



FOOD  
BANKS BC



Public Health  
Association of BC

**Division of Community  
Engagement and Food Systems**

## **Community Food Systems Development**

# Survey



## Background

In 2021, Public Health Association of BC (PHABC) published the [Food Access Across BC Report](#) which investigated the state of food access organizations during the COVID-19 pandemic. Building off this work, a pilot project was carried out in collaboration with Food Banks BC and food access organizations in Northern BC. This project collected information on local context-specific strengths, challenges, and interventions for improving food access. It also identified leverage points for food systems transformation. The project resulted in the forthcoming *Strengthening Food Systems and Dignified Food Access in Northern BC Report*.

Informed by these recent investigations and supported by the Government of BC and Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction, Food Banks BC and PHABC are now conducting a provincial-wide examination of local context-specific challenges and interventions for improving food access and identifying leverage points for food systems transformation in the remaining regions (i.e. communities served by Island Health, Interior Health, Vancouver Coastal Health, and Fraser Health Authorities). To learn more about this project, please see our [2-page Backgrounder](#).

## About the Survey

This survey is looking for responses from managers, executive directors, or other leadership members of non-profits, charity organizations, Indigenous organizations or Nations, and social enterprises that run food access programs in British Columbia. Food access programs include food hampers, good food boxes, meal programs, community kitchens, and more. Although the survey questions are designed for persons in leadership roles, we encourage front line staff and volunteers to complete the survey if leadership members do not have capacity.

The survey is designed to help us better understand:

- a. the spectrum of food access organizations that exist across the province;
- b. the unique social and environmental conditions they are operating under; and
- c. their current efforts and potential to engage in food systems change.



The survey uses terminology that may have different meanings to different communities and organizations. For clarity, we've provided a brief description of key terms used throughout the survey.

- a. **Food access organizations** – refer to hunger relief operations/organizations such as non-profits, charity organizations, Indigenous organizations or Nations, and social enterprises providing food provisions through food hampers, good food boxes, meal programs, community kitchens, community gardens, community food hubs, or other programs designed to feed people.
- b. **Community members** – the phrase 'community members' refers to people who are accessing your food programming, often referred to as end-users or clients. The survey refrains from using terms such as 'poor people', 'low-income people', and instead relies on the phrase 'community members' throughout to emphasize that those seeking access to food programs *are* members of our community.
- c. **Local food** – consistent with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, we use the term 'local food' to describe food that is produced within the province in which it is sold, or food sold across provincial borders within 50 kilometers of the originating province or territory.

What survey participants can expect:

- a. The online survey is open from Mar 20–April 7, 2024
- b. Survey participants can complete the survey online or by phone/Zoom. To receive the link to the online survey or schedule an appointment to complete the survey by phone/Zoom, please contact Julia Gellman, Manager of Community Food Development, [admin.cefs@phabc.org](mailto:admin.cefs@phabc.org)
- c. The survey has 85 questions and takes an estimated 45–60 minutes to complete
- d. Survey participants will receive a \$75 stipend



## Consent

\*Your participation in the survey is completely voluntary and will imply your consent. You can refuse to participate or withdraw at any time without any consequences. You may answer all, some, or none of the questions. To ensure confidentiality, all information obtained will be held in strict confidence. No names or identifying information will be used in any publications or presentations unless consent is first obtained. Results will be aggregated to ensure no thumb printing of individuals or organizations. All data will be stored on a secure server and access will be restricted to select PHABC employees only.

- Yes, I consent
- No, I do not consent



## Section 1: General Information

### 1. Contact Information

- Name of Organization:
- Name of Person completing Survey:
- Position/Role:
- Contact Information: Phone and Email
- What is your preferred method of contact? (Check)
  - Phone
  - Email
  - Either/Both

### 2. Who is your regional health authority? (Select one)

- Fraser Health
- Interior Health
- Northern Health
- Vancouver Coastal Health
- Vancouver Island Health
- I don't know, not sure

### 3. Do you only serve communities within your regional health authority?

- Yes
- No
- I don't know, not sure
- If no, please list other regional health authorities you service

### 4. Is your organization a Food Banks BC member?

- Yes
- No
- I don't know, not sure



## Section 2: Food Service Models

The following questions are designed to help us better understand the spectrum of food access programs that exist across the province and the variety of services that are being provided to community members.

