

# ***Working Together to Grow More***

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## ***Yukon Community Garden Gathering***

*March 26-27, 2014*

*The Westmark, Whitehorse Yukon*





## Executive Summary

Thirty-five people from across the Yukon gathered for two days to share their experiences and learn together about challenges and successful strategies for running community gardens in Yukon. Seven Yukon First Nation communities, six non-profit organizations and Yukon government representatives attended the workshop. As well, representatives from the *Yukon Food System Design and Planning Project* participated. The food system design project is led by the Yukon Agriculture Association and implemented by the Institute of Sustainable Food Systems at Kwantlen Polytechnic University in British Columbia. This project highlights the importance of diversified food systems in the Yukon and includes the important roles of community gardens for resilient healthy communities.

Throughout the gathering, participants summarized the importance of community gardens in several ways, including providing access to local healthy foods for preventing diabetes and other chronic diseases; contributing to development of capacity in local farming; providing healthy options to offset the high costs of food in grocery stores; and facilitating the connections between food and community members, particularly elders and youth. Recommendations from participants included to host another workshop to keep strengthening the network, and to identify ways to keep people connected until they come together again.

Some of the *Best Practices* participants identified included:

- 🐝 Community engagement is critical to the success of a community garden (i.e. host events, gatherings, workshops).
- 🐝 Involve children in the garden-they are the link to families.
- 🐝 Have a management and governance structure (committee).
- 🐝 Running a successful community garden requires a great time and energy commitment.
- 🐝 Growers must be passionate.
- 🐝 Start small but leave room to grow.



*Working Together to Grow More workshop participants*

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## Introduction

*Working Together to Grow More* brought together people from across the Yukon to share information and identify opportunities for strengthening the network of community gardeners for local food production in Yukon. The workshop was facilitated by Heidi Marion of Foodscapers, a local Yukon gardening expert who led dynamic discussions and sessions throughout the two days (*Appendix A for Agenda*).

The purpose of the workshop was to facilitate the identification of best practices or ‘what’s working’ in Yukon’s community gardens, challenges community gardeners are facing, and sharing of the resources that are available to help communities strengthen their local food production practices. Altogether 35 participants from across the Yukon, including seven Yukon First Nation communities attended the workshop, in addition to six NGOs and the Yukon Government (*Appendix B for Participant Contact List*).

## Day One: Goal Setting & Visioning

### Overview of Presentations

The workshop began with an opening prayer from Norma Kassi, followed by opening comments from Kim Neufeld, the Yukon Government Community Dietitian. She spoke about the importance of good food for nourishing our bodies. Kim commented that just as if you try to take care of the Earth, she will take care of you, if you take care of your body, your body will take care of you. Families who garden have an increased intake of fruits and vegetables and children who garden are more likely to try new food, have a sense of accomplishment and empowerment, and have a better understanding of where food comes from. Kim spoke about an initiative run by YG-Health Promotion called *From the Ground Up*, a fundraiser for schools that sells boxes of local produce and promotes healthy eating. In 2013, *From the Ground Up* has happened in Whitehorse and Carcross. Kim also spoke about an inspiring initiative and film from Manitoba called “And this is my Garden”, which she encouraged participants to watch. The film is available through the Yukon Energy, Mines & Resources Library and the Fireweed Community Market Society in Whitehorse.

Adrienne Marsh, from the Recreation and Parks Association of the Yukon (RPAY) spoke to participants about RPAY’s Healthy Living menu, which groups or communities can apply for. The menu includes gardening workshops with Ingrid Wilcox.

The first day of the workshop included presentations from four experienced Yukon gardeners: Ingrid Wilcox from Whitehorse, Alice Boland from Carmacks, Katie English from Dawson, and Seki Wedge from Carcross.

Ingrid spoke about her history of gardening in the Yukon and the process she took in learning how to successfully grow in a northern climate. She also spoke about the different types of community gardens- allotment and collective. With a community garden collective, the more experienced gardeners can



*Ingrid Wilcox sharing her experiences with community gardening*

mentor those who are not, but there can be difficulty in ensuring everyone does an equal share of the work. With an allotment-type community garden, participants purchase plots and have more incentive and a greater sense of ownership to participate. Ingrid spoke about the importance of having a manager or a champion to coordinate the garden, as well as a committee. She noted that it is important that the committee is also involved with the gardening as there may be different goals between the garden manager/coordinator and the committee. She noted that one challenge is having sustainable interest and enough volunteers to work at the garden. She advised to start small. Ingrid spoke about the importance of having kids involved in the community garden and giving them the

opportunity to learn how to grow food. She also noted that the more youth are involved, the less chance there will be for vandalism.

Alice Boland shared her experiences running the Little Salmon Carmacks greenhouse that has been in operation since 2000. The greenhouse provides food to low income families and single parents, and provides education opportunities through the Recreation Centre, the school. Children are a priority and they focus on working with children and promoting healthy eating. Alice noted that the children love to visit the greenhouse. Alice spoke about how she also helps the community with personal gardens, especially Elders. Alice shared about some of the challenges they face, including having enough ready-to-use compost, accessing horse manure (have to travel to Whitehorse), accessing the garden in the spring (unstable road conditions), not having a place to grow their seedlings (need a heated space), and dogs getting into the garden area. There is an increasing demand from the Carmacks community for vegetables because of the high costs of the grocery store and they would like to build an additional greenhouse to support this need for local food. Some vegetables that they grow (i.e. eggplant) people do not know how to prepare, so they provide recipes with the vegetables to encourage people to try new foods. Alice spoke about how healthy it is to work in the greenhouse but that it is a lot of hard work. She noted that to run a community garden, there has to be a strong commitment. The greenhouse employs three workers in addition to Alice-this funding comes from the First Nation government. Any money raised through sales goes to purchase seeds and gardening supplies. The greenhouse has a compost collection system-they exchange compost scraps from the community for vegetables. This has been working well and they have a lot of compost. Excess vegetables are sold at the Carmacks farmers market, which started in 2012. They sell to the local community, as well as tourists. Alice noted that every year they try to grow something new-last year they tried eggplant. Corn is the most popular seller!

Katie English spoke about the community garden initiative in Dawson. The community garden is next to the local daycare, which helps to encourage children involvement. At the Dawson community garden, they have received funding support from the *Community Development Fund* to add infrastructure including a tool shed, rainwater collection system, books/resources, and a picnic shelter. *Growing Forward 2* funding supports a garden coordinator position. The City and Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in donated the land. The community garden has 26 plots, which are rented each season for \$20. The garden also has grazing beds, which are free for people to take from, and plots that are designated for the daycare and school. The grazing beds discourage people from taking from people's personal plots and they can help themselves to foods such as berries, carrots, peas, and radishes. The community garden also hosts events such as Seedy Saturday to encourage the community to get involved and introduce them to gardening. Seedy Saturday is financially supported through Growing Forward 2 and is an opportunity to showcase local farmers and bring in guest speakers on useful gardening practices. Throughout the season, the garden hosts a workshop series to continue to encourage community involvement and become a place to gather and spend time together.



