



Working Together Towards a Food Secure Yukon

Outcomes from:

Yukon Food Security Roundtable | An Evening on Food Security | Open House

**May 18 - 19th, 2016
Whitehorse, Yukon**



Arctic Institute of
Community-Based Research
For Northern Health and Well-Being



Who We Are

The Arctic Institute of Community-Based Research (AICBR) is a unique Northern organization that works to bring together multiple groups and sectors on issues that are identified by and relevant to our partners. Our current priorities include food security, healthy lifestyles, chronic disease prevention, youth engagement and mental health, and climate change adaptation. We work with northern Indigenous communities, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), governments (Indigenous, Territorial, and Federal), academics, graduate students, research organizations and the private sector. Our approach prioritizes the principles of community-based research, collective impact, youth engagement, partnership development, community capacity building, knowledge sharing, inter-sectoral collaboration, and evaluation.

Suggested citation:

Pratt M, Friendship K, Kassi N, Butler Walker J. Working together towards a food secure Yukon. Arctic Institute of Community-Based Research. 2016.

Photography:

Photos included in this report were taken by photographers Bruce Barrett, Heidi Marion and Nadaya Johnson.



**Arctic Institute of
Community-Based Research**
For Northern Health and Well-Being

www.aicbr.ca

Acknowledgements

We thank our generous funders, namely the Public Health Agency of Canada's Innovation Strategy, Government of Yukon's Community Development Fund (Department of Economic Development) and Health Investment Fund (Department of Health and Social Services). We'd also like to thank Air North for donating a gift certificate. To our partners, the Pierre Elliott Trudeau Foundation's Scholars, Fellows and Mentors, we are thankful for your support in hosting *An Evening on Food Security*. We'd also like to acknowledge that the Yukon Food Security Events were held at the Kwanlin Dün Cultural Centre on the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwächän Council.

We appreciate all those who contributed their ideas and feedback in the planning of the Roundtable, in particular, members of our Planning Committee and others, namely, Jodi Crewe and Kristina Craig, Yukon Anti-Poverty Coalition, Dexter MacRae, Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in, Jennifer Hall, Yukon Agriculture Association, Heidi Marion, Food Scapers, Mary Jane Johnson, Kluane First Nation, Larissa Lychenko, City of Whitehorse, Randy Lamb, Yukon Government's Agriculture Branch, Kim Hickman, Yukon Government's Health Promotion Unit, Jennifer Daniels, Foodworks, and Food Network Yukon members.

Last but not least, we thank all the delegates, presenters and public for your passion, energy and willingness to share at the Yukon Food Security Events. We were inspired by your wisdom and dedication to advancing food security in the Territory and beyond. Food security is a complex, multidimensional issue that will only be possible if we work together, learn from our challenges and build from our successes.

"Networks are created by spiders, and we are all spiders creating networks. First, you grab onto something and swing out into the unknown on a thread until you find something else that you can grab onto. You connect with it and then climb back up to where you started and do it again. Then you move across to those two nodes and connect them. You keep repeating this process until there is a whole web. There are two things that are really important here. One is that the filament, the silk that the spider spins, comes out of her gut; the other is that it is stronger than steel. The strength of the network is the strength of the links we have built ... all of which, together, create that wonderful and beautiful mosaic that is our food movement."

- Cathleen Kneen (1)

Table of Contents

| | |
|--|----|
| Who We Are | 1 |
| Acknowledgements | 2 |
| Introduction | 6 |
| Goals and Objectives | 7 |
| Main Activities | 8 |
| Yukon Food Security Roundtable | 8 |
| An Evening on Food Security | 13 |
| Open House | 14 |
| Other Activities | 14 |
| Discussion Outcomes | 14 |
| Where are We Now and What is Working? | 14 |
| An Analysis of the Yukon Food System | 15 |
| Key Strengths of the Yukon Food System | 18 |
| What Does Success Look Like? | 22 |
| A Vision for a Food Secure Yukon..... | 25 |
| Moving Forward Together - Some Opportunities for Action..... | 26 |
| Recommendations | 31 |
| Conclusion | 35 |
| References..... | 36 |
| Appendices..... | 37 |
| Appendix 1. Agenda | 37 |
| Appendix 2. Delegate List & Contacts..... | 40 |
| Appendix 3. Speaker Bios | 43 |
| Appendix 4. Resources | 46 |
| Appendix 5. Association of Yukon Communities Questionnaires..... | 47 |

Executive Summary

Food insecurity in Canada's North is increasing at epidemic proportions. In May 2016, the Arctic Institute of Community-Based Research hosted three events to contribute to the growing discussions around the need for concerted food security planning across the North. The Yukon Food Security Roundtable, the main event, brought together 79 delegates from across various sectors in Yukon and beyond to gather multiple perspectives, experiences and ideas on the topic of food security. The discussions focused on developing a common understanding of food security, including what food security activities are going on in the territory, what policies, program or values could contribute to food security at the familial, community and territorial levels and what actions should be prioritized for contributing to a more comprehensive picture of food security in the Yukon.

Delegates at the table were representatives of 13 Yukon First Nations governments, municipal, territorial and federal government officials, non-profits, private sector, food producers, growers, hunters and gatherers, youth, and citizens concerned about food security. Key action planning sessions were held around four examples of promising work being done and priorities arising out of the previous day's roundtable discussions. They were: 1) *Yukon First Nations Community Food Security Strategy Building*, 2) *Yukon Anti-Poverty Coalition's Our Food In Place Recommendations*, 3) *Government of Yukon's Local Food Strategy*, and 4) *Possible Actions to Advance Self-Sufficiency in the Territory*.

What arose from the Roundtable was a powerful vision statement (*below*) in addition to 15 insightful priorities and values. A total of 50 recommendations were developed and a full list can be found on page 31. The recommendations were grouped according to the top five priorities and values, namely **Access for All**, **Self-Sufficiency**, **Support for Local Producers**, **Support for Local Food Producers**, **Addressing Planning and Policy Development**, and **Encouraging Community Gardens and Greenhouses**.

-- A VISION FOR A FOOD SECURE YUKON --

"We believe in a food secure, food producing and food sharing Yukon where the land and the waters are harvested and protected. Through the wise use of resources, every person has dignified, affordable access to sufficient food to sustain a healthy, happy, and productive life. Yukon leaders and citizens work collaboratively to ensure food is generated by a robust network of local gardeners, farmers, hobby growers, hunters and fishers, businesses and advanced systems that preserve and distribute food."

Definitions

FOOD SECURITY - The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations defines food security as "when all people at all times have access to sufficient, safe, and nutritious food to maintain a healthy and active life." It includes both the physical and economic access to food that meets people's dietary and cultural needs and food preferences (2).

FOOD INSECURITY - is a lack of food security - **people don't have access to affordable, acceptable, and adequate food to meet their daily needs and preferences.** Food insecurity is serious public health concern; when people are food insecure they are less likely to be able to lead a healthy, active life. The stress of not having enough food to feed yourself and your family deeply affects a person's wellbeing. Food security is linked to environmental, economic and social health of a particular place and the wellbeing of its people. Long-term food insecurity not only affects the individual but also affects the population as a whole. When children grow up hungry they are more likely to experience poor health conditions later in life and adults living in food insecure households have higher rates of depression, diabetes and heart disease, among other chronic conditions (3).

Household food insecurity exists "when one or more members do not have access to the variety, quality or quantity of food that they need due to lack of money" (4-6).

FOOD SOVEREIGNTY - is the "right of peoples, communities and [nations] to define their own agricultural, labour, fishing, food and land policies, which are ecologically, socially, spiritually, economically and culturally appropriate to their unique circumstances" (7).

FOOD SYSTEM - A food system has many parts. In general, the food system refers to the path food takes from the land to our stomachs. It includes everything from growing and harvesting, processing, transporting, storing, managing/marketing, paying for, eating, to how we handle food scraps and packaging.

