Squamish FPC Meeting February 22, 2017

At the Health Unit

In attendance: Gerry, Krystle, Michi, Jordie, Peter, Rachel, Christina, Peter, Kav, Kersti, Karen

**6:30-6:35 Introductions
6:35-7:00 Skype presentation from Kathy Romses on the Vancouver Food Asset Map**

Started in 2014, used to share food assets via an excel doc that was constantly out of date. Various maps were floating around the community. It’s been a 3 year process, food networks, food bank, VCH, Fresh Roots Urban Farm, UBC student volunteers help as part of their course work to update the map. Launched first map in June to Sept via sending links out only. Soft launch at a school in the fall teaching parents, kids, and staff how to use it.

Then UBC students go out to community spaces and events and trial the map in the community, and getting feedback from the community. 36 UBC students use the evaluation form. People can use the map on a tablet right there to review it.

It’s NOT a VCH map—it’s a community map.

Try to ask permission from any community assets. Some community gardens didn’t want to be on it because of too much demand.

Was put on VCH website in January for open access.

The map can track how many views it has. Over 5000 views so far. Over 1100 assets, 300 schools and community orgs. These are included for new families as a place marker.

Includes info on creators, including phone number and email address.

North Van, Bowen Island, and Squamish are all working on starting maps. We should all use the same language on the maps so we can create a regional map. There can be 10 layers.

There are instructions in 5 different languages. They are making instructional videos on how to use the map in different languages.

Partners have been asked to add to their websites. People have used printed maps before, they are hoping that some organizations can print out the maps to share with their networks. Can make a screen shot of the map and print out for someone.

Translations are made as possible. They had some money for translations, but not much and not right timing.

The map could be completely deleted if you are an editor. Need to be careful who can edit it.

We have funding from our Real Estate Foundation of BC to create our own for Squamish.

**Farm and Gardening supplies** and **Education/Workshops** should be new categories for our Squamish map.

Our current farmers run out of stock really fast (eg. Tracy’s eggs). We need more farmers to supply for restaurants.

 **7:00-7:10 Questions/Discussion**

**7:10-7:20 Membership Application Discussion**

* How do you see yourself fitting in one of the seat categories?
* People do not need to join one of the working groups, thy can just attend the meetings
* What expertise do you have to share? Eg. farming, cooking, mapping, farm consulting…

We will draft something and bring it to the next meeting. After looking into Vancouver map

**7:20-7:30 OCP/District Update**

* OCP Draft will be out in March, our next meeting will tackle this feedback on the Food section.
* **SLRD Area D will fund $2,500 for the Agriculture Land Use Inventory and DOS will fund the other $2,500!!!** District will provide a truck and staff person to drive the BC Ag Ministry staff person around. We have up-to-date aerial photos for the map which will be very helpful!
* Next we would work with SLRD and First Nations to work on an Ag plan next year. Looking at policy at District and SLRD and Council level to support farmland and farmers.

**7:30-7:40 Updates from working groups--Health, Waste & Recovery, Food Production**

* **Health**: updates will be covered in another agenda items
* **Waste and recovery:** Organics ban is rolling out this year. Members from Food Bank and Helping Hands, VCH dietician and health inspector.
* **Ag update:** See OCP/District update above. Krystle also talked to a local farmer about barriers to farming in ALR land within the District. i.e. number of buildings on a farm. Sarah McJ can help with bylaws on that. Also, he’s not allowed to burn the brush he’s cleared on his land. Chipping is not possible. Trucking it away is too expensive. Any feedback is good feedback to the District on this topic because we’ve never experienced this before!

**7:40-8:15 Activity: Asset Map Brainstorming (and Food Deep Dive follow up?)**

**8:15 Wrap up and close**