*Seki Wedge sharing her experiences with the Carcross Community Garden*

Seki Wedge shared her experiences with the Carcross Community Garden. The garden and greenhouses were revived after three years of not being in use and were put back into production last season. The garden is run in partnership between Carcross Tagish First Nation and Yukon College. Last season, it hosted a pilot food security program through the college, led by Heidi Marion. Three students were involved in the course, who were also part of the community garden crew. Funding for the Carcross community garden comes from *Growing Forward 2*, Carcross Tagish First Nation, and STEP (Student Education & Training Program). They

also used the transitional work program that provided labour to repair the greenhouses and build the garden beds. The garden collects scraps for compost from the community. Produce from the garden is provided to the prenatal program, local daycare, and Elders; and sold to the Caribou Crossing coffee shop and at the Tagish Farmers Market. They will also have a stand at the Carcross Commons area this coming season. Some of the challenges that the Carcross community garden have faced have been related to their watering system, pest management, having enough volunteers and sharing responsibilities (i.e. over the weekends), getting more involvement from the community, and vandalism. They have also experienced great success so far, with excellent yields, a partnership between the First Nation and the college, a re-vamping of the garden and providing quality nutrition for the community.

### Worm Composting Demonstration

Over the lunch hour of Day One, Heidi provided the workshop participants with a worm composting demonstration. Here, participants shared their experiences with worm composting and trouble-shooted with each other on successful techniques and practices.



*Facilitator Heidi Marion showing participants the workings of a worm compost.*













## Goal Setting and Visioning

During the afternoon of Day One, the group worked in small groups to define their visions and goals for their community gardens. Participants were asked to draw their existing community garden (or their dream garden) and have discussions describing their garden, their funding, how the garden is managed, where the land for the garden came from, who eats the food, etc. The following bullet points are a summary of their responses.

### ***What is the Purpose of the Community Garden?***

-  Provide local, healthy food for the community
-  Provide local, healthy food for certain members of the community
-  Therapeutic and healing
-  To keep people healthy: food is medicine for the soul
-  To encourage community collaboration, promotion of First Nation participation
-  To create sustainable communities
-  To save money (cheaper to grown own food)
-  To encourage local farming -community gardens are a nursery for new farmers and build local capacity to grow food

### ***Who Owns the Land?***

-  The City or Municipality
-  The First Nation
-  Donated to the Garden
-  Condo Corporation
-  Schools/ Daycares
-  Private Land
-  Yukon College
-  Yukon Housing



*Vuntut Gwitchin Elder Stephen Frost dropped in to the workshop to share his experiences with gardening in Yukon's more northern community-Old Crow.*

### ***Is there a Manager?***

- 🌸 A Garden Coordinator
- 🌸 A Garden Committee
- 🌸 A Job Coach (to assist with daily duties)
- 🌸 Plot Owners and Committee to do weekly mandatory duties (i.e. weeding)

### ***Who Eats the Food?***

- 🐝 Elders
- 🐝 Meals on Wheels
- 🐝 Prenatal Program
- 🐝 Community Lunches
- 🐝 Garden Plot Holders -Families
- 🐝 Food Bank
- 🐝 Community Harvest Party
- 🐝 Chronically Ill Population
- 🐝 Other Community Members
- 🐝 Everybody Eats



*Workshop participants working in small groups.*

## Community Garden Aspirations

Participants were asked to share their aspirations for community gardening in Yukon and the role community gardens could play in their community. The following are some of the visions they discussed.

- ☀️ Yukon Government and First Nation governments make food security a priority (i.e. policy change/development, release of agriculture land).
- ☀️ Yukon-wide food security strategy.
- ☀️ Feed the community.
- ☀️ Improved food security for marginal, vulnerable populations by finding ways to encourage gardeners to grow food who don't have the ability to grow food and to get food to people who don't have access.
  - Grow food for the food insecure: Plant a Row Grow A Row (Food Bank).
- ☀️ Therapeutic garden-safe place for women and children to grow food.
- ☀️ Yukon College prioritizes agriculture and develops a full program- a credited degree/course.
- ☀️ Greater community involvement.
- ☀️ More men get involved in gardening.
- ☀️ Every school has a garden and includes gardening in the curriculum.
- ☀️ Bees in the community garden.
- ☀️ Chickens in the community garden.

## Asking the Right Questions: What's Working Well?

The groups were asked to brainstorm what someone who wants to start a community garden needs to know, to run a successful operation. The fundamental basics are summarized below.

**What do you need to get started with your community garden?**

- 1) Community Support**
- 2) Funding**
- 3) Volunteers**
- 4) Other**  
**(Existing infrastructure, available land, existing organizations for support)**

## Community Engagement

Workshop participants had many ideas on how to effectively engage community members with the community garden.

- Build budget to include ways to engage community.
- Advertise-posters, brochures, letters, social media, etc.
- Pick a visible, accessible location to raise awareness and increase possibility of community involvement.
- Use children as a link-they bring their parents.
- Host community events to promote project/group.
  - Harvests
  - BBQs and community meals
  - Seeding parties
  - Garden tours and samples
- Have local musicians play in the garden to draw people in.
- Grazing beds for community members to sample and try local produce (i.e. berries).
- Workshops and education opportunities for community members.
- Include recipes with produce and offer workshops on how to prepare new foods.
- Encourage First Nation and non-First Nation involvement.
  - Share food with everyone.
  - Focus on children who can be the link between First Nation and non-First Nation families.



## Day Two:

### Elements of a Successful Garden

Day Two began with a presentation by Matt Ball from YG-Agriculture Branch (*Appendix D*). He gave an overview of the different elements of a successful community garden: governance and management structure, funding and budgeting, and garden design and crop planning to set the context for the following session. The group was split into three groups who rotated between three tables, each covering discussions on governance and management structure, funding and budgeting, and garden design and crop planning. The following is a summary of the group discussions.










*Matt Ball, YG-Agriculture Branch giving a presentation on the elements of a successful community garden.*

### Governance & Management Structure

Workshop participants worked to distinguish between community garden governance and management structures and discussed the importance of having both. In general, governance is the overseer that keeps the community garden directed towards its overall vision, while management is the doer and does the day-to-day work of making that vision happen.

Governance	Management
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Advise</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Implementation-Does the work based on the direction from the governance structure</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Broad Direction-Sets the “Big Picture” and Focus of the Garden</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Operational: Work plans, action plans, day-to-day work</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Review (proposals, budgets, etc.)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Puts vision into action</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Guidance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Link between the governance body and the garden-keeps governance informed of garden operations and what they need</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Oversees Project/ Program Delivery but let’s management run it</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Manager operates on the ground and directs community garden staff and volunteers</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Visionary</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Operates through a Board or a Committee –membership should include gardeners and the community garden champion</li> </ul>	

There are essential skills that a community garden manager must have:

-  Commitment and dedication to gardening (loves to grow things!)
-  Willing to volunteer time
-  Gardening skills and experience
-  Fundraising, proposal writing and reporting skills
-  Budgeting skills
-  People skills-supervisory skills, leadership skills, enthusiastic
-  Communication skills

Open, ongoing communication between the governance body and management is critical. Clearly defined roles and responsibilities for each should be set at the beginning. Everyone involved in the community garden should have the same vision and goals. Sometimes it is necessary to get outside help to facilitate a common direction, if there are differences between the governance and management points of view. A collective contract, which clearly defines the roles and responsibilities of everyone, can be a helpful process to set in place when starting a community garden. To keep up the momentum and energy, dedicated people both in the governance and management structure are essential. The gardeners need to be included in decision-making.