### Organizational structure

5. About your program(s): What type of role does food play in meeting your organization's mandate?

- It is a core part of our work and is embedded in every part of our programming
- It is one aspect of our work but not in every program
- It is not a common aspect of work and not in every program
- It has only become part of our work because of an emergency (i.e. wildfire, flood, COVID-19 pandemic, etc.)
- I don't know, not sure
- Other (please describe)

6. What service model best describes your program (check all that apply)

- Charity (i.e. food hampers, market or shopping style)
- Institutional procurement (i.e. school meal programs, hospital meal programs)
- Community food hub (i.e. good food boxes, includes distribution and aggregation)
- Community garden
- Social enterprise
- Indigenous food sovereignty
- I don't know, not sure
- Other (please describe)

7. Is your organization interested in shifting/changing its service model? (check all that apply)

- Interested in shifting to food hampers
- Interested in shifting to market or shopping style service model (e.g. community members select food products; space mimics a grocery store or farmers market)
- Interested in institutional procurement (e.g. school meal programs, hospital meal programs)
- Interested in a community food hub model (i.e. good food boxes, includes distribution and aggregation)
- Interested in establishing a community garden
- Interested in creating a social enterprise
- Interested in improving access to culturally appropriate staples and/or hunted meats



- Interested in advancing Indigenous food sovereignty
- No, there is no interest in shifting/changing our service model
- I don't know, not sure
- Other (Please describe)

8. What resources are needed to support any interest in shifting/changing the organization's service model? (check all that apply)

- Training
- Funding
- Staff
- Infrastructure
- Partnerships
- I don't know, not sure
- Other (Please describe)

9. We want to understand how your programs are designed and who is involved in them (check all that apply)

- Community-driven (people who are accessing the program(s) help shape the mandate and service model)
- Leadership-driven (staff and management shape the mandate and service models)
- People who receive services are sometimes staff
- People who receive services are sometimes volunteers who run programs/workshops
- I don't know, not sure
- Other (please describe)

10. We want to understand other ways community members may inform/shape your program(s) (check all that apply)

- Community needs are assessed
- Community members engage in program evaluation
- Results of needs assessments and program evaluations are shared with community members
- Feedback is collected from community members on how to strengthen programs
- Community members are invited to work/volunteer for the program
- Community members are invited to serve as board members
- Community members are NOT yet involved or engaged in these ways
- I don't know, not sure
- Other (please describe)



11. Does your organization have an interest in engaging in or expanding its community engagement activities? What community engagement activities are you interested in? (check all that apply)

- Conduct community needs assessments
- Offer opportunities for community members to engage in program evaluation
- Share results of needs assessments and program evaluations with community members
- Collect feedback from community members on how to strengthen programs
- Offer opportunities for community members to work/volunteer for the program
- Offer opportunities for community members to serve as board members
- No, there is no interest in engaging/expanding community engagement activities
- I don't know, not sure
- Other (please describe)

12. What resources are needed to support any interest in growing/expanding the organization's community engagement activities? (check all that apply)

- Training
- Funding
- Staff
- Infrastructure
- Partnerships
- I don't know, not sure
- Other (Please describe)

13. Critical reflection is a process for identifying, questioning, and assessing deeply-held assumptions that shape our knowledge, beliefs, biases, and actions. It has been identified as an important process for ensuring JEDI (justice, equity, decolonization, and inclusion). Does your organization engage in critical reflection activities? (check all that apply)

