

2022-2023

Community Garden Support Program



Gardeners teaching local youth at a community garden in Gander. (Photo courtesy of G. Hoskins)

Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture Agriculture Business Development Division

Program Overview

The objectives of the Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture's Community Garden Support Program are to increase:

- Food self-sufficiency
- Access to fresh foods
- Consumption of fruits and vegetables
- Awareness and appreciation of the importance of local food production and the agriculture sector.

The department budgeted \$100,000 in 2022-23 to establish and/or enhance new and existing community gardens throughout the province with funding allocated from the Provincial Agrifoods Assistance Program. The program contributes to the Provincial Government's commitment to increase food self-sufficiency in Newfoundland and Labrador. Grants remained at the \$750 maximum award level established in 2021-22.

The Community Garden Support Program was open for applications on April 12, 2022, and fully subscribed within five weeks of program release.

Eligible project costs included operating and minor capital costs required to establish new community gardens, or to maintain or expand existing community gardens. Successful applicants used funding to purchase building materials for raised beds, greenhouses and fencing; soil and amendments; various tools; watering systems; garden signage; seeds and transplants; and shrubs and fruit-bearing trees.

The program helps expand and increase the number of gardeners that grow their own food and help maintain existing facilities for residents to provide growing spaces. These gardens increase appreciation and awareness of local food production, food security and food self-sufficiency. School children and community residents benefit from increased access to fresh, nutritious, locally grown foods.

The department registered 142 applications and approved 134 (see Table 2, a summary of all successful applicants), for a total investment of \$100,000. The Community Garden Support Program invested in establishing 29 new community gardens and enhancing 105 existing community gardens. Applicants reported that approximately 7,000 people participated in and benefited from community garden projects, including youth, seniors, families and Indigenous groups (see Table 1).

Table 1: Categorization of successful applicants to the 2022-23 CGSP

| Applicant Category | Number of Successful Applicants |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Municipality/Local Service District | 63 |
| School* | 10 |
| Senior Group | 8 |
| Indigenous Group | 6 |
| Youth Group | 10 |
| Other Community Organization | 37 |

^{*} Includes Newfoundland and Labrador English School District, Conseil Scolaire Francophone Provincial, post-secondary, and private schools included in the "school" category.

The 2022-23 Community Garden Support Program tested a compliance measure by having applicants supply a final report of activities. Of the 134 successful applicants, 106 provided these reports or emailed activity updates in lieu. In general, comments on the Community Garden Support Program from respondents were favourable. The funding helps individuals, children, seniors, and other community members learn to grow and/or access nutritious, locally grown produce. All respondents touted the benefits to their community/school/organization. Selected photos from the 2022-23 Community Garden Support Program Final Reports are shown below.

Picture 1: Freshly painted garden boxes being filled with soil at the Cormack Community Garden. The Town of Cormack received \$750 to purchase amendments, seeds/transplants, fruit trees, small tools, and signage. Each year, this garden is planted and maintained by children in a summer program. They bring home all harvested crops to their families including tomatoes, peppers, broccoli, cauliflower, beans, peas, root vegetables, leafy greens, and much more.



Picture 2: Meadows Community Garden has an accessible boardwalk path and raised beds to accommodate the mobility impaired. This garden received \$750 to purchase lumber, soil and amendments. Participants used these materials to build two additional accessible beds for mobility impaired individuals. Food grown in this garden is harvested for the individuals/families that tend the boxes, with some excess produce shared with others. Gardeners produce root vegetables, squash, beans, leafy greens, tomatoes, and herbs.



Picture 3: Some of the participants of the Erikkson Crescent Community Garden, which makes the most of community space by being located on a neighbourhood pedestrian walkway. This group received \$750 to purchase lumber, soil, buckets, and a rain barrel. With this funding and generous local donations they were able to establish a new garden with multiple raised beds to grow root vegetables, leafy greens, tomatoes, peppers, garlic and much more for more than 20 local households.



Picture 4: Gander Community Garden showing a bountiful fall harvest of freshly washed and sorted vegetables. The Town of Gander received \$750 to purchase soil, amendments, seed, transplants, water hoses and signage. Their garden beds are made available to local residents and school groups to grow crops of their own choosing, including, but not limited to, root vegetables, beans, peas, corn and onions.



Table 2. Successful CGSP applicants during the 2022-23 year.