### **Governance & Management**

- 1) Clearly define roles and responsibilities of Governance Body (committee) and Management.**
- 2) Respect each other and keep it “a-political”**
- 3) Review ground rules periodically to avoid “role creep”.**
- 4) Formally orient new members to ground rules.**
- 5) Rotate/try different roles to foster mutual appreciation and understanding of the different responsibilities.**
- 6) Set up clear and consistent communication mechanisms between governance and management.**

It is important that the management have a set of ground rules for the people who are part of the community garden. The following are example rules that are used at the Dawson Community Garden. These rules are part of a contract (*Appendix C*) that is signed when the participants get a plot. The rules can be developed with both the committee (governance body) and the management.

### **Rules and Conditions for Participation**

- 1. In using this garden I agree to abide by its policies and practices.**
- 2. The fee for the garden is \$20 for the full season or \$5 per month.**
- 3. My plot will be in the process of planting by June 4, 2014.**
- 4. I will keep all my plants within the 4 x 10 x 2.8 feet raised bed.**
- 5. I will not allow my plants to grow over 6 feet tall.**
- 6. I will keep my plot free of weeds, pests and diseases.**
- 7. I will keep my plot and surrounding areas clean and neat.**
- 8. I will separate all my garbage/recycling/compost as per garden directions.**
- 9. I will not plant any illegal plants.**
- 10. If I must abandon my plot for any reason I will notify the garden coordinator.**
- 11. I will keep my plot watered, in doing so I will make sure to fill up water barrels after use for the next gardener and make sure water taps are completely off before leaving the site.**
- 12. I will attend the monthly work parties organized by the garden coordinator. If I cannot make it I will work out a time with the garden coordinator to do volunteer hours.**
- 13. I will use all communal equipment with care and will report any damaged items to the garden coordinator.**
- 14. I understand that this is an organic garden and I will not use chemical fertilizers, insecticides or weed repellents (If needed I will seek the advice of the garden coordinator for organic gardening knowledge, recommendations for natural amendments/fertilizers, natural pest control and how to build a healthy organic soil).**
- 15. I will not take anything from the community garden that is not rightfully mine.**
- 16. I will respect other gardeners.**
- 17. I understand that the community garden is a substance free place and will never visit the garden under the influence of drugs or alcohol.**
- 18. I am responsible for the behavior of my children and or any visitors I may bring to the community garden.**
- 19. I will work to keep the garden a happy secure, enjoyable place where all participants can garden and socialize peacefully.**
- 20. I will participate in the fall cleanup of the garden.**
- 21. I AGREE TO HOLD HARMLESS THE GARDEN COORDINATOR AND OWNERS OF THE LAND FOR ANY LIABILITY, DAMAGE LOSS OR CLAIM THAT OCCURS IN CONNECTION WITH THE USE OF THE GARDEN BY ME OR ANY OF MY GUESTS.**

## Funding & Budgeting

Profitability has different meanings to the various groups involved in a community garden. It is important to define and understand what profitability is to the *funders*: accountability-How does the funder expect you to show success with the community garden?; to the *community*: How does the community define a successful community garden?; and to the *growers*: What is your profit as the champion of your garden? It is important to be aware of and address the different ways of measuring the successes of your garden for the different players involved.

Before applying for funding, be sure to establish a clear idea, vision, and champion first. When writing proposals it is important to:

- \* Tell your story clearly: the review committee cannot “read between the lines”.
- \* Outline the value a community garden brings to the community.
- \* Use simple language.
- \* Re-use old applications that have been successful in the past to help in developing a new proposal.
- \* Start small and take baby steps: make sure the budget and infrastructure are realistic for the size of the community.
- \* Thoroughly itemize all costs in the budget (i.e. tools, equipment, soil, seeds, compost, fertilizer, staff, etc.).
- \* Include cost associated with the community and volunteers in your budget.
- \* Invite funders to visit the community garden to see it “in action”.
- \* Include a long-term sustainability plan in the proposal.
- \* Do your research and plan.
- \* Learn about the funding bodies and understand their requirements, capacity and limitations.
- \* Include evaluation and measure the value of the community garden to demonstrate to funders the success of the community garden (i.e. amount of produce grown, non-monetary values, amount sold, other metrics for demonstrating impact).



Small group work





In Yukon, there are multiple funding options available for community gardening. The following is a list that the workshop participants brainstormed together. *Growing Forward 2* funding is a federal program that is administered through Yukon Government-Agriculture Branch and is a key source of funding. Yukon Government *Community Development Fund* is also a frequently used funding source that is good for funding infrastructure-related costs. Other funding sources include:

- 🌸 First Nation governments (Health Department, Health & Wellness)
- 🌸 Municipal support (i.e. City of Whitehorse)
- 🌸 Recreation grants with municipal governments
- 🌸 Partnerships within the community- schools, health clinics, RCMP
- 🌸 Local businesses
- 🌸 Private partners and sponsors for donations (materials, labour, volunteers, funding, etc.)
- 🌸 CanNor (federal)
- 🌸 Health Investment Fund (for programming) (Yukon Government)
- 🌸 Youth Investment Fund (hiring staff) (Yukon Government)
- 🌸 Crime Prevention Services-Justice Department (Yukon Government)
- 🌸 Yukon Government-Health & Social Services (Head-Start program)
- 🌸 Recreation & Parks Association of the Yukon (provides education and workshops)
- 🌸 Yukon Conservation Society-Environmental Training Trust Fund
- 🌸 Yukon-BC Cancer Association
- 🌸 Lotteries Yukon
- 🌸 Heart & Stroke Foundation
- 🌸 Yukon Youth Conservation Corps (Y2C2) (summer employment and training program)
- 🌸 STEP (Student Training and Education Program) (Program deadline is October for the following year)
- 🌸 Work opportunity program/transitional employment program
- 🌸 Executive Development Program (Yukon Government)
- 🌸 Community Training Trust Society
- 🌸 “Eco” funds (must have non-profit status) (Wal-Mart, big companies who have to demonstrate social responsibility)
- 🌸 Plot fees (GrowBox)
- 🌸 Challenge (will build garden beds for you- for payment)
- 🌸 Concession and raffle fundraising

Workshop participants identified several challenges they can face with funding.

- 🐝 Do not know who to contact about funding.
- 🐝 Funders do not respond.
- 🐝 Finding funding to expand the community garden.
- 🐝 Over-charged when hire outside labour for help.