A sustainable community/regional food system is a collaborative network that integrates sustainable food production, processing, distribution, consumption and waste management to enhance the environmental, economic and social health of a particular place (8). It must be informed by community identified values and principles and requires people from all aspects of the system to work together now and in the future. As our climate changes, we have more to consider at every point in the system.



*WE ALL NEED TO EAT AND WE ALL HAVE THE RIGHT TO
HEALTHY FOOD CHOICES. THIS IS WHAT MAKES US AN
INTEGRAL PART OF THE FOOD SYSTEM.*

Introduction

Within the context of changing climate and uncertain economic times, access to and availability of both store-bought and traditional food is decreasing in Yukon. Food security in the Canadian North is an increasingly urgent issue and one that requires both immediate and long-term collaborative efforts towards realistic, culturally relevant and sustainable solutions. Communities across the North are focusing their attention on developing coordinated food security strategies and activities to work towards a more food secure future.

Much work has already been done in Yukon towards ending food insecurity, however there is still considerable work to do. The Arctic Institute of Community-Based Research recently hosted three food security events, May 18th - 19th, 2016: *Yukon Food Security Roundtable*, *An Evening on Food Security*, and *Food Security Open House* to advance food security planning in the territory. The Yukon Food Security Roundtable was an opportunity for delegates from multiple sectors across Yukon to come together to share current food security-related activities, identify factors that limit or facilitate food access and availability for Yukon residents, and to prioritize next steps. The overall goal of hosting these three events was to raise awareness about food security in general, including current strengths and areas of further attention, and to bring people with diverse perspectives together to work on developing actionable plans for moving towards a just and sustainable food system for all in the Territory. On a broader scale, these events will feed into larger pan-Northern discussions that AICBR is in the early stages of planning with Food Secure Canada (FSC) and others, in 2017. Further, we hope that results from these discussions will contribute to a more comprehensive Northern picture as part of the emerging National Food Policy that the federal Ministry of Agriculture and Agri-foods has been mandated to develop (9).

Goals and Objectives

1. To bring people together across various sectors to increase awareness about food insecurity issues, share current food security-related activities, identify factors that limit or facilitate food access and availability for Yukon residents, and strengthen existing food networks.
2. To use results of the Roundtable to feed into larger pan-Northern discussions.
3. To contribute to a more comprehensive Northern picture of food security as part of the emerging National Food Policy that the federal Ministry of Agriculture and Agri-foods has been mandated to develop.



(From left): Norma Kassi (AICBR), Diana Bronson (FSC) and Kathleen Wayne (Alaska Department of Health and Social Services), speakers at the Roundtable and Evening events

Main Activities

Yukon Food Security Roundtable

The Roundtable was a day and half-long gathering that brought together 79 delegates from across the territory, including representation from 16 Yukon communities, government (municipal, First Nations, territorial, and federal) and non-government officials, the non-profit sector, academics from across Canada, food producers, growers and harvesters, youth, and concerned citizens.



The format included a mix of breakout roundtable discussions and presentations. A local artist, Heidi Marion, was hired to depict the stories, topics and information shared throughout the two days. (Pictured here): Heidi developing “A Story of Yukon Food Security”; Tony Hill, Director of Government of Yukon’s (YG) Agriculture Branch, looks on.

The Roundtable breakout sessions were structured to include individual worksheet activities and then group discussions for each topic; discussions were recorded by a note-taker onto larger flip charts and subsequently reported back to the larger group. Activities and topics presented and discussed in roundtables built on each other. By starting with the development of a common understanding of food security and the Yukon food system, participants were then able to identify where we are now, what is working and what food security ‘success’ looks like at the family, community and territorial level. These discussions all fed into a more collective picture of what actions should be prioritized in Yukon to contribute to the North providing food for the North.



(From upper left): Councillor Sean Smith from Kwanlin Dün First Nation conducting a powerful opening ceremony with his children. He spoke of northern food security as being about food independence and our need to move away from reliance on the South to provide Northerners food. *(Bottom right):* Chief Kristina Kane of Ta'an Kwäch'än Council welcomed the delegates to the shared lands upon which the meeting took place. She spoke of how the gold rush and contamination in Lake Laberge, a traditional fishing place of the Ta'an Kwäch'än, has impacted their food security.

The morning of the first day focused on setting the stage; moving from the big picture to more local perspectives on food security. Norma Kassi, Vuntut Gwitchin citizen and former Chief who is the Co-Founder of and Director of Indigenous Collaboration at AICBR, talked about climate change, global food security, food sovereignty and Indigenous health. The discussion of some of the darker parts of Canadian history, such as Indian Residential Schools where food was used as a punishment and as a weapon against Indigenous school children, helped frame the context and statistics of today; according to 2011 estimates from the Canadian Community Health Survey (CCHS), off-reserve Aboriginal households across Canada experienced food insecurity more than double the rate of all Canadian households (27%) (10). There were also stories of resilience of Indigenous peoples whose culture and way of life have been threatened. We learned about the many promising examples of community-driven activities here in the Yukon; for instance, from AICBR's work collaborating with communities who want to develop their own food security strategies as

well as First Nations governments who are using their self-government to bring their youth to the land and incorporate cultural education and traditions into their climate change adaptation strategies.

Later that morning, Diana Bronson, Executive Director at Food Secure Canada, helped frame food security in the National context and shared how Food Secure Canada and its members and partners have worked towards making food policy a priority for this country with their “Resetting the Table: A People’s Food Policy for Canada (2nd Ed, 2015)” consultations and report. Bronson spoke about the impacts of not having a national food policy and highlighted Canada's obligation to progressively realize everyone's right to food, tying food security action with countering the clock on climate change.



(From left): Diana Bronson and Norma Kassi setting the stage on Day 1.

In the afternoon, we heard from a number of presenters about local food production and food security projects in the Whitehorse area and Dawson City to provide a small sample of the many inspiring and motivated individuals, groups and governments working towards ending food insecurity in the territory. Dexter MacRae, Director of Human Resources, Education and Training with the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in spoke about teaching and growing in the Yukon and the success of the new Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Teaching and Working Farm in Dawson City. Jennifer Hall, Executive Director of Yukon Agriculture Association, provided a brief context of the scale of farming in the territory, which surprised many delegates in the room; according to 2011 Census, Yukon is home to 130 operating farms on less than two percent of the 483,450 square kilometers of suitable agricultural land available (11). We then heard from Shiela Alexandrovich, a Yukon born and raised farmer, educator and member of Growers of Organic Food Yukon (GoOFY), who told her story of growing up, growing food in the territory and the importance of sharing food, land and knowledge. The

final presentation of the day came from Kate Mechan and Jodi Crewe, Community Outreach at Yukon Anti-Poverty Coalition (YAPC). Mechan and Crewe, shared results from the Coalition’s Our Food In Place: Community Food Mapping project in Whitehorse which proposed a set of 10 recommendations for improving good food access in the city and reiterated the need for a food system that works for all Yukon residents. To read more about these projects, please see **Appendix 4. Resources**.



(From left): Dexter MacRae, Shiela Alexandrovich, Jennifer Hall, Jodi Crewe, and Kate Mechan share some stories of food security work in the Territory.

The presentations energized and inspired many in the room. The following are some quotes from Roundtable participants.

“Great hearing from local farmers and YAPC. We forget about people on the margins a lot of times so I was happy to see them at the forefront.”

“[I learned of the] imperative value of farm schools and supporting understanding that is already in communities...supporting them to do what they already know.”

“The presentation on the farm project in Dawson was so inspiring! All the speakers today were so amazing and inspiring, Shiela Alexandrovich especially!”

“Surprised to learn about so many initiatives especially in communities to become more sustainable (i.e. Community food gardens).”



The second day of the Roundtable began with an energizing keynote speech by Chief Alatini from Kluane First Nation (*pictured left*); she spoke about her government and community's development of a food security strategy. Kluane First Nation worked with AICBR to develop a community-based plan that prioritizes Kluane First Nation values, honours traditional practices and knowledge and builds upon collective community strengths and needs.