- Cultural competency trainings are provided to volunteers and staff
- Training on history of the area from an Indigenous perspective is provided (i.e. colonization, dispossession of land, residential schools, and current policies that recreate intergenerational trauma)
- Processes and measures are in place for building relationships with community members
- Processes and measures are in place for understanding the lived experiences of community members
- Processes and measures are in place for checking assumptions about community members
- Our organization does NOT yet engage in critical reflection





- I don't know, not sure
- Other (please describe)

14. Does your organization have an interest in engaging or expanding its engagement in critical reflection activities? What critical reflection activities are you interested in? (check all that apply)

- Offer cultural competency trainings to volunteers and staff
- Offer training on history of the area from an Indigenous perspective
- Implement processes and measures for building relationships with community members
- Implement processes and measures for understanding the lived experiences of community members
- Implement processes and measures for checking assumptions about community members
- No, there is no interest in engaging/expanding critical reflection activities
- I don't know, not sure
- Other (please describe)

15. What resources are needed to support any interest in growing/expanding the organization's engagement in critical reflection activities? (check all that apply)

- Training
- Funding
- Staff
- Infrastructure
- Partnerships
- I don't know, not sure
- Other (Please describe)

16. Does your organization engage in *individual-level advocacy* to help community members access and apply for other supports? (Check all that apply)

- Housing supports (e.g. warming centres/shelters, affordable housing services, emergency rent assistance)
- Mental health supports (e.g. counselling services, harm reduction, addictions services)
- Employment supports (training, placement, etc)
- Our organization does NOT yet engage in individual-level advocacy for community members
- I don't know, not sure
- Other (please describe)



17. Does your organization have an interest in engaging or expanding its engagement in individual-level advocacy? What kinds of individual-level advocacy are you interested in? (check all that apply)

- Housing supports (e.g. warming centres/shelters, affordable housing services, emergency rent assistance)
- Mental health supports (e.g. counselling services, harm reduction, addictions services)
- Employment supports (training, placement, etc)
- No, there is no interest in engaging/expanding our individual-level advocacy
- I don't know, not sure
- Other (please describe)

18. Does your organization engage in *community-level advocacy* with other organizations to ensure services are being coordinated and programming is designed to meet the needs of your community? (Check all that apply)

- Collaborate with other organizations to ensure meal programs are offered multiple days and times throughout the week
- Collaborate with other organizations to coordinate communication on how the public can provide quality food to community members
- Collaborate with school boards on quality food procurement strategies for schools
- Collaborate with local farmers to establish mobile, affordable food markets in various neighbourhoods or remote communities
- Create affordable transportation system for community members (e.g. volunteer driver system, funding drives to pay for monthly bus passes or taxi tokens, etc)
- Engage in education campaigns to shift public perception of people experiencing food insecurity
- Our organization does NOT yet collaborate with others to engage in advocacy at the community-level
- I don't know, not sure
- Other (please describe)

19. Does your organization have an interest in engaging or expanding its engagement in community-level advocacy? What kinds of community-level advocacy are you interested in? (check all that apply)

- Collaborate with other organizations to ensure meal programs are offered multiple days and times throughout the week
- Collaborate with other organizations to coordinate communication on how the public can provide quality food to community members
- Collaborate with school boards on quality food procurement strategies for schools



- Collaborate with local farmers to establish mobile, affordable food markets in various neighbourhoods or remote communities
- Create affordable transportation system for community members (e.g. volunteer driver system, funding drives to pay for monthly bus passes or taxi tokens, etc)
- Engage in education campaigns to shift public perception of people experiencing food insecurity
- No, there is no interest in engaging/expanding our community-level advocacy
- I don't know, not sure
- Other (please describe)

20. Does your organization engage in *provincial/national-level advocacy*, including advocating for policy changes to reduce the need for community members to access emergency food? (Check all that apply)