Solutions to some of the identified challenges could be:

- 🐝 Meet with funders in person.
- 🐝 Try to get municipality involved (form a partnership).
- 🐝 Put a price on volunteers to demonstrate capacity available (in-kind contributions).
- 🐝 Network.
- 🐝 Look to other funders.
- 🐝 Hire summer students for labour (need to relate it to skill development).
- 🐝 Get quotes for materials, labour costs, and volunteer capacity.
- 🐝 Partnerships give a stronger position for funding.
- 🐝 Gather community support (community buy-in).
- 🐝 Need a champion (to do the paperwork, manage the operation, etc).

The groups discussed the option of having non-profit status for a community garden. Non-profit status allows for 100% *Growing Forward 2* funding potential (versus a portion of the funding). The community garden can operate through a municipality for First Nation government and have non-profit status. It could also be run through a community association, conservation society, or other non-profit organization.



*Small group work*

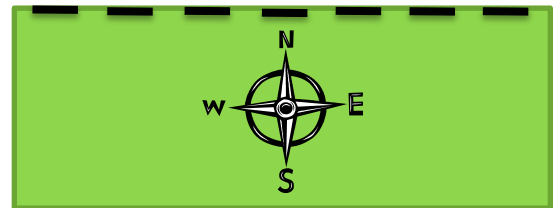


## Garden Design & Crop Planning

### Garden Design

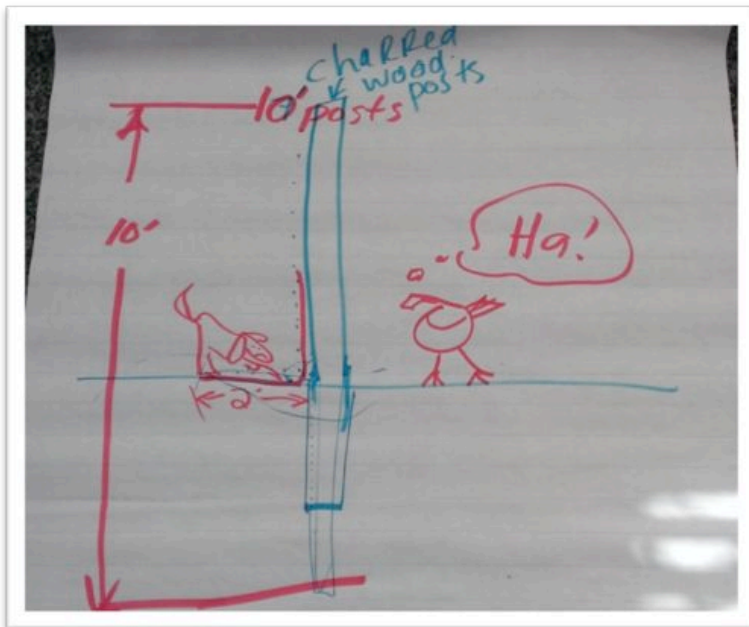
There are many different elements to consider when planning the design for a community garden.

- ☀️ Leave space for expansion
- ☀️ If growing on the ground (not raised beds), hilling the beds can help with heat and moisture
- ☀️ If using raised beds/boxes it is easier to define who's box is whose in an allotment garden, they give greater accessibility, include storage space underneath for tools or act as a heat sink.
- ☀️ Use sawdust or woodchips between beds to keep it tidy and not muddy.
- ☀️ Kids areas
- ☀️ Ability for crop rotation
- ☀️ Greenhouse Orientation:
  - Full sun, south-facing
  - Long edge: West-East, short edge: North-South
  - Some use the north-facing wall to capture passive solar heat with painted black water drums.
- ☀️ If have a big greenhouse, allocate some space for heating for when doing starter plants.
- ☀️ Put rocks or water bottles (re-use 2L pop bottles) under benches to act as a heat sink-they absorb heat in the day and release it at night to keep the greenhouse warm.
- ☀️ Access:
  - Traffic
  - Wheelchair access
  - Accessibility by foot
  - Parking
  - Delivery trucks
  - Access to compost, recycling, garbage
- ☀️ Washrooms
- ☀️ Grazing Beds (free food for public)
- ☀️ Meeting Place; Pavilion
- ☀️ First Aid Kit, Fire Extinguisher
- ☀️ Fire Pit
- ☀️ Harvest Station
- ☀️ Place for starting seedlings
- ☀️ Message Board and Posting of "To-Do" List sign-up and schedule, ground rules, events
- ☀️ Tool Shed



*Greenhouse orientation*

- ☀️ Drinking Water Station
- ☀️ Music Station: music improves productivity
- ☀️ Potential to integrate chickens or rabbits into the greenhouse-warm place for them to spend time in the winter, great fertilizer for the garden (can be messy).
  - If integrating animals in an urban area, check by-laws
  - Consider space required for feed storage and living quarters
- ☀️ Wind breaks (trees)
- ☀️ The sources of water and ease of access and efficiency: rain barrels, slopes/gravity feed, irrigation system (drip lines).
- ☀️ Find the cooler, shady spots in the garden and use those areas for cool tolerant crops like spinach
- ☀️ Pollinator plots: butterfly gardens, blue flowers attract bees
- ☀️ Fencing with signs: Let people know what you are trying to keep in/out
  - Bears: Electric, not high voltage or livestock fencing
  - Foxes: Chicken wire
  - Deer/Elk: 12 foot fencing
  - Dogs: 7 foot fencing is adequate



*Illustration of how to keep dogs away from chickens.*

## Planting Time

Seed catalogues are a good source of free information on planting. With the Yukon's cold climate and unique growing season, there are some brands of seeds that do better than others.

- T & T Seeds
  - Denali Seeds
  - Stokes Seeds
  - Sage Seeds (Whitehorse-based)
  - West Coast Seeds
- ✦ Best time for planting depends on the year: direct seeding into the ground from May 19-June.
  - ✦ Communities have different microclimates.
  - ✦ Warm soil in the spring by covering with clear plastic, even over top of the snow.
    - Can buy painters drop cloth at Canadian Tire or salvage from construction sites
    - Black covering will suppress weeds but will not warm the soil
  - ✦ Beans: The season is generally too short for pole beans; bush beans are a better option.
  - ✦ Ideal soil temperature for tomatoes is 15-18°C.
  - ✦ Succession planting: can plant cold-hardy species up to August.
  - ✦ Fall Planting: Spinach, carrots, Swiss chard can be planted in the Fall (October 16-18).
    - Timing is important to be just before the snow falls
    - Use fresh/new seeds, do not use seed tape
    - Cover with cloth and plastic, remove when snow is gone, check frequently that it has not dried out, remove cloth when germination









*Small group work*










## Gardening Tips & Tricks from Participants

Throughout the gathering, participants were provided the opportunity to ask any questions they had related to community gardening or gardening in general.