We then heard from Kathleen Wayne, Manager of Family Nutrition Programs with Alaska Department of Health and Social Services (*pictured left*), who shared a number of nutrition and food security initiatives going on across the State, including examples of communities bringing traditional foods into schools. She pointed out that where federal policy can make the most impact for advancing food security is thinking beyond individual behaviour change and focusing on influencing community, environment and the social network levels; "there must be community buy-in in order to change social ideas and make social change", said Wayne. She also discussed the need to work cross-border with Yukon on issues of common interest and spoke of an emerging network who's members are working across Alaska and the Canadian North in

the areas of food security and nutrition. For more information on this emerging network, please see **Appendix 4. Resources.**

(*Pictured from far right*): Tony Hill (YG), introduced the government's Local Food Strategy for Yukon and Mayor Dan Curtis from Whitehorse showed his support for the food security movement in Yukon.



IN ORDER TO KNOW WHAT 'FOOD SECURITY SUCCESS' LOOKS LIKE, WE NEED TO RECOGNIZE WHERE WE ARE NOW AND UNDERSTAND THE UNIQUE STRENGTHS OF NORTHERNERS AND THE YUKON FOOD ENVIRONMENT THAT CURRENTLY EXISTS. WHAT CAN WE BUILD UPON AND WHAT DO WE NEED TO BE AWARE OF IF "THE NORTH IS TO PROVIDE FOOD FOR THE NORTH?"

An Evening on Food Security

An Evening on Food Security was hosted in partnership with the Pierre Elliott Trudeau Foundation Scholars, Mentors and Fellows. Four speakers from across Canada and Alaska shared their work related to food security; speakers included FSC's Diana Bronson, Alaska's Kathleen Wayne, Sophia Murphy and Alyse Weiler, Pierre Elliott Trudeau Foundation Scholars working in food security and sustainable agriculture, and Dr. Joseph LeBlanc, Odawa from Wiikwemkoong Unceded Territory who is also Executive Director of Social Planning Council of Sudbury and board member and member of the Indigenous Circle at Food Secure Canada. Topics discussed included developments towards a National Food Policy in Canada, the roles of scholars in advancing food security planning and action, as well as some promising examples of food security initiatives in other Northern regions, from small-scale community-based food initiatives in Northern Ontario to state-wide nutrition and food education programming in Alaska. Also identified was the importance in fostering relationships with/between Indigenous leaders and people, who have intimate knowledge of the land; the land upon which we all strive to live and the land, which we must preserve.



(Pictured left): Dr. Joseph LeBlanc talking about Indigenous food systems and "actionism" (action + activism, which means not waiting for others to make change). He says it will be Northerners rather than bureaucrats who are going to find the solutions to food security in Northern communities.



(From left): Dr. Evan Fraser, Sophia Murphy and Alyse Weiler, Pierre Elliott Trudeau Foundation Mentor and Scholars at An Evening on Food Security

Open House

On the final afternoon, AICBR opened up the Roundtable space for a *Yukon Food Security Open House*. Here, members of the public were encouraged to share their voice and experiences on the topic of food security and were able to view initial outcomes and summaries from Roundtable discussions from the flip chart papers on the walls. In this way, as many diverse perspectives as possible can inform the emerging picture of food security in the territory.

Other Activities

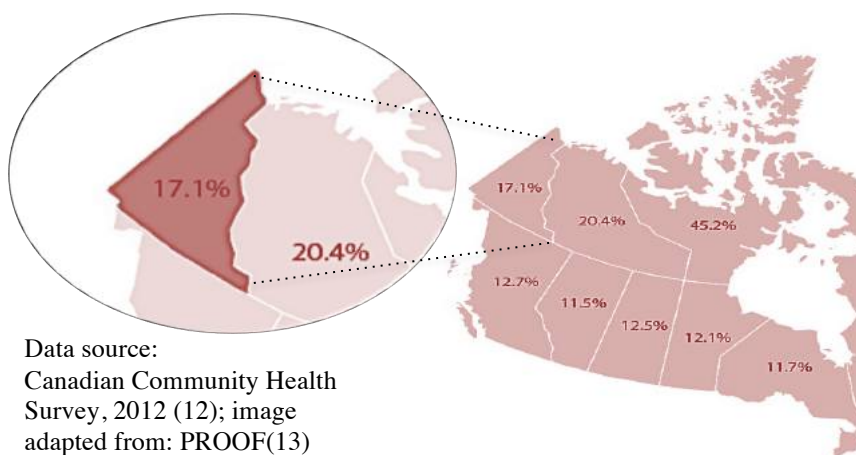
The Association of Yukon Communities conducted their Annual General Meeting in Watson Lake just before the Roundtable took place; at this meeting, mayors, senior municipal administrators and others were asked to fill out a two-page questionnaire related to food security activities in their communities. Altogether 29 respondents filled out the questionnaire and their responses are incorporated in section “**What Does Success Look Like**” (pg. 22-24) as well as summarized in **Appendix 5**.

Discussion Outcomes

Where are We Now and What is Working?

The morning of Day One of the Roundtable focused on what is working in order to develop a common understanding of where we are now as a territory in terms of food security. Before getting to this discussion however, we must start with a picture of some of the most recent food security statistics in Yukon, in comparison to other parts of the country.

What is going on in Yukon?



In Yukon:
Prevalence of household food insecurity was 17.1% in 2012 (*most recent data*).

That means...
In 2012, **2,500 households** were food insecure.

The proportion of children living in food insecure households was 19.7%.

In Canada:
Food insecurity affects **4 million Canadians**, with the highest rates of food insecurity being in the North (13).

"When we work together on complex issues, we are able to come up with more sustainable, relevant solutions."

- Jody Butler Walker, Co-Founder and Co-Director of AICBR



(Above): Artist Heidi Marion's depiction of "A Story of Yukon Food Security", developed from Roundtable

An Analysis of the Yukon Food System

Defining Strengths, Challenges, Opportunities and Threats (SCOT)

A "SCOT Analysis" is a strategic planning tool that can be used to assess the strengths, challenges, opportunities and threats of a community, organization or system and its parts. The components of a SCOT analysis guide evaluation of a particular environment from internal and external perspectives. For example, strengths and challenges are focused on internal issues whereas opportunities and threats are external (14). During the afternoon of the first day of the Roundtable, delegates worked individually to define some of the strengths, challenges, opportunities and threats within and outside the Yukon food system. They then chose one of the components of the analysis to work on and summarize into some main themes, before reporting them back to the larger group. The following lists describe what delegates came up with.



(Pictured above): Delegates at the Roundtable performing SCOT analysis; *(pictured right):* Lori Joe, delegate from Selkirk First Nation government reporting the challenges identified at her table.

*WE ARE ALL PART OF THE FOOD SYSTEM. THE FOOD SYSTEM IS
COMPLEX WITH MANY INTERRELATED PARTS.*

S.C.O.T Analysis of Yukon Food System

STRENGTHS

- **Funding** - available for local food production, innovation and research
- **Knowledge & Interest** - awareness and interest in local food production, hunting and gathering; traditional and local knowledge sharing
- **Governance** - collaboration between Yukon First Nations governments/communities/Yukon Government; policies support food production (i.e. YG's Local Food Strategy)
- **Strong Communities** - gardens, food sharing, food co-ops, food networks, and local projects abundant
- **Growing Season** - long summer days
- **Population & Transport** - small population with good transport system
- **Caring & Respect** - for food, land, wildlife, community, etc.