- Campaigns or efforts that advance Indigenous food sovereignty
- Campaigns that support food as a human right
- Advocacy in support of living wages
- Advocacy for income supports (e.g. universal basic income, increasing minimum wage)
- Advocacy for creating or expanding affordable housing
- Advocacy for national/provincial subsidies on fruits and vegetables
- Advocacy for school meal programs
- Advocacy for expanding PharmaCare plans
- Advocacy for support programs for those leaving incarceration
- Campaigns regarding harm reduction
- Advocacy for programs offering mental health counselling and addiction services
- Our organization is NOT yet engaging in advocacy at the provincial/national level
- I don't know, not sure
- Other (please describe)

21. Does your organization have an interest in engaging or expanding its engagement in provincial/national-level advocacy? What kinds of provincial/national-level advocacy are you interested in? (check all that apply)

- Campaigns or efforts that advance Indigenous food sovereignty
- Campaigns that support food as a human right
- Advocacy in support of living wages
- Advocacy for income supports (e.g. universal basic income, increasing minimum wage)
- Advocacy for creating or expanding affordable housing



- Advocacy for national/provincial subsidies on fruits and vegetables
- Advocacy for school meal programs
- Advocacy for expanding PharmaCare plans
- Advocacy for support programs for those leaving incarceration
- Campaigns regarding harm reduction
- Advocacy for programs offering mental health counselling and addiction services
- No, there is no interest in engaging/expanding our provincial/national-level advocacy
- I don't know, not sure
- Other (please describe)

22. What resources are needed to support any interest in growing/expanding the organization's engagement in advocacy? (check all that apply)

- Training
- Funding
- Staff
- Infrastructure
- Partnerships
- I don't know, not sure
- Other (Please describe)

23. How many volunteers (unpaid) worked for your food programs in 2022 and 2023?

- 2022: Input number
- 2023: Input number

24. How many paid staff worked your food programs in 2022 and 2023?

- 2022: Input number
- 2023: Input number

25. Have you faced challenges recruiting and/or maintaining adequate staff and/or volunteers for operations?

- Yes
- No
- I don't know, not sure

26. What was your total operating budget for 2022 and 2023?

- 2022: Input number
- 2023: Input number



27. What percentage of the total operating budget was spent on food programming?

- 2022: Input number
- 2023: Input number

## Services Offered

28. What type of food access services do you currently offer? (Check all that apply)

- Food hampers (i.e. donated produce and/or staples)
- Food pantry (i.e. community pantry, community fridge)
- Market or shopping style (i.e. community members select food)
- Good Food Box (i.e. local produce and/or staples)
- Farmers market
- Hot meal service
- Cold meal service
- Meals or snacks as part of childcare or out of school care program
- School breakfast, lunch or snack program
- Hospital meals
- Community garden program
- Gleaning program
- Community redistribution of traditional food harvesting
- Food literacy or food education (e.g. cooking workshops)
- Food delivery
- Gift cards
- Resources on where to access food (i.e. information on where to find free or affordable food in your community)
- I don't know, not sure
- Other (Please describe)

29. If you deliver food to clients, have you experienced any challenges trying to deliver food or supplies to clients? (Check all that apply)

- Not applicable, we do not offer food delivery services
- Yes, personnel issues (e.g. difficulty finding drivers, limited volunteer capacity, etc)
- Yes, infrastructure challenges (e.g. limited vehicles, limited storage, far distances, etc)
- Yes, funding issues (e.g. unable to pay for gas, vehicle maintenance, insurance, drivers, etc)
- No, we have not experienced any challenges
- I don't know, not sure
- Other (Please describe)



30. If you offer gift cards/vouchers, please check type of gift cards/vouchers you provide. (Check all that apply)

- Not applicable, we do not provide gift cards
- Large retail chains (e.g. Walmart, T&T Supermarket, Save-on-Foods, Thrifty's, etc)
- Fast food chains (e.g. McDonalds, Tim Hortons, etc)
- Local grocer(s) (e.g. Choices Market, Village Grocer, Persia Foods, East West Market, Punjab Food Centre, Sprout Organic Market, Kim's Mart, etc)
- Local farmers' market(s)
- Local food retail (e.g. local bakeries, cafes, restaurants, etc)
- I don't know, not sure
- Other (Please describe)