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| Applicant | Items Purchased | Amount Approved (\$ CAD) |
| The Whiteway Fifty-Plus Club Inc | Soil and amendments, seed, watering cans, small tools. | 750 |
| Codroy Valley Community Service Garden | Fruit trees - apple, peach, plum | 750 |
| Joe Batts Arm Recreation Inc | Watering system, bed expansion, caribou fencing | 750 |
| Grand Falls-Windsor Community Garden Inc. | Watering system - pex piping, various outlets | 750 |
| Pouch Cove Community Garden Committee Inc. | Lumber, pots, trays, soil, amendments, small tools | 750 |
| Vine Place Community Centre Inc. | Soil, seeds, pots, hand tools, pest management, labeling | 750 |
| Western Environment Centre Inc | Soil amendments | 750 |
| NunaKatiget Inuit Community Corporation Inc | Soil amendments and seed | 750 |
| Town of Port au Choix | Greenhouse construction | 750 |
| Town of Humber Arm South | Lumber, fasteners, soil, amendments, seeds, plants | 750 |
| North River Town Council | Lumber, fasteners, soil | 750 |
| Tessier Park Neighbourhood Association | Fruit shrubs, tools, companion plants | 750 |
| NunatuKavut Community Council Greenhouse/Garden | Lumber, fasteners, soil, amendments | 750 |
| Town of Bishop's Falls | Lumber, fasteners, soil, amendments | 750 |
| Mary Queen of Peace Elementary | Soil, watering system, hand tools | 750 |
| East Point Elementary School | Lumber, soil, amendments, seeds, plants, hoop coverings | 750 |
| La Scie Town Council | Lumber, soil, amendments, seed, plants, trees | 750 |
| North Shore Early Childhood Association | Lumber, soil, amendments, labour | 750 |
| Exploits Valley Intermediate School | Small greenhouse, lumber, soil, seeds, plants | 750 |
| Shamrock 50+ Club Inc | Soil, amendments, tools, plants. | 750 |
| Town of Glovertown | Lumber, soil, amendments | 750 |

| Innu Integrated Diabetes Initiative | Trays, carts, hand tools | 750 |
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| Hospital School - Hope Valley Centre | Lumber, soil, fruit trees and bushes | 750 |
| Friends of Pippy Park Inc. | Lumber, soil, amendments | 750 |
| Town of Gillams | Lumber, soil, amendments | 750 |
| Stella Maris Academy | Lumber, soil, amendments, seed | 750 |
| Town of Robert's Arm | Lumber, fish tubs, soil, amendments, small tools, pest/weed exclusion | 750 |
| Town Council of Beachside | Soil | 750 |
| Salmonier South 50+ Social Club | Soil, amendments, composters, perennial berry shrubs | 750 |
| Town Council of Point Lance | Soil amendments, seed, small tools, equipment rental | 750 |
| Town of Branch | Lumber, soil, amendments, seeds, small tools, wheel barrow | 750 |
| Town Council of Meadows | Lumber, soil, amendments | 750 |
| Whitbourne Town Council | Soil, amendments | 750 |
| The Victoria Heritage/Tourism Society Inc | Lumber, soil, amendments | 750 |
| Town of Burgeo | Lumber, soil, seed, site development | 750 |
| Frederickton Local Improvement Committee Inc. | Lumber, soil, amendments, small tools, seed | 750 |
| Town of Burlington | Soil, amendments, pots, trays, small tools, seed | 750 |
| Henry Gordon Academy | Lumber, soil, amendments, seeds | 750 |
| Bay Roberts Town Council | Soil amendments, fruit trees and shrubs | 750 |
| Town Council of Hughes Brook | Lumber, small greenhouse, pots, trays, hand tools, watering cans. | 750 |
| Summerford & Area Age Friendly Corporation | Soil, amendments, seed, hand tools | 750 |
| Beau Bois Heritage Committee Inc | Lumber, soil, amendments, hand tools | 750 |
| L'Association Communautaire Franc. De Saint-Jean Inc | Soil, amendments, irrigation system, landscape fabric, seed | 750 |
| Burgeo First Nation Inc | Soil, amendments, seed, pots/containers, small tools | 750 |
| Sunnyside 50 + Club Inc | Soil and amendments | 750 |

| Pikes Arm Community Development Committee | Soil, amendments, containers, plants, small tools | 750 |
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| Society of St. Vincent de Paul Carbonear Food Bank | Soil, amendments, seeds, small tools. | 750 |
| Eriksson Crescent Community Garden | Lumber, soil, buckets, water barrel | 750 |
| Too Good Arm Community Committee | Lumber, soil, seed, bed hoop coverings | 750 |
| Cape Broyle Church Garden Inc | Soil, amendments, seed, equipment rental, fruit trees/shrubs | 750 |
| Municipality of Trinity Bay North | Soil, amendments, seed, composters | 750 |
| Southern Labrador Development Association | Tillage costs, road repair | 750 |
| Town of Long Harbour - Mount Arlington Heights | Soil, amendments, seed trays, hand tools, sprayers | 750 |
| 55 Plus Association Inc | Lumber, soil, amendments | 750 |
| Town of Lawn | Soil, amendments, seed | 750 |
| Lethbridge and Area LSD | Soil amendments, seed, small tools | 750 |
| Pacquet Town Council | Lumber, soil, amendments, fencing, compost bin | 750 |
| Town of Portugal Cove- St. Philip's | Lumber, fastenings, soil, amendments | 750 |
| Town of Fogo Island | Labour/equipment rental, soil amendments, signage | 750 |
| Smallwood Era Development Corporation | Lumber, soil, amendments | 750 |
| Whiteway Community Council | Soil, amendments, seed, small tools, bed maintenance | 750 |
| Avondale Recreation Committee Inc | Lumber, soil, amendments | 750 |
| Fleur de Lys Town Council | Lumber, soil, amendments | 750 |
| Town of Roddickton-Bide Arm | Lumber, labour, soil, amendments, seed/plants/trees, small tools, fencing | 750 |
| Chapel Restoration Committee - Blackhead Cape Spear Inc | Lumber, soil, amendments, watering system | 750 |
| Tourism Bell Island Inc | Lumber, soil, amendments, seed, labour, spots, trays | 750 |
| Arnold's Cove Town Council | Soil, amendments | 750 |
| Anglican Homes Incorporated | Lumber, soil, amendments | 750 |