CHALLENGES

- **Restrictive Legislation**
- **Costs** - shipping, start-up and upkeep
- **External Dependence** - for food resources
- **Access** - to space and clean and high quality land
- **Transfer & Communication of Knowledge**
- **Lack of Coordination**
- **Climate & Weather**
- **Power Outages** - leads to increased risk of spoiling food for those who don't have access to backup power (particularly in rural communities)

OPPORTUNITIES

- **Education & Capacity Building** - capacity building and knowledge exchange; build food production into curriculum (include more practical applications)
- **Investment** - private sector, traditional and cultural agriculture development
- **Health** - address impact of food security on mental health and chronic disease; promotion of wellness
- **Governance** - need policy to guide action; election year = opportunity for dialogue; communities developing their own food security strategies
- **Community Production** - support home/community gardening
- **Collaboration** - collaboration between communities (food sharing and storage, space to grow food and knowledge exchange)

THREATS

- **Climate Change** - fires (wild); natural disaster; reduced availability of traditional foods
- **External Dependence** - reliance on road and regular flights from the South to deliver food
- **Economic Change** - rising food prices; lack of jobs; 'Big Business' influence; monopolizing food systems
- **Heavy Burden** - Burn-out of concerned citizens and producers/farmers
- **Restrictive Policy** - that prohibits collective action
- **Lack of Education**
- **Sustainability** - long term viability of food programs
- **Scattered Networking** - lack of consolidation

Key Strengths of the Yukon Food System



(Above): Artwork by Heidi Marion.

The following list was an outcome from the first day of Roundtable discussions. In order to know where we need to go, we need to have a full understanding of where we are now and what is working. With these points in mind, we can build on strengths, discover and work within leverage points in the system and increase our awareness of where more attention is needed for achieving food security in Yukon. It was clearly evident from this Roundtable discussion that there are many strengths within the system and many positive and successful activities are going on in the territory to do with food security. Some examples include:

Key Strengths

COMMUNITY GARDENS/GREENHOUSES, KITCHENS, FARMERS MARKETS, FOOD BANK & FOOD CO-OPS IN THE TERRITORY

- *Some examples:*
 - Community gardens in Teslin, Atlin, Pelly, Whitehorse and Dawson City, among others
 - Greenhouses in Pelly, Carmacks and Dawson City
 - Co-ops in Whitehorse (Pot Luck Food Coop) and Old Crow (Arctic Co-op grocery store)
 - Farmers markets in Dawson City and Whitehorse

INCREASING DEMAND FOR LOCAL FOOD & RAISING PUBLIC AWARENESS ABOUT FOOD SECURITY

YOUTH ENGAGEMENT IN THE FOOD SYSTEM

- *Some examples:*
 - From the Ground Up
 - Kids in the Kitchen
 - Harvest and culture camp initiatives to bring youth to the land
 - Opportunities for and interest in farming apprenticeships

OPPORTUNITIES FOR ENGAGING IN TRADITIONAL FIRST NATIONS PRACTICES AND CULTURE & ENTHUSIASM FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

- *Some examples:*
 - Harvest/culture and fish camps
 - May Gathering (Northern Tutchone annual gathering that brings people together from Selkirk First Nation, Little Salmon/Carmacks First Nation and First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun to discuss challenges, make decisions, celebrate harvest and teach traditional skills)

SUPPORTIVE NETWORKS

- *Some examples:*
 - Yukon Agriculture Association
 - Growers of Organic Food Yukon (GoOFY)
 - Canadian Youth Farmers Forum
 - Fireweed Farmers Market
 - Food Network Yukon (FNY)

HEALTHY EATING & EDUCATION PROGRAMS

- *Some examples:*
 - School breakfast and lunch programs (open to everyone)
 - Community pre- and post-natal nutrition programs
 - Healthy eating and active living program inventory in Yukon and NWT

INNOVATION AND TRAINING

- *Some examples:*
 - Tr'onděk Hwëch'in Teaching & Working Farm in Dawson City
 - Bob Sharp Greenhouse Kit
 - Current research projects on year-round growing in Yukon
 - Downtown Urban Gardeners Society in Whitehorse

FUNDING AND GOVERNMENT SUPPORT:

- Some examples:
 - Government of Yukon's 'Local Food Strategy for Yukon'
 - Agriculture development support: i.e. Growing Forward 2
 - Small business funding and support: i.e. Government of Yukon's Enterprise Trade Fund
 - Community development support: i.e. Government of Yukon's Community Development Fund; From the Ground Up (Government of Yukon's Agriculture Branch, Health Promotion Unit and Department of Education)
 - Federally-inspected abattoir - has allowed local meat/poultry to be introduced to grocery stores
 - Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada's ecoENERGY for Aboriginal and Northern Communities Program - funds renewable energy projects for Aboriginal and northern communities
 - Back to the Earth program - Lorne Mountain Community Association

What people had to say about strengths of the Yukon Food System:

"Self sustainability is a possible goal for the Yukon."

"The Yukon is more collectively aware (and active) than I knew when it comes to gardening and food initiatives."

"I never knew that there were so many farms in the Yukon or that there were experimental things like fruit trees!"

"Yukon can produce a lot of resources (food) to feed the territory."

Overall, there is a lot of *PASSION* and *MOMENTUM* for securing our food system for the future. No one agency, government or individual is going to solve the issue of food insecurity. There is not one solution, but a range of holistic approaches is needed (10).



(Above): Delegates at the Roundtable and Open House had the chance to situate themselves and/or their organizations within the Yukon food system, thereby creating a sense of collective ownership over the system and the process of advancing Yukon food security. Artwork by Heidi Marion.

“It is important to keep the conversation going and spur the discussions and plans emerging from this Roundtable into action; each one of us has a role we can play.”

- Roundtable Participant

What does Success Look like?

After defining where we are now, what is working and analyzing the food system, the Roundtable delegates and public at the Open House were asked to answer three questions: "What does food security look like for me and my family; for my community; and for my territory?" Individual answers were recorded on Post-it notes, compiled and synthesized into a shared vision statement and 15 priorities and values of a food secure territory. Below is what people had to say:



Food Security for my FAMILY and I means...

Also incorporated in these lists are responses from Association of Yukon Communities questionnaires (for more details see **Appendix 5).*

Access to Local, Fresh, Nutritious & Traditional Foods

- Families eat local, affordable, fresh [good/nutritious] food year-round
- Access to enough food and choice in what foods to eat
- Less time spent traveling to access food (i.e. supporting farms close to where I live, more local stores available, have traditional foods in the freezer, have a process for sharing locally processed/hunted foods, and home/ neighbourhood/community gardens and greenhouses available)

Having the Knowledge

- Families have the knowledge (i.e. cooking, budgeting, nutrition, gardening, and composting)
- Families have opportunities to regain old or lost knowledge (teaching and learning with/from Elders and others (about wild meat, medicines, self sufficiency, and farming/gardening techniques)
- Children have access to good education

Less Food Waste

- Reduce food waste and encourage youth and others to compost

Affordability

- Fresh fruits and vegetables are available at reasonable price
- People are employed

Make Time as a Family for Food Production, Cooking & Networking

- Set aside time to produce own food, network with neighbours and others who are hunting/farming/growing
- Set aside time for meal planning/preparation
- Kids involved in food production, preparation, preservation at a young age



Food security for my **COMMUNITY** means...

Food Security Awareness and Food Skills Building

- There is a community understanding about what food security means and ongoing discussions with residents and communities around food security issues
- There is support (funding in particular) for organizations working in food security
- People have access to workshops and education that enhance food skills (i.e. school-based programs and low barrier workshops for the public around growing/harvesting, preparing, preserving food)

Zero Hunger and Homelessness

- There is enough food for everyone and low barriers to access food (no stigma to ask for help and there is a distribution process for those in need through community gardens)
- No homelessness

Strong/Sustainable Community Food System

- Public spaces available to grow, cook and preserve/process food, as well as share skills/knowledge (i.e. community gardens, kitchens (indoor/outdoor), tool sharing library, working and residential farm within community)
- Cooperative food networks and *food hubs**
- More locally produced and preserved foods year-round so less reliance on the South for food
- Includes First Nation traditional values and community-based strategies
- Less reliance on 'Big Food' businesses
- Positive social engagement in the food system (i.e. food festival/community feasts)

Emergency Food Plan

- Emergency food plan (includes things like community food caches and ways to protect against road closures)

Conserving Land for Food Production

- More land available for agriculture and smaller urban footprints (sustainable housing/less big business)

Political Will & Buy-in

- There is political will to prioritize food security and buy-in at all levels of the food system to move forward together on action-planning for a more food secure future

Less Food Waste

- More systems in place to reduce waste (i.e. closed loop where stores give away food to those who have use for it, increase composting and recycling and identify where general waste needs are)

**A food hub is an organization or business that actively provides a mutually beneficial relationship within the food system by making healthy food sourcing both a profitable option for producers, distributors and retailers and an accessible option for consumers (15).*

"No one goes hungry in a community that has food security. Everyone knows that they will eat enough today and next year, and that the next generations will too."

