs self-reliance
health inequalities widening	vs health inequalities narrowing
social polarization and exclusion	vs social inclusion
consumers	vs citizens
food control	vs food democracy

Adapted from: Lang, Heasman and Pitt 1999 *Food Globalization and a New Public Health Agenda*

⁶⁷ Community Nutritionists Council of BC (2004, June). *Making the Connection – Food Security and Public Health*: submitted to the Ministry of Health Services and Health Authorities of British Columbia: Author. Pp. 20

Appendix L: Definition of Food Security Terms

Community Shared Agriculture (CSA) programs provide city dwellers with a box of seasonal produce direct from a local farm every week during the growing season. CSA members buy shares in a farm's yield early in the season and thereby assume part of the farmer's risk through the season. Share owners are also invited to participate in the production process throughout the season.

A **Good Food Box** is a wholesale buying program which supplies members with a box of food about once a month. Members usually pay a small fee at the beginning of the month when money is more available, and receive their box closer to the end of the month when funds tend to be tighter.

Food buying clubs or **food cooperatives** are formed by groups of people who are then able to purchase bulk food directly from wholesalers. The cost savings are shared between members.

Community Kitchens, Cooking Clubs or **Shared Kitchens** are opportunities for people to cook and eat together. Most Community Kitchens meet regularly with the same group of people and have a specific focus such as single people cooking for one, vegetarian, new immigrants, cooking for people with diabetes, or families cooking for young children.

A **community store** is a cooperative or locally owned store with a mandate to participate in and give back to the community in which it is located.

At a **Farmers' Market**, farms sell in-season goods directly to the consumer at a weekly venue. Markets provide consumers with a local place to gather, to meet farmers and to purchase a variety of fresh produce and food products.

Farm to Cafeteria Initiatives focus on creating direct links between growers and institutions in order to increase the amount of fresh, locally or regionally grown products used in the cafeterias, and to provide a reliable source of income for family farms.

Community Economic Development Initiatives include projects that give people the opportunity to start or enhance food-related small business and cottage industries, as well as efforts to bring supermarkets to under-served areas.

Appendix M: Community Food Action Initiative Definition of Terms

Food Security

“A community enjoys food security when all people, at all times have access to adequate amounts of safe, nutritious, culturally appropriate foods, produced in an environmentally sustainable way and provided in a manner that promotes dignity.” (FORC report, July 2005)

Vulnerable Populations

Vulnerable populations are those made vulnerable by their financial circumstances or place of residence; health , age of functional or developmental status; ability to communicate effectively; presence of chronic or terminal illness or disability; or personal characteristics. These populations may be less able than others to safeguard their own needs and interests adequately and face barriers to accessing support and care not experienced by other population groups. These populations may incur different health outcomes traceable to unwarranted disparities in their care or stemming from special needs for care or barriers to care.

Community Capacity Building

Community capacity building could be defined as enhancing the skills and assets that make it possible for communities, including individuals, families and organizations, to identify and manage their own health needs. Strategies to build community capacity recognize and enhance the expertise and participation of the community and its members and involve the development of new networks and contacts within and amongst communities. Self-help, peer support, mentoring, mutual aid, skill sharing, partnership, coalition and network building are all strategies which support community capacity.

Appendix N: Members of the Food Security Task Force

Name	Title	Organization
Aaron Broomfield		Richmond Youth Services
Ann Metcalfe		
Anna Christie		Gilmore Park United
Anne Murdoch		Vancouver Coastal Health
Anne Swan		Vancouver Coastal Health
Annie McKittrick		Community Member
Arzeena Hamir		
Brian Campbell		Richmond Canning Project
Cecelia Hudec		
Chris Salgado		Vancouver Coastal Health
Craig Newell		Kairos
David Reay	Chair / Co-Chair	PRC / Housing Task Force
Deneanne Quamme		Kairos
Eva Baker		
Fran Haughian		Canadian Cancer Society
Francis Li		S.U.C.C.E.S.S.
Heather McLeod		Success by Six / Family Services of Greater Vancouver
Ian Lai		Northwest Culinary Academy of Vancouver
Jennifer Field		Staff of Life Institute / Richmond Society for Community Living
Jennifer Hill		Vancouver Coastal Health
Karen Efron		Richmond Mental Health
Karen Joseph	Community Engagement Leader for Aboriginal Communities	Vancouver Coastal Health
Kathy Hydamaka		Vancouver Coastal Health
Kay Wong		Vancouver Coastal Health
Kelly Gault		
Kim Winchell	Executive Director	Richmond Family Place
Laura Hall		Family Services of Greater Vancouver
Lesley Sherlock	Social Planner	City of Richmond
Lisa Rubin		Jewish Family Services
Lynda Brummitt		
Margaret Hewlett	Executive Director	Richmond Food Bank
Mary Francis		Vancouver Coastal Health
Mary Gazetas		Richmond Fruit Tree Sharing Project
Mary Phillips		
May-Liz		
Michael Wolfe		
Minoo Javadi		Richmond Community Kitchens / Family Services of Greater Vancouver

Nicole Kay		Peace Menonite Church
Parmenas		S.U.C.C.E.S.S.
Rick Younie		Richmond Food Bank
Rita Bruniski	Nursing Student	U Vic
Rose Burrows		
Roz Johns		Richmond Teachers Assn.
Salima Jethani		
Sharon Johnson		Gilmore Park United Church
Shaylene Trenkel	Student	University of Victoria
Terence		Richmond Shares
Terry Van Der Mark		University of Victoria
Theresa Harding		
Yoshimi		Richmond Multicultural Concerns Society