31. Are there restrictions on what clients can purchase with the gift card/voucher?

- Yes
- No
- If yes, please explain

32. Are there language barriers that pose challenges to understanding and meeting the needs of your community? If yes, please check which languages are spoken by community members but your organization has limited/no capacity to communicate in. (Check all that apply)

- English
- French
- Panjabi (Punjabi)
- Cantonese
- Chinese, n.o.s.
- Mandarin
- German
- Tagalog (Pilipino, Filipino)
- Korean
- Spanish
- Persian (Farsi)
- Hindi
- No, there are no language barriers
- I don't know, not sure
- Other (please describe)



33. What languages are written materials about the programs you offer provided in? (Check all that apply)

- Not applicable, no written materials are provided
- English
- French
- Panjabi (Punjabi)
- Cantonese
- Chinese, n.o.s.
- Mandarin
- German
- Tagalog (Pilipino, Filipino)
- Korean
- Spanish
- Persian (Farsi)
- Hindi
- I don't know, not sure
- Other (please describe)

#### **Food Choice**

34. Do you offer culturally preferred foods? (Check all that apply)

- Halal
- Kosher
- Asian foods
- African foods
- Latin Foods
- Middle Eastern foods
- Indigenous/Traditional foods
- No, we do not offer any of the above
- I don't know, not sure
- Other (Please describe)

35. Is there a need to either offer or offer more culturally preferred foods to better meet the needs of your community members? (Check all that apply)

- Halal
- Kosher
- Asian foods
- African foods



- Latin Foods
- Middle Eastern foods
- Indigenous/Traditional foods
- No, there is no need to offer/offer more culturally preferred foods
- I don't know, not sure
- Other (Please describe)

36. Do you offer specialized food to match community member needs? (Check all that apply)

- Low sodium
- Gluten free
- Vegetarian
- Vegan
- Dairy free
- Sugar free/low sugar
- No, we do not offer any of the above
- I don't know, not sure
- Other (Please describe)

37. Is there a need to either offer or offer more specialized foods to better meet the needs of your community members? (Check all that apply)

- Low sodium
- Gluten free
- Vegetarian
- Vegan
- Dairy free
- Sugar free/low sugar
- No, there is no need to offer/offer more specialized foods
- I don't know, not sure
- Other (Please describe)

38. Do participants get to choose/select the food they receive?

- People can select the type of food they receive (have choice)
- People can select some of the food (limited choice)
- People cannot select the type of food they receive (no choice)





### **Food Access**

39. Do you offer food programming/services to anyone regardless of their religious or non-religious status?

- Yes
- No
- If no, please describe

40. Are there requirements for accessing food?

- Open-access (no ID required)
- Registration (ID required)
- Income or means testing
- Other (Please describe)

41. How do community members access food? (check all that apply)

- Food is free
- Food is made more affordable (cost of food is reduced)
- Food is made available on a sliding scale (pay what you can)
- Other (Please describe)

42. We are interested in knowing whether your organization offers multiple days and times for community members to access your food services/programming. Please indicate what day(s) and time(s) your food services/programming is made available for community members.