- Heidi Marion, Yukon Resident, Artist and Agriculturalist



Food security for my *TERRITORY* means...

| | |
|---|---|
| Communication Network & Inter-jurisdictional Cooperation | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Partnerships between various sectors• Working together on food security initiatives with territorial governments, First Nations governments, municipalities, community groups, and residents |
| Funding, Policy & Program Support | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Informed by good data collection• Policy and funding to support local food system (i.e. Food Charter and Local Food Strategy), streamlined regulatory practices, existence of a food policy committee, and funding to promote food security planning and implement action-oriented, community-based solutions• Policy and support for nutrition programs and ways to reduce food cost/waste |
| Relevant & Community-Based Knowledge | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Development of public health/nutritional/food security information that is relevant and responsive to community needs |
| Sharing | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sharing food, land, knowledge and resources |
| Self-Sufficiency | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• More local energy sources/options and strengthening local food production in communities |
| Sustainable Agricultural Practices & Protection of Land/ Water | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Agricultural Land Reserve reviewed• Responsible resource development |
| Emergency Food/ Disaster Plan | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Warehousing and cold storage for crops/traditional foods and backup community generators (particularly in times of power outages);• The plan includes community input and there is widespread public knowledge of and access to the plan |
| Innovation | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Experimenting to extend growing season and research biomass heated compost• Pilot programs for adapting to climate change• Crop variety testing |
| Nutritional Food Available in Schools | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Kids have more access to 'natural', fresh foods rather than highly preserved, high sugar foods |
| Reduced Health Care Costs | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Less health care costs because of reduced prevalence of diet-related chronic diseases, poverty reduction, and increased accessibility to affordable healthy food (fresh, home grown and traditional food) |
| Public Infrastructure & Efficient Use of Space | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Using space more efficiently (i.e. using existing infrastructure such as schools and churches, pooling resources, providing open access to cooking/growing/ eating spaces)• Reduced 'urban sprawl' |

"Family and community food security leads to a food secure territory"

- Roundtable participant

A Vision for a Food Secure Yukon

...Ensuring the North Can Provide Food for the North

The following vision statement and list of values and priorities were developed from the above discussions around what food security success looks like. It was synthesized overnight by Brenda Herchmer (Grassroots Enterprises) in Ontario using thematic analysis and reported back to the Roundtable delegates to review the following day. Delegates and Open House participants then ranked the list based on each of their top three priorities.

-- VISION STATEMENT --

"We believe in a food secure, food producing and food sharing Yukon where the land and the waters are harvested and protected. Through the wise use of resources, every person has dignified, affordable access to sufficient food to sustain a healthy, happy, and productive life. Yukon leaders and citizens work collaboratively to ensure food is generated by a robust network of local gardeners, farmers, hobby growers, hunters and fishers, businesses and advanced systems that preserve and distribute food."

"To ensure the above vision is achieved, we believe in the value and importance of the following values and priorities:"

(Ranked in order of highest to lowest ranking by participants.)

- 1. ACCESS FOR ALL**
- 2. SELF-SUFFICIENCY**
- 3. SUPPORT FOR LOCAL FOOD PRODUCERS**
- 4. ADDRESSING PLANNING AND POLICY DEVELOPMENT**
- 5. ENCOURAGING COMMUNITY GARDENS AND GREENHOUSES**
- 6. REDUCING WASTE**
- 7. EMPHASIZING HEALTHY FOOD**
- 8. EDUCATION AND TRAINING**
- 9. PROMOTING QUALITY FOOD PREPARATION, PRESERVATION AND STORAGE**
- 10. COLLABORATING TO SHARE FOOD AND TIME**
- 11. HARVESTING THE LAND**
- 12. AFFORDABILITY**
- 13. BUILDING LEADERSHIP CAPACITY**
- 14. ENGAGING FAMILY**
- 15. CONSIDERATION OF PROMISING PRACTICES**



(Pictured left): Roundtable participants amidst breakout discussions; (right): Delegates vote on priorities for food security in the Territory.

Moving Forward Together - Some Opportunities for Action

The following lists are summaries of discussions from breakout sessions around various examples for action towards food security in the Territory. Four topics of discussion were proposed based on already established work that can be built upon, areas where opportunity exists and priorities for action that emerged out of the previous day's roundtables. The four main breakout sessions were: *Yukon First Nations Community Food Strategies*, *Yukon Anti-Poverty Coalition's (YAPC) Our Food In Place: Food Mapping Project Recommendations*, *Government of Yukon's Local Food Strategy for Yukon*, and *Self-Sufficiency: A Priority for the Territory*.

YUKON FIRST NATIONS COMMUNITY FOOD STRATEGIES

The Roundtable brought together representatives from 13 Yukon and Northern BC First Nations governments, namely, Little Salmon/Carmacks First Nation, Ta'an Kwäch'än Council, Selkirk First Nation, Teslin Tlingit Council, White River First Nation, Kluane First Nation, Ross River Dena Council, Carcross/Tagish First Nation, Kwanlin Dün First Nation, Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in, Vuntut Gwitchin, Taku River Tlingit First Nation, and the First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun. Up to two delegates from each First Nation government were supported to attend the Roundtable and those who were involved in the discussions included Chiefs, Councillors, Health Directors, Wellness Coordinators, Recreation Programmers, Environmental Officer, Youth Workers, Garden Coordinators, and Child and Family Worker, among others. The discussion around Indigenous food security was a key focus throughout the Roundtable and this breakout session was an important opportunity to bring together Yukon First Nations to discuss what is going on in their communities, share promising practices, and discuss opportunities for action on food security in their respective territories. The following list is what they had to say around the values, principles and priorities for community food security strategies:

Reconnection to 'Old Ways'

Sharing:

- Traditional knowledge (between Elders and youth)
- Traditional medicines
- Revive trade networks & sharing between First Nations

Zero tolerance for hunger

Strengthening networks that build gardening/cooking skills and share info/tools/knowledge

Honour children:

- Kids eat first
- Kids involved with growing/harvesting, preparing and composting

Education

Schools:

- Educate where food comes from/nutrition and develop gardening skills
- Ensure school children have access to good food

Work with Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in (TH) Teaching and Working Farm (share resources, training & curriculum development)

Workshops on preserving fresh food

Conservation

Water conservation/purification

Save/reuse lumber

Wise use of resources

Working with Others

Yukon College

Environmental Health Department (and others)

- Food safety regulations (to enable sharing of traditional foods)
- Emergency food planning ** needs to be developed with community values/priorities in mind*

Our Neighbours

- Other First Nations
- Across the border in Alaska

Create: *First Nations Food Network*

Leadership

Harness community leaders/community champions

Support and educate leadership in food security, sustainability and/or policy development issues

Food and water portfolios at forefront within Yukon First Nations governments

Strategic community planning

- Food security strategy development
- Adapting to environmental changes

Land designation for farms and land use discussions need to take place at the community level

Succession planning (i.e. adapt to staff turnover through job shadowing programs and back fill)

Develop community jobs around gardening and agriculture ** teach job skills in these areas*

Self - Sufficiency

Build community harvesting camps/programs

Income support and job skills - people need an opportunity to earn a meaningful wage

Community smokehouse, kitchens and food co-ops

Identify edible plants

Community and Indigenous gardens/greenhouses year-round and composting

Develop community members' skills in fish, meat and food processing

More access to storage facilities - i.e. cellars

(Pictured here): Norma facilitating breakout session



YUKON ANTI-POVERTY COALITION'S OUR FOOD IN PLACE: FOOD MAPPING PROJECT RECOMMENDATIONS

The Yukon Anti-Poverty Coalition's *Our Food In Place Community Food Mapping project*, done in the summer of 2015, outlined 10 recommendations. This breakout session focused on reviewing these recommendations and discussing key areas for food security action for the City of Whitehorse. The session was lead by YAPC's Kristina Craig (pictured left) and Jodi Crewe and involved farmers, Government of Yukon representatives and concerned citizens.



