

2020-21
Community Garden Support Program

Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture
Agriculture Business Development Division
August 2021



Program Overview

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

- Increase food self-sufficiency;
- Increase access to fresh foods;
- Increase consumption of fruits and vegetables; and
- Increase awareness and appreciation of the importance of local food production and the agriculture sector.

The department budgeted \$100,000 in 2020-21 to establish new community gardens and enhance existing community gardens throughout the province. Funding was allocated from the Provincial Agrifoods Assistance Program. The CGSP contributed to the Agriculture Sector Work Plan and the goal to increase food self-sufficiency to at least 20 per cent by 2022 in Newfoundland and Labrador.

Community organizations, municipalities and schools were eligible to receive up to \$500 annually in a non-repayable grant for food production activities. Eligible project costs included operating and minor capital costs required to establish new community gardens, or maintain and expand existing community gardens. Successful applicants used the funding to purchase building materials for raised beds, greenhouses, and fencing; soil and amendments; various tools; watering systems; garden signage; seeds and transplants; as well as shrubs and fruit-bearing trees.

School gardens were used to teach children about how their food is grown. Other community gardens were able to expand and increase the number of gardeners growing their own food, creating a better appreciation for and awareness of local food production, food security and food self-sufficiency. Communities benefited from increased access to fresh and nutritious, locally grown foods

Events that transpired in the period prior to the announcement of the CGSP sparked an interest for many new gardeners. The winter snowfall of 2020 on the east coast ('Snowmagedon') and the global pandemic of COVID-19 highlighted the importance of food security in Newfoundland and Labrador, as many grocery stores experienced supply shortages/limited selection, price increases and limited access to shoppers.

The department received 138 applications and approved 124 eligible applicants (see attached listing) for a total investment of \$61,960. The Community Garden Support Program invested in the establishment of 38 new community gardens and enhanced 86 existing community gardens. Applicants reported that approximately 6,000 people participated in and benefited from the community gardens, including youth, seniors, and Indigenous groups.

The Burgeo Band of Indians, Inc. was one of the successful applicants in 2020-21. Funding helped construct a community greenhouse. Gardeners successfully grew a number of crops, including tomatoes, peppers, leafy greens, beans, peas, and root vegetables for seniors and vulnerable community members/families. The conclusion of the COVID-19 pandemic will hopefully allow the group to host community meals using produce they grow at this garden site.

With limited access to large grocery stores in Burgeo and challenging local growing conditions, a greenhouse was a great way to source fresh vegetables.



The Burgeo community garden, with waist-high garden beds (mobility accessible) and the greenhouse with outdoor container plants. The scarecrows are encouraging residents to stay safe during the COVID-19 pandemic (Summer 2020. Photos courtesy of E. Ingram).

Xavier House Inc. in Corner Brook is a personal care home for people with mental illnesses. With the start of an onsite garden in 2020, residents were able to enjoy hours of gentle outside activity that directly increased their sense of self-worth and self-esteem. Residents enjoyed fresh vegetables such as corn, potatoes, onions and leafy greens during their summer and fall meals.



The community garden at Xavier House, with healthy crops grown in the raised beds, and one of their bountiful harvests (Summer 2020. Photos courtesy of D. Luther).

Youth 2000 Centre Corporation in Grand Falls-Windsor used garden plots to educate children and families on how to grow vegetables in their own homes. Growing root vegetables, tomatoes and berries was an exciting way for youth to get fresh air and exercise while increasing their access and willingness to consume healthy foods. Families received resource materials and social media training sessions on home growing to increase food security and sustainability in their community.



A Youth 2000 Centre Corporation raised bed with recently planted crops and a group picture of youth participants (Summer 2020. Photos courtesy of N. Barry).

Table 1. Successful CGSP applicants during the 2020-21 year.