| Englee Town Council | Lumber, soil, amendments, small tools, planters. | 750 |
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| Town of Channel-Port Aux Basques | Weed removal tools | 750 |
| Town of Heart's Desire | Lumber, soil, amendments, water tank | 750 |
| Town of Pool's Cove | Lumber, soil, amendments | 750 |
| Lewisporte Town Council | Site clearing, lumber, soil, paving | 750 |
| Local Service District of Smith's Harbour Inc | Soil, amendments, seed | 750 |
| Organization for Community Action Initiatives Inc. | Soil amendments, watering system, fruit trees | 750 |
| Long Cove Harbour Authority Inc. | Land clearing, soil, amendments | 750 |
| Spruce Hills Community Church | Lumber, soil, amendments, seed, water system | 750 |
| Town of Badger | Lumber, tools, lawn mower, watering equipment | 750 |
| Town of St. Lawrence | Lumber, soil, amendments | 750 |
| Logy Bay Development Association Inc | Watering system | 750 |
| Goose Bay Military Family Resource Centre Inc | Lumber, amendments, seed, pots, signage | 750 |
| Boys and Girls Club of Norris Arm Inc | Soil, amendments, fruit and veg transplants, watering system | 750 |
| First Light St. John's Friendship Centre Inc. | Lumber, soil, amendments, small tools, pots, transplants/seed | 750 |
| St Paul's Anglican Church (Goulds) | Lumber, soil, amendments | 750 |
| Town Council of Middle Arm | Lumber, soil, amendments, seed/transplants, watering system | 750 |
| Town Council of Miles Cove | Soil, stone, watering system, small tools, signage | 750 |
| Dorset Collegiate | Lumber, soil, amendments, seeds, grow lights, various tools | 750 |
| Iris Kirby House | Lumber, soil, amendments, seed, small tools, signage | 750 |
| Kilbride to Ferryland Family Resource Coalition Inc | Lumber, soil, amendments | 750 |
| Town of Hant's Harbour | Lumber, soil, amendments, watering system, crushed stone, seed, fruit trees | 750 |
| Town of Botwood | Lumber, soil, amendments, signage | 750 |
| Gros Morne Academy | Lumber, soil, amendments, plastic sheeting, seed, small tools | 750 |

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| Town of Irishtown- Summerside | Lumber, soil, amendments, seed | 750 |
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| Common Ground | Amendments, seed/transplants, watering | 750 |
| Community Development | system, labour | 750 |
| Corporation | System, labour | |
| Social Butterflies 50 Plus | Lumber, soil, amendments, seed/transplants | 750 |
| | Lumber, soil, amendments, seed/transplants | 750 |
| Club Inc Town of L'Anse au Clair | Cail amandments tools and | 750 |
| | Soil, amendments, tools, seed | 750 |
| Brian Peckford Primary | Lumber, soil, amendments, mini | 750 |
| School | greenhouse, fruit trees | |
| The Lions Club of | Lumber, plastic sheeting, amendments, soil | 750 |
| Stephenville, NL | testing, watering system | |
| Brimstone Culture and | Lumber, soil, amendments, composters | 750 |
| Historical Society Inc. East Meadows | Amondonanta and fruit abruba watering | 750 |
| | Amendments, seed, fruit shrubs, watering | 750 |
| Community Garden | system, small tools composter | 750 |
| Local Service District of | Lumber, soil, amendments, small tools, | 750 |
| Pollard's Point | signage | 750 |
| Holy Heart of Mary High | Lumber, soil, amendments, seed, watering | 750 |
| School | system | 750 |
| Paradise Elementary | Lumber, soil, seed, trays/pots | 750 |
| School | | |
| North Harbour Amateur | Lumber, soil, amendments, seed/transplants | 750 |
| Sports Commission Inc | | |
| Empower The Disability | Lumber, soil, amendments | 750 |
| Resource Centre Inc | | |
| St. Anthony and Area | Lumber, soil, amendments, greenhouse | 750 |
| Boys and Girls Club Inc | | |
| Town of Mount Carmel- | Soil, amendments, fencing, labour | 750 |
| Mitchells Brook- | | |
| St.Catherines | | |
| Town of Rocky Harbour | Soil, amendments, stone | 750 |
| Placentia West Heritage | Soil, amendments, stone, seeds/transplants, | 500 |
| Committee Inc | small tools | |
| L'Heritage de l'ile Rouge | Watering system | 500 |
| Inc | | |