



LUSH VALLEY

**March 12th, 2019
Delegation to CVRD BOD**

RE: CV Food Policy Council

**Maurita Prato -Executive
Director**



WHO ARE WE?

Vision: A region where healthy, local food is at the heart of community well-being.

Mission: We support the Comox Valley community in gaining food-systems skills and knowledge to increase food security, self-sufficiency, and local food production across the region.



LUSH VALLEY

CV REGIONAL FOOD POLICY COUNCIL

Food Policy Councils (FPCs) are comprised of individuals from all aspects of a local food system.

A Food Policy Council is an innovative collaboration between citizens and government officials.

The goal is to provide a forum for advocacy and policy development that works towards the creation of a food system that is ecologically sustainable, economically viable and socially just.

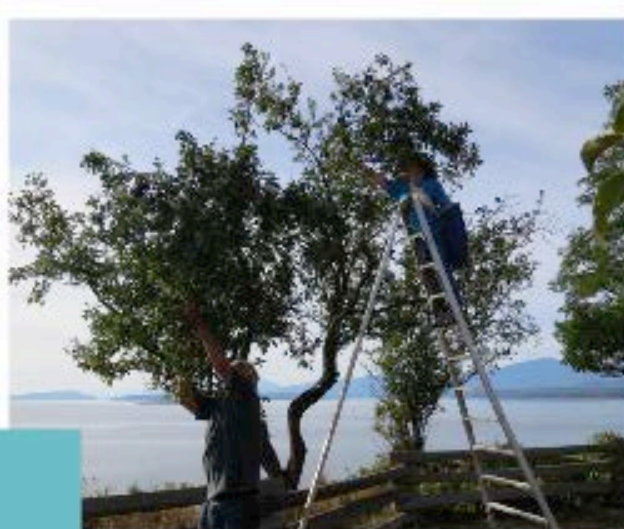
To examine the operation of a local food system and provide ideas and policy recommendations for how it can be improved.



How a CVFPC can help?

The goals of the CVFPC are aligned with: CVRD BOD Priority Chart for 2019-2022, the Regional Growth Strategy and the Comox Valley Sustainability Strategy

We can help provide access to experts in the food systems field, as well recommendations on best practices for food systems related policy and programs- helping you meet your goals



WHY NOW?

Aligning with Your strategic priorities

Provide feedback and reporting to support the development of a score card for the Food System section of the CVSS

Provide input and guidance on the agriculture and food strategy

Engage the public, if desired, in these processes

CVSS TARGETS IN LOCAL FOOD PRODUCTION

- Objective 6.1.1: Increase the personal and commercial production of local food for local consumption.
- TARGET: % of fresh produce consumed in the Comox Valley that is produced in the region: 2020 ~ 25%
2030 ~ 40% 2040 ~ 55% 2050 ~ 60%
- TARGET: % of dairy consumed in the Comox Valley that is produced in the region: 2020 ~ 100%
- TARGET: % of protein (beef, pork, venison, poultry, bison, seafood, eggs, dairy, nuts and vegetable based protein) consumed in the Comox Valley that is produced in the region: 2020 ~ 25%
2030 ~ 33% 2040 ~ 40% 2050 ~ 45%



CVSS

Agency: CVRD and Local Government:

"In partnership with local community organizations, the CVEDS, establish a Comox Valley Food Policy Council (CVFPC) to lead the work on a sustainable food system in a multi-stakeholder manner. The CVFPC would be the central coordinating agency across governments, other agencies and community groups to lead the development of food strategies, research on food issues, connecting food stakeholders and other roles. Local governments need to allocate basic initial funding until the CVFPC can establish its own sources of funding. "

CVSS & RGS

- 1. Review and create a resource report on the best policies and practices that other communities have implemented to increase local food production.**
- 2. Undertake a comprehensive food system assessment to identify assets, ways to increase production capacity and overall food security issues**
- 3. Within the RGS planning process and as part of OCP reviews, develop parallel policies to manage growth and preserve farmland for farming with a focus on food production farming.**
- 4. Explore funding strategies (e.g. collaborating with other organizations and levels of government) to increase staff capacity for food system planning and coordination at the local government level.**

CVFPC STRUCTURE

- Council members represent diversity across the food system,
- CVRD Director (1 position)
- City of Courtenay (1 position)
- Town of Comox (1 Position)
- Village of Cumberland (1 position)
- Island Health (1 position)
- Lush Valley (1 position)
- Mid Island Farmers Institute (1 position)
- Comox Valley Farmers Institute (1 position)
- Community (up to 5 positions- this can include more youth)
- Seniors Organization (1 position)
- Youth (1 positions)
- Food Charity (1 positions)
- Local food businesses (1 position)
- Komoks First Nation (1 position)



Relationship between the FPC and CVRD

- The Food Policy Council is its own entity (not a committee of council)
- The Food Policy Council provides input to all 4 municipal/regional governments and staff about issues of concern
- The Food Policy Council considers any matters which may be referred to the Policy Council by Councils or staff
- The Food Policy Council may take positions on policy initiatives from other levels of government within the mandate of the Policy Council

Budget and Financial Support:

- The budget for the CVFPC is ideally \$30, 000 annually.
- Funding has been requested at \$15, 000 annually for the next 3 years from the Real Estate Foundation
- LUSH Valley would provide \$5000 a year of funding
- We would need to raise additional funds- and would work with our collaborators to do so.

Examples of how FPC have supported Local Governments

- **Squamish FPC-** created an an agriculture area plan and agricultural land use inventory.
- **Central Kootenay FPC-**
- **A food systems audit for the purpose of determining our current level of self-sufficiency and contribution to the local economy so that we can then set concrete goals and promote policy to achieve those goals.**

HOW CAN CVRD HELP?



01

Support in principal for the idea of a CVFPC

02

One representative from the CVRD BOD to become a member of the CVFPC and act as a liaison to the CVRD

03

In-kind support of meeting space, possibly other supports from communications and/or planning staff

04

Brainstorming suggestions for funding options (not necessarily through the CVRD)

THANK YOU!



LUSH VALLEY

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