Think Beyond

More garden space, community food storage, non-stigmatizing spaces and relationships around food receiving and sharing, community kitchens and collective cooking

Move beyond food banks towards food hubs/food centres (example, The Stop Community Food Centre in Toronto)

Incorporate values: growing, learning, education and inclusion in programming

Responsive to Needs

Need for safe, anonymous access to food (i.e. mobile food source)

Respond to increased food insecurity – expand Sally and Sisters model of providing safe access to nutritious meal shared with women and children only

Use up-to-date statistics (i.e. Point in Time (PiT) count)

Promising Programs and Clarity

Community kitchens need more funding

Implement Good Food Bucks program

Program clarity (language needs to reflect what program offers - i.e. 'skills program', 'food program')

Focus on Income

Food security is primarily an issue of income

Living wage calculation should be done for the North

GOVERNMENT OF YUKON'S LOCAL FOOD STRATEGY FOR YUKON

This discussion focused on the Government of Yukon's recently released Local Food Strategy for Yukon and was guided by Tony Hill, Director of Yukon's Agriculture Branch. Delegates at the table included City of Whitehorse, territorial government and non-profit representatives, gardeners, a dietitian and our Alaskan guest, among others. The key opportunities for action within the strategy included:

Education

Develop and expand Yukon College curriculum for agriculture (TH Teaching and Working Farm as a role model)

Food Waste

Food waste barriers - work on how to get expiring foods to groups who need it rather than throwing food out (educate about best before dates)

Government compostable collection needs higher direction from above

Local Food Production

Local food production a priority for YG

At least 4 initiatives have direct linkages to local food security (see Local Food Strategy recommendations #8,9,10, 11)



(Pictured left): Randy Lamb, Agrologist at YG's Agriculture Branch reporting back his group's discussions; (below): Tony Hill facilitating group discussion



SELF-SUFFICIENCY: A PRIORITY FOR THE TERRITORY

This topic was derived from the 15 values and priorities that were developed out of Day One of the Roundtable. This session was facilitated by AICBR's Molly Pratt and delegates at this table included scholars, farmers, and government and non-profit organization representatives. The discussion began with a definition of self-sufficiency, identifying what is needed and where to start, followed by highlighting some opportunities for action.



Recommendations

The following recommendations were developed from the outcomes from the Yukon Food Security Roundtable and Open House and the Association of Yukon Communities questionnaire (see **Appendix 5**). The list is organized according to **top 5 priorities and values** emerging from Roundtable, *1) Access for All, Self-Sufficiency, Support for Local Food Producers, Addressing Planning and Policy Development, and Encouraging Community Gardens and Greenhouses*. The recommendations are categorized into three main categories, **Local Actions, Territorial Actions** and **Practices and Processes**. Partnership across various sectors was identified as a key component of these recommendations.

Local Actions

(in partnership with communities, local food producers, Indigenous, territorial and federal governments, Non-Governmental Organizations, academics, the private sector, foundations, and others)

Access for All

1. Revive Yukon First Nations trade networks and encourage sharing within communities and between communities
2. Access to community kitchens - more outdoor spaces to cook food
3. Continue culture and harvest camps
4. Reconnecting to 'old ways' and culture/traditions
 - a. Continue finding ways to pass on traditional Indigenous knowledge, practices and values to future generations
 - b. Support seasonal gathering/hunting
5. Expand initiatives like Sally and Sisters model of providing safe access to nutritious meal shared with women and children only - use up-to-date statistics to assess & respond to need
6. Implement "Good Food Bucks" program
7. Prioritize distribution system for low-income individuals and families to access local food (grown/harvested/hunted)

Self-Sufficiency

8. Convene a Yukon First Nations Food Security Network
9. Continue education and skills building around preservation, processing and cooking of healthy, local and fresh foods

10. Increase access to storage facilities (especially cold storage and root cellars) in communities (outside of Whitehorse especially)
11. Develop food co-ops in communities
12. Encourage youth on-the-land activities - have kids involved in every level of food production/harvest, preparation and composting
13. Develop community strategies - adapting to climate change and food security strategies (must be community-driven)
14. Educate on safety - bear safety while hunting, etc.
15. Increase access to local foods in restaurants/stores

Support for Local Food Producers

16. Support community champions as an avenue for sustainability in community development initiatives involving food security

Addressing Planning and Policy Development

17. Work on how to get expiring foods to groups in need rather than throwing food out - involves education around expiry dates
18. Decrease waste and use resources wisely - Conserve water, save/reuse lumber, develop composting program in each community, reduce waste (includes education on the importance of conservation) ** incorporate these lessons into public education system and involve children and youth*
19. Increase access to urban spaces to grow food
20. Provide more access to non-stigmatizing spaces and relationships around food sharing, community kitchens and collective cooking
21. Make food security strategizing and planning a priority and develop a Food Charter

Encouraging Community Gardens and Greenhouses

22. Develop community jobs around gardening and agriculture (i.e. create micro-enterprise for community-gardening to thrive as economic initiative and reduce overreliance on volunteers)
23. Continue education on growing techniques, gardening - particularly, basics in soil health and when to plant different crops
24. Continue community growing courses through Fireweed, Lorne Mountain Community Association - expand these models to rural communities

Territorial Actions

(in partnership with communities, local food producers, Indigenous, territorial and federal governments, Non-Governmental Organizations, academics, private sector, foundations, and others)

Access for All

25. Develop an emergency food plan for the Territory that is informed by community values and priorities
26. Support low-income individuals and families, including programs that enhance job skills around promote accessible housing and education
27. Support organizations working to improve food security
28. Work with, learn from and build on already established success stories/projects (i.e. TH Teaching and Working Farm → share resources, training and curriculum development)
29. Work with wholesalers on absorbing some of freight and transport costs in order to decrease cost of food - community example of this happening already where it has been a win-win (food costs less and people are able to buy more)
30. Make food security an election topic for upcoming 2016 Territorial elections (model off of Food Secure Canada's Eat, Think, Vote Campaign from Federal election)

Self-Sufficiency

31. Expand thinking beyond just 'band-aid solutions' - move towards food hubs/food centres
32. Perform public engagement/communications program to increase public's knowledge on food security and services/programs/activities offered in communities
33. Support activities that celebrate food (eating food, making food, growing/preserving food) - make sure these public festivals and workshops are accessible for low-income/rural individuals

Support for Local Food Producers

34. For the Yukon Government to expand College curriculum for agriculture (use TH Teaching and Working Farm as a role model)
35. Expand Kids on the Farm & From the Ground Up programs
36. Continue education on growing techniques, gardening - basics in soil health and when to plant

Addressing Planning and Policy Development

37. Work with Department of Environmental Health on policies around food safety and shared spaces & mobile food emergency sources
38. Continue working with multiple groups across sectors on implementing the Local Food Strategy and track progress of its implementation
39. Continue school food programming (ensure kids have access to “good food”) and increase education on where food comes from – provide children with the opportunity to grow their own food
40. Monitor food insecurity in the territory - participate in the Canadian Community Health Survey
41. Focus on succession planning in all aspects of government and food production to deal with high job turnover and aging farming population – job shadowing, job skills, etc.
42. Support local producers – through subsidies for land, tools, skills building and accessing local markets
43. Encourage sustainable resource development and conservation of water

Encouraging Community Gardens and Greenhouses

44. Build community gardens/greenhouses in every community – ensure systems are in place to counteract burn-out and ensure food grown is accessible to everyone in community
45. Hands on mentorship for local growing/gardening/farming – Continue Growing Forward program

Practices and Processes

46. Invest in more collaborative spaces for sharing, educating, processing harvest (i.e. community smokehouse), and cooking
47. Invest in innovation – innovation that is accessible and beneficial to all
48. Share information, skills, etc. – strengthen networks and initiatives that support this
49. Clarify what “local means” for marketing purposes – is food locally grown? What percentage of ingredients locally grown? Or is food just locally prepared?
50. Work with our neighbours on issues concerning food (local level with neighbours, territorial level within/between Indigenous and non-Indigenous citizens/governments/organizations, federal level with other territories/provinces, and Internationally with Alaska)

Conclusion

If we can keep the momentum going, build on what is working already and commit to working together, we can make sure that the vision for a food secure Yukon becomes a reality. The development of a "shared food security agenda" in the Yukon will contribute to moving towards more coordinated actions and outcomes now and in the future. The Yukon Food Security Roundtable was the first known of its kind in Yukon, where multiple sectors were able to gather and discuss, share and plan for a way forward to secure such as fundamental resource that is food. What was evident at the Yukon Food Security events is that there are many passionate, knowledgeable and dedicated people in the territory. Each of us brings an important piece to the puzzle and if we use our combined strengths we can all be part of the solution.