### Pest Control

-  Powdery mildew and aphids: Spray solution of ½ milk and ½ water onto plant foliage as an organic pesticide to reduce mildew and control aphids.
-  Chives or leeks to keep mice out
-  Sage and cabbage (keeps away cabbage moths)
-  Marigolds (marigolds and sage with cabbage)
-  Cayenne pepper to keep animals away (mice, fox)
-  Bears do not like coffee grounds

### Companion Planting

-  Parsley loves onions (or onion, parsley, spinach)
-  Carrots love tomatoes
-  Sage and cabbage
-  Dill and brassica
-  Peas and oats
-  Squash, corn and beans
-  Yarrow with herbs
-  Hot peppers can make tomatoes spicy
-  Cucumber do not like aromatic herbs



## Transplanting (Trees and Berries)

- 🌸 Focus transplanting in the spring-in the fall, the success rate is 20% less.
- 🌸 Need to take all the earth from around the tree roots (including 12 inches under the roots).
- 🌸 To plant willows, soak the roots in water for three days first.
- 🌸 Willows have a natural rooting hormone and water taken from where willows grow can encourage plant (root) growth.
- 🌸 To transplant berries from the wild, do it on cooler days, keep environment consistent and take soil from where it is growing in the wild to the garden.
- 🌸 Roots from berry plants will stem from outstretched stalks.
- 🌸 Raspberry plant roots need to look like an “L” when dug up.
- 🌸 Raspberries love compost.

## Fertilizers (Organic vs. Synthetic)

- 🐝 Need to understand the purpose of why you are growing.
- 🐝 Synthetic fertilizers are made of three nutrients (Nitrogen, Phosphorus, Potassium), which go directly into the plant and are fast acting.
- 🐝 Organic fertilizer management provides a low level, broad spectrum of micronutrients, which builds the soil over time.
- 🐝 If producing to sell, synthetic fertilizers give higher yields, faster.
- 🐝 Education and support for novice gardeners is critical.

## Is it possible to sell weeds/wild harvest commercially?

- ☀️ Lambs quarters, chickweed, strawberry, fireweed shoots are all edible “weeds” that could be sold.

## What about growing garlic in Yukon?

- 🌱 It is possible to grow garlic in Yukon, Aurora Mountain Farm, Stephen Boland in Atlin, Ruth Lera in Mount Lorne.
- 🌱 Plant the bulbs in the spring and harvest the scapes.



## Soil Blocking Demonstration

On the second day of the workshop, Heidi Marion did a demonstration on soil blocking. This tool creates blocks of soil for planting seedlings, without the risk of breaking roots when transplanting.



*Soil blocking demonstration with facilitator Heidi Marion.*



## Overcoming or Avoiding Challenges

Some of the major challenges that Yukon community gardeners face were discussed, as well as the possible solutions to those challenges. The following is a summary of the discussion.






Challenge	Solution
<b>Finding volunteers and keeping them</b> (see also Community Engagement section)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Build budget to include ways to engage community.</li> <li>○ Use children as a link-they bring their parents.</li> <li>○ Get kids to do garden work during school time.</li> <li>○ Always cook a meal and have food for volunteers.</li> <li>○ Community meals and garden tours.</li> <li>○ Get City to wave parking fines when they volunteer in the garden.</li> <li>○ Have the garden be put on the Community Service list.</li> <li>○ Job placement programs.</li> <li>○ If it is an allotment garden, volunteers are anyone who has a box.</li> <li>○ Paying members required to volunteer</li> <li>○ WWOOFers (World-Wide Opportunities on Organic Farms).</li> </ul>
<b>Getting materials</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Donations</li> <li>○ Advertise</li> <li>○ Use recycled materials</li> </ul>
<b>Obtaining funding</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Talk to the business community</li> <li>○ Partner with other groups</li> <li>○ When applying for funding, include a long-term sustainability plan in proposal.</li> </ul>
<b>Getting Youth Involved</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Build meals into the budget to bring them out.</li> <li>○ Host a competition with an awesome prize.</li> </ul>
<b>Vandalism</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Happens because people feel left out-keep the community garden open for everyone.</li> </ul>
<b>General Support</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Use the Yukon community gardener network and meet once or twice a year.</li> <li>○ Don't sweat the small stuff!</li> </ul>








## Partnerships

Partnerships are a critical component for a successful community garden. Pre-existing relationships are important places to start building relationships for a community garden. Look at the support that is already there and work with it. There is great power in partnerships-the more people work together, the more that can be done.

### Types of Partnerships

-  Partnership with Mother Earth
-  Partnerships between First Nation and Municipality (joined councils)
-  Partnership with community campus (Yukon College)
-  Partnership between producers and consumers: CSA: Community Supported Agriculture
-  Community-University partnerships (i.e. Kwantlen Polytechnic University-Institute for Sustainable Food Systems)
-  Intergenerational partnerships
-  Partnerships within one garden, between community members
-  Neighbouring communities
-  Partnerships between land seekers and land owners
-  Schools and daycares, prenatal program
-  Non-profit organizations
-  The community gardeners that gathered for the workshop are also a support network and they can rely on each other for support and encouragement.

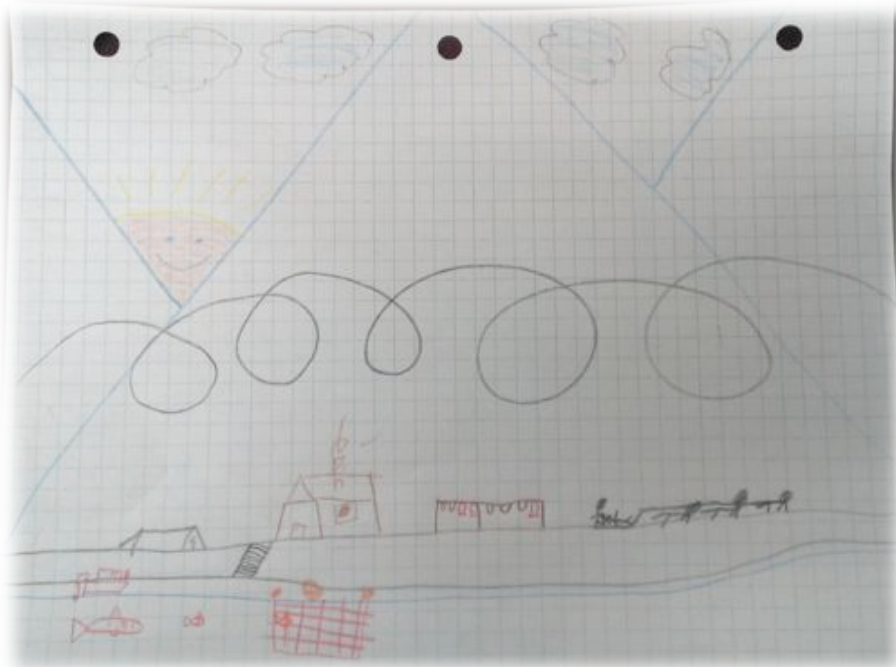
### What Partnerships Can Do

-  Technical support/research expertise
-  Sharing in support-stronger position for funding
-  Shared costs
-  Money up-front (seasonal share in produce)
-  Shared workload and shared labour