*Example: Mondays 10:00-12:00 pm, Fridays 2:00-4:00 pm, Monthly food delivery (every third Thursday)*

- Open ended

### **Community Member Experience**

43. Are specific time slots offered to certain client groups?

- Yes
- No
- If yes, please describe

44. Do community members have to wait in line to receive food or participate in program?

- Yes, community members line up inside
- Yes, community members line up outside
- No



45. What spaces do community members have access to during service hours (check all that apply)

- Space(s) for community members to sit
- Bathrooms for community members to use
- Area with information and resources for community members to read (e.g. bulletin board)
- Area for children to play with toys
- Areas accessible by wheelchair or with a walker
- Spaces that provide access to computers and/or wifi
- Spaces for culturally important activities such as ceremonies
- Spaces where mutual support networks can meet or social justice groups can organize
- None of these spaces/areas are provided
- Other (please describe)

46. Do community members have access to any of the following during service hours (check all that apply)

- Water or other cold beverage
- Tea or Coffee
- Hot meal to consume during their visit
- Cold meal to consume during their visit
- None of the above services are provided
- Other (please describe)

47. What type of community building activities do you offer? (Check all that apply)

- Food education programs (i.e. cooking, nutrition classes, etc)
- Programs that share traditional Indigenous knowledge and practices
- Programs that share cultural/religious foods
- Networking and connecting events (i.e. community kitchens, potlucks, etc)
- Personal and professional development (i.e. budgeting, leadership skills, volunteering opportunities, etc)
- Opportunities for community members to engage in collective action and advocacy
- No community building activities are offered
- Other (Please describe)



48. Are there any food access organizations that have innovative models or programs that you are inspired by or interested in learning more about?

- Yes
- No
- If Yes, please list the organization(s)

49. Is there anything you would like for us to know about your organization and the food access services you provide?

- (Open-ended)



## Funding

50. What type of funding supported your operations in 2022? (check all that apply)

- Grants
- Cash or cheque donations
- Core funding (annualized operational budget)
- Income generating activities
- Other (Please explain)

51. What type of funding supported your operations in 2023? (check all that apply)

- Grants
- Cash or cheque donations
- Core funding (annualized operational budget)
- Income generating activities
- Other (Please explain)

52. Did you have trouble paying your organization's overhead cost in 2022 or 2023? (*Check all that apply*)

- Utility bills
- Transportation
- Staff time
- Rent
- We did not have trouble paying our organization's overhead cost
- Other (Please describe)

53. Currently, how long do you think you will be able to sustain your organization's food operations? (Range)

- 5+ years
- 1-4 years
- 6-12 months
- Less than 6 months
- I don't know, not sure

54. Please expand on your organization's most critical type of funding, resources, or sustainability needs (e.g., infrastructure like cold storage or vehicles, staffing, food, etc.)

- open



## Section 3: Descriptive Data

The following questions are designed to help us understand the communities that are accessing food assistance programs, as well as the unique local/regional conditions that shape the food access landscape and community food security across the province.

### Social conditions

55. What population(s) do your food access programs target? (Check all that apply)

- White
- South Asian (e.g., East Indian, Pakistani, Sri Lankan)
- Chinese
- Black
- Filipino
- Arab
- Latin American
- Southeast Asian (e.g., Vietnamese, Cambodian, Laotian, Thai)
- West Asian (e.g., Iranian, Afghan)
- Korean
- Japanese
- Indigenous (i.e. First Nations, Métis, Inuit)
- People living with physical disabilities
- People living with mental disabilities
- People with severe and chronic health issues
- 2SLGBTQIA+
- I don't know, not sure
- Other (please describe)

56. What population(s) do your food access programs serve? (Check all that apply)

- White
- South Asian (e.g., East Indian, Pakistani, Sri Lankan)
- Chinese
- Black
- Filipino
- Arab
- Latin American
- Southeast Asian (e.g., Vietnamese, Cambodian, Laotian, Thai)
- West Asian (e.g., Iranian, Afghan)



- Korean
- Japanese
- Indigenous (i.e. First Nations, Métis, Inuit)
- People living with physical disabilities
- People living with mental disabilities
- People with severe and chronic health issues
- 2SLGBTQIA+
- I don't know, not sure
- Other (please describe)

57. Please share the number of individuals served by your food program(s) in 2022 and 2023.

- 2022:
- 2023:

58. Please share the number of visits to your food program(s) in 2022 and 2023.

- 2022:
- 2023:

59. What factors contribute to food insecurity in the communities you serve? (Check all that apply)

- high food prices, food is not affordable
- food is not available, limited food supply (e.g. lack of food markets, grocers, etc)
- high unemployment rates
- low household incomes
- inadequate social assistance
- high cost of housing
- challenges with transportation
- I don't know, not sure
- Other (please describe)

## Environmental Conditions

60. If a climate (e.g., forest fire, flood) or health emergency (e.g., global pandemic) arises, do you feel prepared or equipped to meet a possible rise in demand for your services?

- Yes
- No
- I don't know, not sure



61. What existing support, resources, or infrastructure do you have that help you prepare for these emergencies?

- (Open-ended)

62. What support, resources, or infrastructure do you need to better prepare for these emergencies in the future?

- (Open-ended)

63. What emergencies have already impacted the communities you serve? (Check all that apply)

- Wildfire
- Flood
- Draught
- I don't know, not sure
- Other (Please describe)

64. Is there anything we should know about the unique social and/or environmental conditions in your region?

- (Open-ended)

## **Current Infrastructure & Community Food Assets**

65. What infrastructure do you currently have to support your food access programs? (check all that apply)

- Physical floor space
- Storage
- Technological infrastructure (e.g. wifi, technology for intake, data, or coordinating delivery)
- Refrigerated transportation
- Non-refrigerated transportation
- Cold storage (fridge or freezer)
- Kitchen/processing space (e.g., sink, countertop)
- Processing equipment (e.g., slicers, mixers, food processor, etc.)
- Preservation equipment (e.g., canning, vacuum sealing, dehydrator, etc.)
- Cleaning equipment (e.g., dish washer)
- I don't know, not sure
- Other (e.g. forklift, pallet jacks; please describe)

66. What additional infrastructure do you need or need more of? (check all that apply):

- Physical floor space
- Storage



- Technological infrastructure (e.g. wifi, technology for intake, data, or coordinating delivery)
- Transportation for pick up (van or trailer)
- Transportation for delivery (vehicle)
- Cold storage (fridge or freezer)
- Kitchen/processing space (e.g., sink, countertop)
- Processing equipment (e.g., slicers, mixers, food processor, etc.)
- Preservation equipment (e.g., canning, vacuum sealing, dehydrator, etc.)
- Cleaning equipment (e.g., dish washer)
- Electrical outlets (either more or higher voltage needed)
- No need for additional infrastructure
- I don't know, not sure
- Other (e.g. forklift, pallet jacks; please describe)

67. How did you acquire your organization's building space?

- Purchased (owned)
- Rented/Leased (market value)
- Rented/Leased (subsidized)
- Space is provided to us for free (please explain)
- I don't know, not sure
- Other (please explain)

68. Do you have secure/stable occupancy of your location (e.g., long term lease vs. month-to-month agreement)?

- Yes, long-term lease (2+ years)
- Yes, annual lease (1 year)
- Yes, monthly lease (month-to-month)
- I don't know, not sure
- No
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

69. Have you experienced any transportation/delivery challenges in receiving food from any suppliers (e.g., grocery stores, Food Banks BC, etc.)? If yes, please explain.

- Yes
- No
- I don't know, not sure





70. Do you have access to a butcher and/or abattoir to process meat (whole animals)/ game?

- Yes, we have access to a butcher and/or abattoir
- No, we need access to a butcher and/or abattoir
- We do NOT need access to a butcher and/or abattoir
- I don't know, not sure

71. If yes, how do you access these services?

- Not applicable
- Fee for service
- Discounted
- Free
- Other (please describe)

72. Have you experienced any challenges or barriers accessing these services? (Check all that apply)

- Not applicable
- Long wait times/wait lists
- High cost/too expensive
- Distant location/long commute
- No challenges or barriers
- Other (please describe)

73. Is there anything we should know about the existing infrastructure and community food assets (or lack there of) that is critical to improving food access in your region?