There is a need to work together, across sectors now and in the future to ensure realistic, culturally relevant and sustainable solutions to the problem of food insecurity.



(Above): Kwanlin Dün Councillor, Sean Smith, leads a powerful Closing Ceremony at the Roundtable, beautifully signifying the strong food movement in Yukon and our ability to work together on such an important issue that affects us all.

References

- 1 - Food Secure Canada. Cathleen Kneen award [Internet]. No date [cited 2016 Aug 27]. Available from: <http://foodsecurecanada.org/who-we-are/cathleen-kneen-award>
- 2 - Food and Agriculture Organization's Agriculture and Development Economics Division. Policy brief - Food security. [Internet]. 2006 [cited 2016 Aug 11]. Available from: <http://www.fao.org/forestry/13128-0e6f36f27e0091055bec28ebe830f46b3.pdf>
- 3 - Tarasuk V, Mitchell A, Dachner N. Household food insecurity in Canada, 2014. Toronto: Research to identify policy options to reduce food insecurity (PROOF) [Internet]. 2016 [cited 2016 Aug 11]. Available from: <http://proof.utoronto.ca>
- 4 - Health Canada. Household food insecurity in Canada: Overview [Internet]. 2012 [cited 2016 Aug 11]. Available from: <http://tinyurl.com/6p7mvyw>
- 5 - Ledrou I, Gervais J. Food insecurity. Health reports. 2005; Vol. 16, no. 3, 47-51. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 82-003-X.
- 6 - Statistics Canada. Health at a glance - Food insecurity in Canada [Internet]. 2015 [cited 2016 Aug 11]. Available from: <http://tinyurl.com/glqdxjc>
- 7 - First Nations Health Authority. Healthy food guidelines for First Nations communities [Internet]. 2014 [cited 2016 Aug 30]. Available from: <http://tinyurl.com/jpqcw2n>
- 8 - University of California Davis Campus: Agriculture Sustainability Institute, Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program. Defining sustainable community food systems [Internet]. No date [cited 2016 Aug 27]. Available from: <http://tinyurl.com/hhg3a75>
- 9 - Prime Minister of Canada Justin Trudeau. Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food mandate letter [internet]. No date [cited 2016 Aug 27]. Available from: <http://tinyurl.com/zorsfrx>
- 10 - Council of Canadian Academies. Aboriginal food security in Northern Canada: An assessment of the state of knowledge, Ottawa, ON. The Expert Panel on the State of Knowledge of Food Security in Northern Canada [Internet]. 2014 [cited 2016 Aug 16]. Available from: <http://tinyurl.com/zgknc3h>
- 11 - Ball M, Hill T, Whelan V. Yukon agriculture state of the industry report. Government of Yukon Energy, Mines and Resources Agriculture Branch and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada [Internet]. 2013 [cited 2016 Aug 16]. Available from: <http://tinyurl.com/grueqxx>
- 12 - Statistics Canada. Health Statistics Division. Canadian community health survey, 2011-2012. 2013;version 3.
- 13 - PROOF Food Insecurity Policy Research. [Internet]. 2016 [cited 2016 Aug 12]. Available from: <http://proof.utoronto.ca/>
- 14 - Campus for Communities. S.C.O.T analysis. [Internet]. no date [cited 2016 Aug 12]. Available from: <http://www.campusforcommunities.com/tools/facilitative-tools/item/s-w-o-t-analysis>
- 15 - Healthy Food Access Portal. Retail strategies - Food hubs [Internet]. No date [cited 2016 Aug 12]. Available from: <http://www.healthyfoodaccess.org/retail-strategies/food-hubs>

Appendices

Appendix 1. Agenda



Yukon Food Security Roundtable & Open House

AGENDA

Co-Chairs: Norma Kassi (Vuntut Gwitchin) and Jody Butler Walker, Arctic Institute of Community-Based Research

*Multipurpose Room, Kwanlin Dün Cultural Centre, 1171-1st Ave, Whitehorse, YT
May 18th 8:30am – 4:30 pm | May 19th 8:30am – 12:00pm*

| DAY 1 - Wednesday, May 18 th (8:30-4:30 pm) | |
|--|--|
| 8:00 – 8:30 | <i>Breakfast (for out-of-town guests)</i> |
| 8:30 – 9:00 | Coffee & Registration |
| 9:00 – 9:05 | Opening Ceremony <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sean Smith, Councilor, Kwanlin Dün First Nation |
| 9:05 – 9:10 | Welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chief Kane, Ta'an Kwäch'än Council |
| 9:10 – 9:25 | Participant Introductions |
| 9:25 – 10:15 | Setting the Stage <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Food, Climate and Global and Indigenous Health: The Bigger Picture</i> – Norma Kassi, Arctic Institute of Community-Based Research • <i>Food Security in Canada and Yukon as part of a National Food Strategy</i> – Diana Bronson, Food Secure Canada |
| 10:15 – 10:30 | Nutrition Break |
| 10:30 – 11:45 | Roundtable Discussions – Part 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>WHERE are we now and WHAT is working?</i> |
| 11:45 – 12:15 | Lunch (provided) |
| 12:15 – 1:30 | Local Food Production and Food Mapping in Whitehorse and Dawson City <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Teaching and Growing the Yukon: Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Teaching and Working Farm</i> - Dexter MacRae, Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in First Nation |

| | |
|--|--|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Growing food in the Yukon</i> – Jennifer Hall, Yukon Agriculture Association & Shiela Alexandrovich, Growers of Organic Food Yukon • <i>Our Food In Place: Community Food Mapping Project</i> - Kate Mechan & Jodi Crewe, Yukon Anti-Poverty Coalition |
| 1:30 – 2:15 | <p>Roundtable Discussion – Part 2 <i>What Will Success Look Like?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conversation is to address the following questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ What will food security success look like for my <u>family</u>? ○ What will food security success look like for my <u>community</u>? ○ What will food security success look like for the <u>Territory</u>? |
| 2:15 – 2:30 | <i>Nutrition Break</i> |
| 2:30 – 3:30 | <p>Roundtable Discussions – Part 3</p> <p>What can we build on and what do need to be aware of if “the North is to provide food for the North?”</p> |
| 3:30 – 4:20 | Bringing it all Together: Prioritizing Actions Towards Food Security |
| 4:20 – 4:30 | Preview Day 2 |
| DAY 2 - Thursday, May 19th (8:30 – 12:00 pm) | |
| 8:00 – 8:30 | <i>Breakfast (for out-of-town guests)</i> |
| 8:30 – 9:00 | Coffee & Registration |
| 9:00 – 9:10 | Review Day 1 |
| 9:10 – 9:30 | <p>Keynote</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Community Food Security: Nourishing Our Future</i> – Chief Alatini, Kluane First Nation |
| 9:30 – 9:45 | <p>Collaborating with Our Neighbours</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Alaska Food Security Initiatives</i> – Kathleen Wayne, Alaskan Department of Health and Social Services |
| 9:45 – 10:00 | <i>Nutrition Break</i> |

| | |
|--------------|---|
| 10:00– 11:30 | <p>A Vision for Moving Forward Together towards a Food Secure Yukon</p> <p>Roundtable Discussion – Part 4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Action Planning Mini-Roundtables - Guided Discussions around Various Examples for Action:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Yukon First Nations Community Food Strategies – How do we implement a food strategy in our community? ○ Working through actions identified from previous day ○ Government of Yukon’s Local Food Strategy – Looking at Yukon’s Local Food Strategy & next steps? ○ Food Charter – What are the principles and values for a food secure Yukon? |
|--------------|---|

| | |
|---------------|--|
| 11:30 – 12:00 | <p>Report Back & Closing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Closing Ceremony</i> by Sean Smith, Councilor, Kwanlin Dün First Nation |
|---------------|--|