## Staying Connected

Workshop participants were keen to stay connected and develop a network between community gardeners in Yukon. Suggestions on how to do this included:

- 🌸 Mass email with contact list
- 🌸 Newsletter (YG-Agriculture Branch InFARMation)
- 🌸 Food security list serv
- 🌸 Facebook page
- 🌸 Interactive, online map (i.e.Green Maps)
- 🌸 Use Growing Forward funds to administrate a network



*Drawing by Dreyden Kassi (son of Loretta Itsi) of having access to local foods in Old Crow, including a garden.*

## Resources & Links



### Recreation and Parks Association Healthy

**Living Menu:** <http://www.rpaymenu.org/>

-Organization that provides workshop opportunities including gardening for Yukon communities



### Yukon College Essential Skills for Food Security program

-New program offered through community campuses (piloted in 2013 in Carcross)



### Yukon College Continuing Education-Master Gardeners course with Yukon Gardeners Manual



**University of Fairbanks, AK:** <http://www.uaf.edu/ces/gardening>

-Online resources for gardening in the North and program offerings-Alaskan Growers School, Master Gardener Programs, Junior Master Gardeners



**Fireweed Community Market:** <http://fireweedmarket.yukonfood.com>

-Weekly workshops throughout the summer (runs Thursdays and Saturdays)



**Curious Gardener Series:** <http://thecuriousgardener.ca>

-Arlin McFarlane does short clips with local producers on tips and techniques for growing in the Yukon



**Consultants:** Heidi Marion (Foodscapers) and Ingrid Wilcox



**Local growers:** For example, seniors at the residence at Yukon College have a wealth of gardening knowledge



**Yukon Agriculture Products List:** <http://www.yukonfarmproducts.ca>

-Listing of all Yukon producers and their products



**From the Ground Up Yukon Fundraiser:** <http://www.yukonfromthegroundup.ca>

-YG-Health Promotion healthy food fundraising initiative with Yukon schools



**“And This Is My Garden” Initiative:** <http://andthisismygarden.com/>

-Northern Manitoba-based initiative where teachers incorporated gardening into the school curriculum and empowered kids to grow their own food



## Conclusions

*Working Together To Grow More* was a first-time opportunity for people with a common interest- community gardening in Yukon to come together and share their experiences, questions, expertise, and enthusiasm. The two days were the foundation for building a support network or community garden community in Yukon. Participants identified their desire for more gatherings and opportunities to come together and share and expressed how the workshop left them feeling inspired and energized to garden in their communities.



## Appendices

### Appendix A) Working Together to Grow More Agenda

#### March 26<sup>th</sup>

##### Day One: Goal Setting and Visioning

- 8:30-9:00am ~ Breakfast (provided)
- 9:00-9:05am ~ Opening Prayer
- 9:05-9:15am ~ Welcome (Kim Neufeld, Community Dietician)
- 9:15-9:45am ~ Roundtable Introductions
- 9:45-10:15am ~ Community Gardening in Yukon: Presentation by Ingrid Wilcox
- 10:15-10:30am ~ Break
- 10:30-12:00pm ~ Community Gardens in Yukon: Presentations by Alice Boland, Katie English, and Seki Wedge
- 12:00-1:00pm ~ Lunch (provided) and Worm Composting Demonstration
- 1:00-1:30pm ~ Community Gardens in the Yukon: Visioning and Goal Setting (small group work)
- 1:30-2:30pm ~ Asking the Right Questions: Identifying Best Practices
- 2:30-2:45pm ~ Break
- 2:45-4:15pm ~ Report back and reflection after small group discussions
- 4:15-4:30pm ~ Evaluation of Day One

#### March 27<sup>th</sup>

##### Day Two: From Ideas to Action

- 8:30-9:00am ~ Breakfast (provided)
- 9:00-9:30am ~ Summary of Day One

- 9:30-10:00am ~ Introduction to next session
- 10:00-10:15am ~ Break
- 10:15-12:00pm ~ Elements of a Successful Community Garden and  
Resources
- Community Garden Governance and Management
  - Funding and Budgeting for a Community Garden
  - Garden Design and Crop Planning
- 12:00-1:00pm ~ Lunch (provided) and Soil Blocking Demonstration
- 1:00-1:30pm ~ Overcoming or Avoiding Challenges with your Community  
Garden
- 1:30-2:15pm ~ How to Realize the Goals and Vision of your Community Garden (small  
group work)
- 2:15-3:00pm ~ Report back from small group discussion
- 3:00-3:15pm ~Break
- 3:15-3:45pm ~Best Practices
- 3:45-4:00pm ~Staying Connected
- 4:00-4:15pm ~ Evaluation of Day Two, Closing & Closing Prayer

## Appendix B) Participant Contact List

<b>Community Gardening in the Yukon: <i>Working Together to Grow More</i></b>			
<b>Community</b>	<b>Participants</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Contact</b>
Atlin	Sharon Leech	Taku River Tlingit First Nation	Po Box 393, Atlin BC V0W 1A0
Beaver Creek	Val Suddick	White River First Nation	<a href="mailto:val.suddick@whiteriverfirstnation.com">val.suddick@whiteriverfirstnation.com</a>
Burwash	Sandra Johnson	Kluane First Nation	<a href="mailto:cultussandy@northwestel.net">cultussandy@northwestel.net</a>
	Jared Dulac	Kluane First Nation	<a href="mailto:jared.dulac@hotmail.com">jared.dulac@hotmail.com</a>
	Alanna Dickson	Kluane First Nation	<a href="mailto:alanna.dickson@hotmail.com">alanna.dickson@hotmail.com</a>
Carcross	Seki Wedge	Carcross/Tagish First Nation	<a href="mailto:fionasekiw@gmail.com">fionasekiw@gmail.com</a>
Tagish	Leslie Kerr	Tagish	<a href="mailto:lkerr@yukoncollege.yk.ca">lkerr@yukoncollege.yk.ca</a>
	Moya van Delft	Tagish Community Market Society	<a href="mailto:moyavandelft6@gmail.com">moyavandelft6@gmail.com</a>
	Susan Baker	Tagish	-
Carmacks	Alice Boland	Little Salmon Carmacks First Nation	<a href="mailto:pboland63@live.ca">pboland63@live.ca</a>
Destruction Bay	Marsha Flumerfelt		<a href="mailto:mjflumerfelt@northwestel.net">mjflumerfelt@northwestel.net</a>
Dawson	Katie English	Conservation Klondike Society	<a href="mailto:communitygardenc@gmail.com">communitygardenc@gmail.com</a>
	Lynn Rear	Trondek Hwechin	<a href="mailto:lynnrear@gmail.com">lynnrear@gmail.com</a>
Haines Junction	Meta Williams	Haines Junction Employment Development Society	<a href="mailto:meta_williams@yahoo.ca">meta_williams@yahoo.ca</a>
Mayo	Ellenise Profeit	Nacho Nyak Dun	<a href="mailto:execassist@nndfn.com">execassist@nndfn.com</a>
Old Crow	Loretta Itsi	Vuntut Gwitchin	<a href="mailto:eto@vgfn.net">eto@vgfn.net</a>
Teslin	Minnie Jules	Teslin Tlingit Council	Po Box 282, Teslin YT Y0A 1B0
Teslin	Rosemary Jackson	Teslin Tlingit Council	Po Box 11, Teslin Y0A 1B0
Watson Lake	Alyssa Magun	Town of Watson Lake	<a href="mailto:recprogrammer@watsonlake.ca">recprogrammer@watsonlake.ca</a>
Watson Lake	Sharon Miller	Help and Hope Centre	<a href="mailto:s_dmiller@northwestel.net">s_dmiller@northwestel.net</a>



