



# Cowichan Green Community

**AVICC Presentation**

**April 15, 2023**

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# Cowichan Green Community

## ▶ History

- ▶ Non profit 2004
- ▶ Several moves/expansions
- ▶ Purchase Phoenix Hotel 2012
- ▶ Three organizations
- ▶ Ongoing Programs

- ▶ Education/Training

- ▶ Social Enterprises

- ▶ Ceres Edible Landscaping, Station, IFG Magazine, Farm Map (14<sup>th</sup> edition)

- ▶ KinPark Youth Urban Farm

- ▶ Poverty Reduction - coupons/classes

- ▶ Farm/ Food Hub

- ▶ ReFresh Cowichan Marketplace

- ▶ Food Recovery



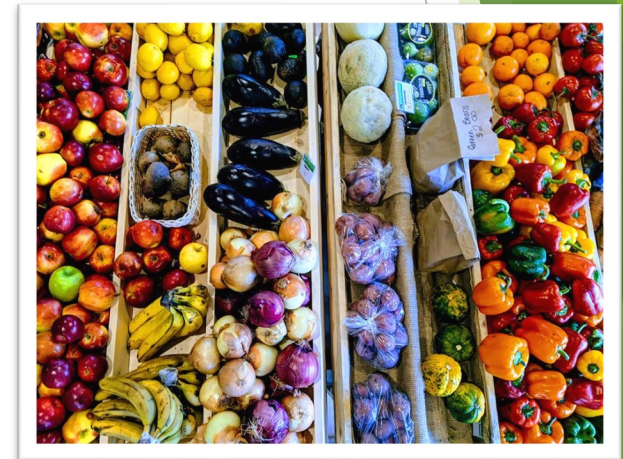
# Food Recovery Project

## ▶ **History and Funding**

- ▶ Phil Kent, Mayor Duncan 2011
- ▶ Several unsuccessful grants
- ▶ Finally – Ministry of Social Development & Poverty Reduction 2017

## ▶ Various other funders:

- ▶ Eco Action 2018
  - ▶ Canadian Internet Registration Authority 2018
  - ▶ Peninsula Co-op 2019
  - ▶ VanCity 2019
  - ▶ Ministry of Social Development 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021
  - ▶ Gaming
- ▶ Recovered & Redistributed over 1 Million pounds of food



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# reFRESH Cowichan Marketplace

- ▶ Grand opening April 2019
- ▶ Low Cost groceries
- ▶ Non-perishables
- ▶ Farm produce
- ▶ Local Vendors
- ▶ Four coupon programs
  - ▶ Farmers Market - 120 participants
  - ▶ Pregnancy Connections – 20+
  - ▶ Growing Connections
  - ▶ reFRESH Cowichan - 100



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# Agriculture Farm and Food Hub

- ▶ Lease from Municipality of North Cowichan
- ▶ Funding from Ministry of Agriculture, Federal Infrastructure Fund, Island Coastal Economic Trust, & Private Foundation
- ▶ Commercial Community Kitchen
- ▶ Cow-op Warehouse
- ▶ Training and educational workshop space
- ▶ Cold and dry storage



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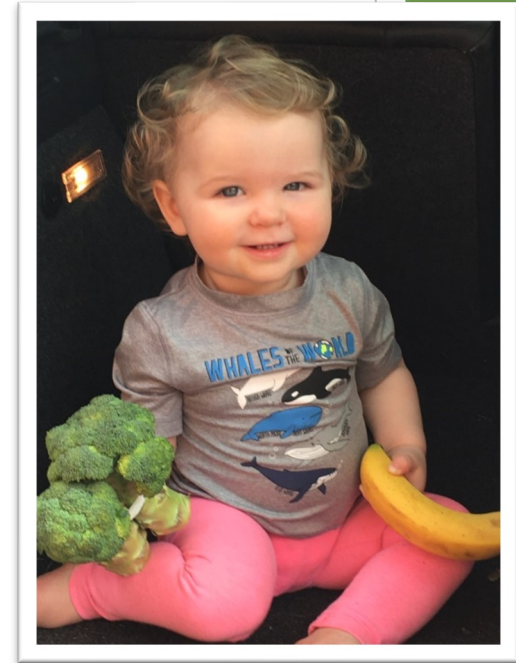
# Government Partnerships

- ▶ Licence of Occupations with Municipality of North Cowichan
  - ▶ Kinpark Youth Urban Farm
  - ▶ Farm/Food Hub
- ▶ City of Duncan
  - ▶ Cowichan Food Policy /Plan H
  - ▶ Pizza Cob Oven
  - ▶ GE Procurement Policy
  - ▶ Chickens in the Backyard
  - ▶ Resiliency Project
  - ▶ Urban Forest Strategy
- ▶ CVRD
  - ▶ Previous funder
  - ▶ Environmental Education Program
  - ▶ Partners with Ministry of Agriculture /Food Hub



# Some Stats from 2022

- ▶ March 2020 initiated the Emergency Food Task Force - 25+ members, hundreds of thousands \$ for emergency food and housing
- ▶ Prepared over 16,620 community meals
- ▶ Hosted 29 workshops engaging 685 participants.
- ▶ BC Farmer's Market Association Coupon -120 families with \$60,280 to local farmers.
- ▶ KinPark Summer camp for 213 children
- ▶ CGC had 116 members, 254 donors, 44 volunteers logging 3530 hours, 1887 monthly educational newsletter subscribers, over 9792 social media followers, and our reach exceeded 45,000 for 2022



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# Questions?



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# Thank You!

## How to reach us

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