Applicant	Items Purchased	Amount Approved (\$ CAN)
Town of Bishop's Falls	Soil, amendments, seeds for raised beds	500
Main Brook Town Council	Seeds, small tools, amendments	500
LSD of Bartlett's Harbour	Seeds, small tools, watering system	500
Society of St. Vincent de Paul Carbonear Food Bank	Seed, soil, amendments, containers	500
Town of Rencontre East	Labour	500
Kenmount Terrace Community Garden	Lumber, soil, fertilizer	500
Town of Pools Cove	Land preparation, fruit trees/shrubs	500
Town of Port au Choix	Transplants, seeds	500
Town of Fogo Island	Seeds, amendments, soil, containers, small tools	500
Town of South Brook	Lumber, soil, plants	500
Town of La Scie	Seed, amendments, plants, trees, garden signage	500
Carmanville Habitat Committee Inc.	Lumber, plastic, hardware; soil and amendments	500
Town of Bird Cove	Seed, fertilizer, small tools	500
Town of Appleton - Recreation Commission	Lumber, fastenings, repair materials	500
Logy Bay Development Association, Inc.	Equipment hire, new well lining	500
Salmonier South 50+ Social Club	Containers, soil, amendments	500
Town of North River	Lumber, fastenings	500
Town of Riverhead - Recreation Committee	Lumber, soil	500
Trinity Historical Society	Fruit trees/shrubs	500
Town of St. Anthony	Lumber, plastic sheeting, fastenings	500
Western Environment Centre Inc.	Seeds, seedlings, soil amendments	500
City of Mount Pearl	Lumber, soil, amendments	500
Town of Port Blandford	Lumber, soil, amendments	500
The Tree House Family Resource Centre Inc.	Tiller	500
Trinity Bay North - Tidy Town Committee	Lumber, soil, amendments	500
Just for Laughs 50 Plus Club	Lumber, plastic sheeting, fastenings	500
Association Communautaire Franc. De Saint-Jean Inc.	Soil, seeds, transplants	500
Town of Channel Port Aux Basques	Connection to town water supply	500
Joe Batts Arm Recreation Inc.	Equipment rental	500
Benoit First Nation Inc.	Seeds, fertilizer, small tools	500
Town Council of Pinware	Gravel/sand (greenhouse foundation material)	500

Town Council of Little Bay	Lumber, soil, amendments, small tools, seeds	500
Boys and Girls Club of Norris Arm Inc.	Lumber, soil, amendments, seed	500
Youth 2000 Centre Corporation	Lumber, soil, seed	500
Exploits Valley Young Men Christian Association	Containers, soil, seeds, plants, fertilizer, tools	500
Town of Hants Harbour - Community Garden	Hoses, soil, amendments, seed	500
LSD Jean de Baie	Small tools, signage, soil amendments, transplants	500
Fogo Island Roaring 50+ Club	Lumber, cold frames, containers	500
55 Plus Association Inc. of Whitbourne	Lumber, soil, amendments	500
Town of Lawn - Recreation Committee	Lumber, soil, amendments, seed	500
Town Council of Middle Arm	Lumber, soil, amendments, seed	500
J.R. Smallwood Middle School	Pots, soil, amendments, seed, small tools	500
Bethel Pentecostal Tabernacle	Seeds/transplants, soil, amendments	500
Town of Humber Arm South	Signage, amendments, seeds, plants	500
Fortune Bay North 50 Plus Inc.	Seed, fertilizer, fencing, tools	500
Town of Baie Verte	Soil, amendments, seeds	500
Town of Cow Head - Tourism Committee	Soil, amendments, seeds, plant markers	500
EA Butler All-Grade	Lumber, plastic sheeting, soil, seed	500
Colony of Avalon Foundation Inc.	Containers, soil, amendments	500
Rabbittown Community Centre Inc	Soil, amendments, seed, small tools	500
Island Harbour 50+ Club Inc.	Mower, amendments	500
Cavell Park Community Garden Association INC	Lumber, soil, amendments, seed/plants, small tools	500
Sunnyside 50 + Club Inc.	Lumber, soil, amendments	500
Town of Englee	Lumber, containers, soil, amendments, seed	500
Town of Kippens	Lumber, fastenings	500
Lewisporte Town Council	Soil, amendments	500
Stella Maris Academy	Lumber, soil, seed, transplants	500
SaltWater Community Association Inc.	Lumber, soil, seeds and small tools	500
French Shore Academy	Lumber, soil, amendments, seed	500
Town Council of Marystown	Lumber, soil, amendments	500
Environmental Education Commission	Lumber, soil, amendments, soil testing, seed, labour	500
St. Mary's Elementary School	Small tools, containers, soil, amendments, seed	500
Mary's Harbour Town Council	Equipment hire, small tools, pots	500
The Lions Club of Stephenville, NL	Lumber, plastic sheeting, labour	500
Upper Gullies Elementary School	Soil, amendments, seeds, small tools	500
Green Bay Association for Community Living	Soil, amendments, seed, transplants	500
Town of Hermitage-Sandyville	Soil, seed, transplants	500