Whitehorse	Kate Mechan	Yukon Anti Poverty Coalition	<a href="mailto:yapcprojects@gmail.com">yapcprojects@gmail.com</a>
	Bart Bounds	GOOFY	<a href="mailto:elementalfarm@riseup.net">elementalfarm@riseup.net</a>
	Ingrid Wilcox	Master Gardener	<a href="mailto:ingrid@northwestel.net">ingrid@northwestel.net</a>
	Kim Neufeld	YG-Health Promotion	<a href="mailto:kim.neufeld@gov.yk.ca">kim.neufeld@gov.yk.ca</a>
	Karin Voogd	Potluck Community Coop	<a href="mailto:info@potluckcoop.ca">info@potluckcoop.ca</a>
	Brad Barton	YG-Agriculture Branch	<a href="mailto:bradley.barton@gov.yk.ca">bradley.barton@gov.yk.ca</a>
	Matt Ball	YG-Agriculture Branch	<a href="mailto:matt.ball@gov.yk.ca">matt.ball@gov.yk.ca</a>
	Valerie Whelan	YG-Agriculture Branch; Agri-Food Canada	<a href="mailto:valerie.whelan@gov.yk.ca">valerie.whelan@gov.yk.ca</a>
	Norma Kassi	AICBR	<a href="mailto:norma@aicbr.ca">norma@aicbr.ca</a>
	Jody Walker	AICBR	<a href="mailto:jody@aicbr.ca">jody@aicbr.ca</a>
	Mallory Coletta	AICBR	<a href="mailto:mallory@aicbr.ca">mallory@aicbr.ca</a>
	Katelyn Friendship	AICBR	<a href="mailto:katelyn@aicbr.ca">katelyn@aicbr.ca</a>
	Heidi Marion	FoodScapers	<a href="mailto:heidi@northwestel.net">heidi@northwestel.net</a>
British Columbia	Kent Mullinex	Kwantlin Polytechnic University	<a href="mailto:kent.mullinex@kpu.ca">kent.mullinex@kpu.ca</a>
	Caitlin Dorwood	Kwantlin Polytechnic University	<a href="mailto:caitlin.dorward@kpu.ca">caitlin.dorward@kpu.ca</a>

Appendix C) Sample Community Garden Contract

Dawson City Community Garden

Contract 2014

Rules and Conditions for Participation:

1. In using this garden I agree to abide by its policies and practices.
2. The fee for the garden is \$20 for the full season or \$5 per month.
3. My plot will be in the process of planting by June 4, 2014.
4. I will keep all my plants within the 4 x 10 x 2.8 feet raised bed.
5. I will not allow my plants to grow over 6 feet tall.
6. I will keep my plot free of weeds, pests and diseases.
7. I will keep my plot and surrounding areas clean and neat.
8. I will separate all my garbage/recycling/compost as per garden directions.
9. I will not plant any illegal plants.
10. If I must abandon my plot for any reason I will notify the garden coordinator.
11. I will keep my plot watered, in doing so I will make sure to fill up water barrels after use for the next gardener and make sure water taps are completely off before leaving the site.
12. I will attend the monthly work parties organized by the garden coordinator. If I cannot make it I will work out a time with the garden coordinator to volunteer hours.
13. I will use all communal equipment with care and will report any damaged items to the garden coordinator.
14. I understand that this is an organic garden and I will not use chemical fertilizers, insecticides or weed repellents (if needed I will seek the advice of the garden coordinator for organic gardening knowledge, recommendations for natural amendments/fertilizers, natural pest control and how to build a healthy organic soil).
15. I will not take anything from the community garden that is not rightfully mine.
16. I will respect other gardeners.
17. I understand that the community garden is a substance free place and will never visit the garden under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
18. I am responsible for the behavior of my children and or any visitors I may bring to the community garden.
19. I will work to keep the garden a happy secure, enjoyable place where all participants can garden and socialize peacefully.
20. I will participate in the fall cleanup of the garden.
21. I AGREE TO HOLD HARMLESS THE GARDEN COORDINATOR AND OWNERS OF THE LAND FOR ANY LIABILITY, DAMAGE LOSS OR CLAIM THAT OCCURS IN CONNECTION WITH THE USE OF THE GARDEN BY ME OR ANY OF MY GUESTS.

I have read and understand the application and accept these rules and conditions stated above for participation in the Dawson City Community Garden.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Participant Contact Information

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ GARDEN PLOT # \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

*WE WILL BE HAVING WORK PARTIES THE LAST MONDAY OF EVERY MONTH FROM 5 – 8. DOES THIS TIME  
WORK FOR YOU ? \_\_\_\_\_ YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO*

**Appendix D) Matt Ball Presentation**

Matt Ball, Agrologist,  
Yukon Government, Energy Mines and Resources, Agriculture Branch



**YUKON COMMUNITY GARDEN GATHERING  
WORKING TOGETHER TO GROW MORE**

# ELEMENTS OF A SUCCESSFUL COMMUNITY GARDEN



- ✘ Governance and Management
- ✘ Funding and Budgeting
- ✘ Garden Design and Crop Planning

# YOU WILL NEED TO COME UP WITH A GOVERNANCE STRATEGY



- ✘ What to consider
  - ✘ Who is your champion
  - ✘ Name for the garden
  - ✘ Who makes the **Decisions** and how are decisions are made (is this by consensus, vote, or committee)
  - ✘ Define **Roles** and **Responsibilities**
  - ✘ Develop **Goals** and set **Objectives** and **Evaluate**
  - ✘ Set up **Rules**
  - ✘ Define a **Communication** strategy
  - ✘ **Network** with other Gardens and Gardeners

✘ Adapted from Governance Strategy for Community Gardens by Joaquin Navas

# ESTABLISH HOW DECISIONS ARE TO BE MADE



- ✘ *By Consensus:* Steering committee presents and discuss different ideas around a concern. The group reaches consensus when everyone accepts to adopt a specific solution, even though not every member has to agree 100% with it.
- ✘ *By Vote:* This is the traditional “majority wins” approach, which may or may not be preceded by discussion of the ideas.
- ✘ *Autocratic:* The steering committee appoints a leader and accepts his/her decisions in despite of some disagreement.
- ✘ Another aspect to consider is whether the decisions will follow a participatory approach (the committee will listen to the community) vs. a non-participatory approach.
- ✘ It is important to note that there is no “perfect” way of making decisions and the steering committee should be prepared to embrace error as part of the learning process.
- ✘ **The key factor is to be consistent with the decision-making process**



# DEFINE ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- ✘ Within the steering committee, people should have different roles according to the needs. Some examples include: a chair/coordinator, a scribe (to record discussions), a communicator to interface with community, etc. It is important that roles are not imposed and that each person feels comfortable with the task assigned.



