

Local Food Hubs: filling the gaps in the local food system

Metro Vancouver

Sustainability Community Breakfasts

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Vancity

Make Good Money.™

Vancity: Redefining Wealth



At Vancity, our vision is to redefine wealth in a way that furthers the financial, social and environmental well-being of our members and their communities

- We are a co-operative financial institution committed to our community and members
- Values-based banking – we want to grow in a sustainable way and build a better future for people and the environment



Investing for impact



We are focusing on:

- Energy & Environment
- Impact Real Estate: Affordable Housing & Social purpose Real Estate
- Aboriginal Communities
- Cooperative development
- Micro-finance & Financial Literacy
- Social Enterprise & Social Ventures
- Not For Profits
- Local & Organic Food sector



*Local and Organic Food
Tree Island Yogurt*



*Aboriginal Communities
Songhees House of Wellness*



*Affordable Housing
Trafalgar Co-operative Housing Association*

Investing in a viable and sustainable local food system



Richmond Food Security Society –
Incubator Farm Project



Close to Home Organics – Veggie
Grower, Abbotsford



ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2014 February 28, March 1 & 2

Leading the local food revolution

Promoting a viable and sustainable local food system



Food Hubs are part of the bigger picture...

- Ensure agricultural land is preserved and protected for farmers
- Encourage & support young/new farmers to farm
- Build local demand and markets for locally produced food
- Support our local food businesses to thrive and prosper

With increased production and demand we require...

- Infrastructure and systems in place to provide access to local food (Food Hub services – storage, aggregation, processing facilities, farmers markets & distribution systems)

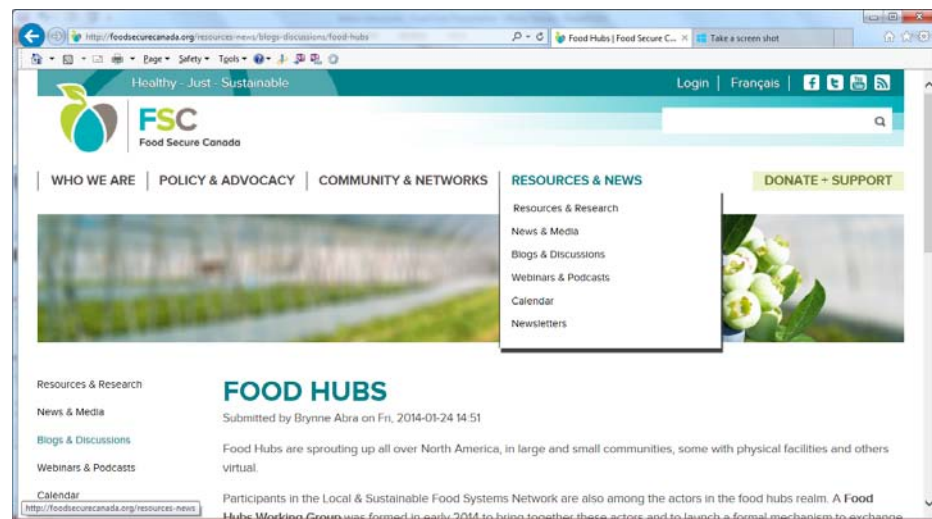


Food Hubs - meeting needs/filling gaps

- an exciting, emerging trend in local and regional food systems development – over 170 in US and Canada - systems approach is critical



- different shapes and sizes but building infrastructure for bringing farmers (supply) and buyers/consumers (demand) together



Vancouver Food Hub



- Year-round farmers market



- Storage, aggregation, distribution to match small-medium scale growers with small to medium scale buyers – provide the infrastructure
- Commercial kitchen – to increase education, access, support small-scale food processors

Vancity Support for the Hub



- Vancity Community Foundation funded the early feasibility study
- enviroFund supported the development of year-round farmers markets
- Vancity provided grants for the business plan development, including a consultant to review the plan
- Participated on the Steering Committee – sat with the City of Vancouver and other stakeholders
- Met with other funders about the Hub and its importance in building a local, sustainable food system



The time is right