Town of Bauline	Fuel (tilling), labour, small tools, amendments, seed	500
St. Alban's Recreation Commission Inc.	Lumber, amendments, seed	500
The Whiteway Fifty-Plus Club Inc.	Soil, amendments, small tools	500
Xavier House Incorporated	Lumber, soil, amendments, seed	500
Cowan Heights United Church	Signage, equipment shed, composter, small tools	500
Tourism Bell Island Inc.	Soil amendments, small tools	500
King Academy School	Seed, amendments, trees/shrubs	500
Carbonear Town Council	Covid-19 signage, amendments	500
Town of Pasadena	Water storage tank	500
Town of Parsons Pond	Lumber, soil, amendments, trees, labour, small tools	500
Centre Educatif L'envol	Containers, soil, amendments, seed, small tools	500
Baccalieu Island Interpretation Centre Baccalieu View Walking Trail Inc.	Lumber, soil, amendments, seed	500
Forever Young 50+ Club Inc.	Lumber, soil, amendments, seed	500
Brighton 50+ Club	Hoses, composter, amendments	500
Flat Bay Band Incorporated	Containers, plants/trees, small tools	500
Clarenville Area Recreation Association Inc.	Lumber, fastenings	500
Conception Bay South Parks Commission Inc.	Seed, transplants, hoses, clips, plastic	500
Town Council of Beachside	Soil, watering system, compost bins, small tools	500
Burgeo Band of Indians Inc.	Greenhouse lights/heat, pots, trays, soil, amendments, pots, trays, water hoses	500
Town of Glovertown	Soil, amendments	500
Fleur de Lys Town Council (Oracle name)	Soil, amendments, seed	500
Town of King's Point	Lumber, fastenings, soil, amendments	500
O'Brien Farm Foundation Incorporated	Fencing materials, lumber, plastic sheeting	500
Whiteway Community Council	Soil, amendments, small tools	500
Smallwood Era Development Corporation	Lumber, soil, amendments, small tools, composter	500
Town of Harbour Main, Chapel's Cove & Lakeview c/o Recreation Committee	Lumber, soil, amendments, fencing, wheel barrow, hoses	500
Town of Red Harbour	Lumber, soil, amendments	500
Common Ground Community Development Corporation	Fencing, security gate	500
Riverside United Church Board of Management	Land clearing, lumber, pots, signage, seed	460
Savage Cove Recreation Inc.	Lumber, fastenings	500
The Gathering Place Incorporated	Lumber, soil, seed	500
St. Matthew's Elementary School	Amendments, seed, trees/plants	500
Grow Twillingate Inc.	Labour, fencing materials, soil, amendments	500

Labrador West Community Garden Inc.	Hoop houses on beds, pathways, soil testing, land clearing	500
Shamrock 50+ Club Inc.	Lumber, soil, amendments	500
Town of Ferryland	Lumber, soil, amendments	500
Town of Cupids	Lumber, soil, amendments	500
First Light St. John's Friendship Centre	Containers, soil, amendments, seed	500
MacMorran Community Centre Corporation	Lumber, soil, amendments, seed, small tools	500
Empower The Disability Resource Centre Inc.	Lumber, fastenings, small tools	500
Masonic Park Senior Citizens Club	Mower, soil, amendments, small tools	500
Stella's Circle Community Services Inc.	Lumber, fastenings	500
Town of Gander - Community Garden Committee	Lumber, soil, amendments, watering system	500
Town of Leading Ticks	Lumber, soil, amendments, small tools, seed	500
Smith's Harbour Recreation Committee Inc.	Lumber, soil, amendments	500
Town of Mount Carmel	Ground cloth, small tools, soil, amendments	500
St. George's Community Garden	Lumber, water storage	500
Town of Meadows	Lumber, soil, amendments	500
East Point Elementary School	Lumber, soil, amendments, seed	500
Summerford & Area Age Friendly Corporation	Lumber, soil, amendments	500
Jacksons Arm Heritage Society Inc.	Lumber, soil, amendments	500
The Wellness Group c/o Anglican Cathedral of St. John the Baptist	Lumber, soil, amendments	500
Town of Isle aux Morts	Lumber, containers, soil, amendments, small tools, watering system	500
Seventh Day Adventist Church	Install outdoor tap	500
Conne River Aosamiaji'j Miawpukek First Nation Corporation	Lumber, soil, amendments, seed	500
North Shore Early Childhood Association	Lumber, soil, amendments, seed	500
Summerside Lions Club	Mower, lumber, soil, amendments, seed, fruit trees	500