# DEVELOP A GOAL STATEMENT



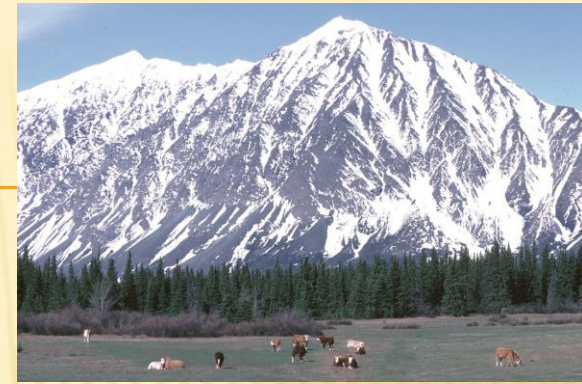
- ✘ What does the community want to accomplish with the garden?
- ✘ How will participants and the community benefit from the garden?
- ✘ Community gardens often go beyond producing fresh food. It is worthwhile inviting people who are interested in the project to provide ideas on the different things that they would want to achieve by participating in the community garden. It is important to make the goal explicit.
- ✘ Write a simple statement; i.e. “the goal of this garden is to learn to grow some of our food and to meet people with similar interests”).

# OBJECTIVES AND EVALUATION



- ✘ **Set Objective(s) for the First Season.**
  - + How would you define “success” for your community garden?
  - + Make sure that your objectives are attainable, simple and measurable within a time frame. For example “This year, our objective is to have 10 families involved
- ✘ **Evaluate your First Season Performance**

# SET UP RULES



- ✘ It is important to have rules in order to reduce conflict among participants.
- ✘ It is desirable to be able to regulate things such as plot assignment, storage, watering, plot management (weed control, use of pesticides, plot abandonment, etc).
- ✘ It would be valuable to invite people to participate in order to gather ideas about the main issues that have a perceived need of regulation.
- ✘ The rules should be clear, simple and practical (easy to enforce).

# DEFINE A COMMUNICATION STRATEGY



- ✘ All decisions concerning the community garden should be clear and communicated to all participants in a timely manner.
- ✘ The steering committee should look for efficient ways of doing so in terms of time, effort and money.
- ✘ Some options are: e-mail, a community garden board, signs posted in the garden, phone calls, door-to-door flyers, etc.

✘ Adapted from Governance Strategy for Community Gardens by Joaquin Navas

# NETWORK WITH OTHER GARDENERS



- ✘ Share your experiences with other community gardeners. Telling your story and listening to other people's stories leads to reflection and becomes a powerful way of learning.

# FUNDING AND BUDGETING

- ✘ It is most important to know what is needed for the community,
- ✘ Ask around: what does a successful community garden look like for my community?



# FUNDING OPTIONS



- ✘ Growing Forward 2
- ✘ Community Development Fund
- ✘ CanNor
- ✘ Local community support
- ✘ Municipality
- ✘ Private sector



# GF2 PROGRAM FUNDING



- ✘ Individuals are eligible for up to 50% of project costs when in-kind\* contributions are claimed and up to 60% of project costs when only actual expenses are claimed, with a lifetime program maximum of \$100,000;\*\*
- ✘ Farm groups and cooperatives are eligible for up to 75% of project costs, with a lifetime program maximum of \$250,000;\*\* and
- ✘ **Non-profit organizations** and governments, including **First Nation governments**, are eligible for up to **100%** project costs. Maximum program funding will be determined according to project evaluation and budget provisions.

# GF2 APPLICATION PROCESS

- ✘ Project applications are submitted to the Agriculture Branch at any time. Applications are reviewed monthly either by a program manager and field inspector, or a Project Evaluation Committee, depending on the program area for which the application is received.

The Project Evaluation Committee reviews the applications.

The role of the Project Evaluation Committee is to:

- ✘ provide industry perspective on applications;
- ✘ ensure that applications are evaluated according to the Growing Forward 2 policy objectives;
- ✘ consider project impacts to producers and processors that have invested their own funds in areas eligible for program funding to ensure fairness and competitiveness as part of the evaluation of applications; and
- ✘ consider project benefits to the overall industry and the public.



# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FUND



- ✘ The Community Development Fund (CDF) gives Yukon community, industry and professional associations; non-profit and charitable organizations; and municipal and First Nations governments money for projects and events that:
  - ✘ support community well-being
  - ✘ create jobs
  - ✘ generate spending on Yukon goods and services
  - ✘ have measurable social, cultural and economic benefits for Yukon residents and communities
- ✘ The primary goal of the CDF is to fund projects and events that provide long-term benefits and value to Yukon communities.

# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FUND

## Funding categories and Application Deadlines



CDF Funding Tiers	Tier I	Tier II	Tier III
Funding Level	\$20,000 or less	\$20,001 to \$75,000	\$75,001 or more
Deadline(s)	January 15 May 15 July 15 October 15	May 15 September 15	January 15

# CANNOR



- ✘ Our Programs and Services
- ✘ Aboriginal Economic Development
- ✘ Centre for Northern Innovation in Mining
- ✘ Community Infrastructure Improvement Fund
- ✘ Economic Development Initiative
- ✘ Northern Adult Basic Education Program (NABEP)
- ✘ Northern Projects Management Office (NPMO)
- ✘ Strategic Partnership Initiative (SPI)
- ✘ Strategic Investments Northern Economic Development (SINED)

# BUDGETING



- ✘ Get multiple quotes for infrastructure
- ✘ Talk with HR staff to understand labour costs
- ✘ Will the garden be volunteer driven
- ✘ Develop an itemized budget for materials and labour

# GARDEN DESIGN AND CROP PLANNING



- ✘ What is your community garden going to look like
  - + Are you going to have beds for individuals or families to grow
  - + Or are you going to grow for the community and have volunteers work the gardens
- ✘ Full sun
- ✘ Adjacent buildings
- ✘ Access to water
- ✘ Access for the community
- ✘ Raised beds vs the ground
- ✘ Greenhouse vs outdoor
- ✘ How much work will it take to start in that location?
- ✘ Know your climate

# TAKE HOME MESSAGE

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- ✘ Find your **Champion(s)**
- ✘ Build a **Team**
- ✘ **Plan**
  - + **Consult** the community
  - + **Focus** your efforts on what is achievable (keep it small to start)
- ✘ Find a **location**
- ✘ **Budget**
- ✘ Apply for **funding**