- (Open-ended)



## Section 4: Local Food Systems

The following questions are designed to understand the ways in which food access organizations are embedded in local food systems, local economies, and the social landscape.

### Local Food Sources

74. Where do you get food from? (check all that apply)

- Purchase food directly from local farmers
- Purchase food from local grocers and local food businesses
- Purchase from large chain grocery stores and restaurant chains
- Use donated and/or rescued food
- Grow and harvest food for community purposes
- Other (Please describe)

75. Do you receive food from local farmers? (check all that apply)

- Purchased at regular price
- Purchased at discounted price
- Donated
- None

76. What would help you to receive more local food? (check all that apply)

- Storage space
- Processing space
- Technological infrastructure
- Funding to purchase from farmers
- Help building relationships with farmers
- Other (please describe)

77. Do you receive hunted and/or harvested food (i.e., not from farmers)?

- Yes, donated from community
- Yes, confiscated from authorities then donated
- No, but we would like to, but we do not have access to facilities to process it
- No
- Other (please describe)

78. If yes, please describe the kinds of proteins you receive (e.g., fish, wild game, etc.)

- Open ended



79. What resources exist to help make locally produced food available to the community?  
(Check all that apply)

- Farmers' markets
- Roadside stands
- Community Supported Agriculture
- Local food stores
- Local restaurants that source food from local farms
- School meal programs that source food from local farms
- Hospitals purchase and provide food sourced from local farms
- Other (Please describe)

80. Do you think there is enough government (political and economic) support for community efforts such as farmers' markets, community-supported agriculture, community gardens, Indigenous food sovereignty, etc?

- Yes
- No
- I don't know, not sure

## Partnerships and Collaboration

81. What types of partners are involved in your food access program(s)? This can include organizations that donate money, provide volunteers, pick-up locations, or other types of support. (Check all that apply AND indicate your level of satisfaction: 5-very satisfied, 4-satisfied, 3-neutral, 2-dissatisfied, 1-very dissatisfied, NA-not applicable)

- Local food producers (e.g., farmers)
- Second Harvest/ Loop
- Local grocers
- Natural resource industry (e.g. oil, gas, lumber, mining, etc)
- Other Businesses (not involved in the food sector)
- Neighbourhood houses
- Friendship Centres and/or other Indigenous organizations
- Faith-based groups or organizations
- Other non-profits
- Community members or engaged citizens
- Researchers/academics
- Local governments (e.g. municipalities, regional districts)
- First Nations/Métis governments



- Provincial government
- Federal government
- Health authority
- Schools
- Hospitals
- I don't know, not sure
- Other

82. What food-related communities of practice are/were you a part of? (Check all that apply AND indicate your level of satisfaction: 5-very satisfied, 4-satisfied, 3-neutral, 2-dissatisfied, 1-very dissatisfied, NA-not applicable)

- Edible Education Community of Practice
- BC Food Security Gateway
- BC Food Hub Community of Practice (United Way)
- I don't know, not sure
- Other (Please describe)
- Not applicable, my organization has not yet participated in a food-related community of practice



## Section 5: Further Engagement

83. Thank you for participating in the survey. You will receive a \$75 stipend. Please provide your name, address, city, and postal code below.

- Open-ended

We will be engaging further with respondents of this survey. Some respondents will receive an invitation to participate in an interview and/or focus group in the coming weeks. Both interview and focus group participants will receive an honorarium for sharing their time and insight with us.

84. Please indicate if you are interested in participating in a follow-up interview. Interviews will include a site visit and occur in person. Interview participants will receive a donation/honorarium.

- I am interested
- I am NOT interested

85. Please indicate if you are interested in participating in a focus group. Focus groups will occur either in person or via Zoom. Focus group participants will receive a donation/honorarium.

- I am interested
- I am NOT interested