



# BC Food Systems Network

## **Our vision**

The BC Food Systems Network envisions a healthy, just and sustainable food system that is equally accessible by all those who live in British Columbia.

## **Our mission**

The BC Food Systems Network is working to create a healthy, just and sustainable food system in BC by supporting the development of individual and organizational capacity, supporting the growth and strengthening of connections and advancing policy change.

## **Our principles**

1. Food security requires a sustainable food system in which:
  - a. Everyone is able to acquire, in a dignified manner, adequate quantity and quality of personally acceptable food;
  - b. People are able to earn a living wage by growing, producing, processing, handling, retailing and serving food;
  - c. The quality of land, air and water, the well-being of animals, and the integrity of plants and seeds are maintained and enhanced for future generations; and
  - d. Food is recognized as the basis of health and celebrated as central to family, community and cultural integrity.
2. We recognize that food is essential to life and is therefore a human right. It is also a gift from the Creator so that both the food and its sources must be honoured.
3. We encourage initiatives to reclaim local ownership of community food systems and develop food self-reliance by sharing food, information, skills, and resources.
4. We develop and advocate policies to redesign food and related systems that contribute to hunger or are unsustainable. This includes food production, processing, transport or retail; it also includes health, welfare, education, institutions, economics, and trade.
5. We work to ensure that the voices of grassroots organizations and marginalized groups are heard in the process of policy formation at all levels.
6. Our network therefore includes people who experience hunger and food insecurity, who produce food, who work to protect the environment, and who develop policy frameworks that foster food security for the whole population. We link provincially, nationally and internationally with organizations and networks committed to the same goals.