OPEN HOUSE - Thursday, May 19th (1:00 – 4:30 pm) at Kwanlin Dün Cultural Centre

The Open House is an opportunity for the public to add their voices on the topic of food security in Yukon

Appendix 2. Delegate List & Contacts

**ordered based on community*

| Name Contact | Sector/Organization (Community) | Name Contact | Sector/Organization (Community) |
|--|---|---|---|
| Eoin Sheridan <i>esheridan@yukoncollege.yk.ca</i> | Yukon Cold Climate Innovation Centre (Whitehorse) | Egle Zaldokas-Barnes <i>communitykitchen@vfwomenscentre.com</i> | Victoria Faulkner Women's Centre (Whitehorse) |
| Lisa Badenhorst <i>lisa.badenhorst@gov.yk.ca</i> | Yukon Government (Whitehorse) | Alison Perrin <i>aperrin@yukoncollege.yk.ca</i> | Yukon College – Yukon Research Centre (Whitehorse) |
| Thea Whelan <i>thea-whelan@hotmail.com</i> | Health Nurse (Whitehorse) | Sonny Gray <i>sgray.nsa@gmail.com</i> | North Star Agriculture Inc. (Whitehorse) |
| Miles Hume <i>miles.hume@whitehorse.ca</i> | City of Whitehorse (Whitehorse) | Friedhelm Fink | Concerned citizen (Whitehorse) |
| Jocelyn McDowell <i>jocelyn.mcdowell@gov.yk.ca</i> | Yukon Government – Agriculture Branch (Whitehorse) | Kenneth de la Barre <i>kendelabar@yahoo.ca</i> | WUC Council (Whitehorse) |
| Ian Parker <i>ian.parker@gov.yk.ca</i> | Yukon Government – Health Promotion Unit (Whitehorse) | Larissa Lychenko <i>larissa_lychenko@hotmail.com</i> | City of Whitehorse (Whitehorse) |
| Kim Hickman | Yukon Government – Health Promotion Unit (Whitehorse) | Tony Hill | Yukon Government – Agriculture Branch (Whitehorse) |
| Sarah Preiksaitis <i>info@zerowasteyukon.ca</i> | Zero Waste Yukon (Whitehorse) | Tom Rudge <i>foodworks@northwestel.net</i> | Fireweed Market (Whitehorse) |
| Kate Mechan <i>kate.mechan@gmail.com</i> | Yukon Anti-Poverty Coalition/Farmer/Growers of Organic Food Yukon (Whitehorse) | Noreen McGowan <i>ykfoodforlearning@gmail.com</i> | Yukon Food for Learning Association (Whitehorse) |
| Jodi Crewe <i>yapcprojects@gmail.com</i> | Yukon Anti-Poverty Coalition/Farmer/Food Network Yukon (Whitehorse) | Karin Svec <i>karin.svec@phac-aspc.gc.ca</i> | Public Health Agency of Canada (Whitehorse) |
| Chief Kristina Kane (Speaker) | Chief - Ta'an Kwäch'än Council (Whitehorse) | Michael Templeton <i>michael.templeton@gov.yk.ca</i> | Yukon Government-Community Services (Whitehorse) |
| Glenda Jones | Ta'an Kwäch'än Council (Whitehorse) | Heidi Marion <i>heidi@northwestel.net</i> | Food Scapers (Whitehorse) |
| Tiffany Eckert-Maret | Ta'an Kwäch'än Council (Whitehorse) | Bernd Hoeschele <i>info@potluckcoop.com</i> | Potluck Food Coop (Whitehorse) |
| Stephanie Sullivan <i>ssullivan@taan.ca</i> | Family Support Worker - Ta'an Kwäch'än Council (Whitehorse) | Stuart Clark <i>cstuartclark80@gmail.com</i> | Whitehorse United Church (Whitehorse) |
| Sean Smith | Councillor – Kwanlin Dün First Nation (Whitehorse) | Christine Smith | City Manager - City of Whitehorse (Whitehorse) |
| David Silas <i>dsilas@yukoncollege.yk.ca</i> | Yukon Research Centre (Whitehorse) | Jennifer Hall <i>admin@yukonag.ca</i> | Yukon Agriculture Association (Whitehorse) |
| Aynslie Ogden <i>aynslie.ogden@gov.yk.ca</i> | Yukon Government – Executive Council Office (Whitehorse) | Renee young <i>renee.young@mail.mcgill.ca</i> | Student (Whitehorse) |
| Jennifer Daniels <i>foodworks@northwestel.net</i> | Canadian Prenatal Nutrition Program (Whitehorse) | Mayor Dan Curtis | Mayor - City of Whitehorse (Whitehorse) |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|--|
| Stephen Roddick <i>stephen.roddick@gov.yk.ca</i> | Yukon Government – Climate Change Secretariat (Whitehorse) | Marilyn Ollie | Home and Community Care - Ross River Dena Council (Ross River) |
| Kyla Merkel <i>ed@whitehorsefoodbank.ca</i> | Whitehorse Food Bank (Whitehorse) | Lloyd Caesar <i>Lloydcaesar185@gmail.com</i> | Wellness Worker - Ross River Dena Council (Ross River) |
| Kristina Craig <i>yukonantipovertycoalition@gmail.com</i> | Yukon Anti Poverty Coalition (Whitehorse) | Rachel Byers | Little Salmon Carmacks First Nation (Carmacks) |
| Tamara Goeppel <i>tamara@goeppel.ca</i> | (Whitehorse) | Bessie Bill | Health and Social - Little Salmon Carmacks (Carmacks) |
| Melina Stad (Youth delegate) | Home-school Farmhand (Carcross) | Marvin McDonald <i>leemcdnld@gmail.com</i> | Learning Centre – Taku River Tlingit First Nation (Atlin, BC) |
| David Duquette (Youth delegate) | Carcross/Tagish First Nation (Carcross) | Debra Wesley | Taku River Tlingit First Nation (Atlin, BC) |
| Kevin Bayne <i>kevin.bayne@ctfn.ca</i> | Carcross/ Tagish First Nation (Carcross) | Chief Angela Demit <i>chief@whiteriverfirstnation.com</i> | Chief – White River First Nation (Beaver Creek) |
| Dexter MacRae | Director Human Resources, Education and Training, Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in First Nation (Dawson City) | Christine Sam | White River First Nation (Beaver Creek) |
| Sandy Silver <i>Sandy.Silver@yla.gov.yk.ca</i> | MLA – Klondike (Dawson City) | Outside of Territory Guests | Affiliation |
| Shiela Alexandrovich <i>lmca@northwestel.net</i> | Lorne Mt Community Association (Mount Lorne) | | |
| Susan Ellis <i>susan.ellis@gov.yk.ca</i> | YG– Economic Development (Marsh Lake) | Diana Bronson (Speaker) | Executive Director – Food Secure Canada |
| Irene Johnny <i>Irene.johnny@nndfn.com</i> | Councillor - Na-Cho Nyak Dun First Nation (Mayo) | Wayne Walsh | Director General – Northern Strategic Policy Branch, Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada, Government of Canada |
| Melody Hutton <i>Melody.hutton@nndfn.com</i> | Councillor - Na-Cho Nyak Dun First Nation (Mayo) | Dr. Joseph LeBlanc (Speaker) | Executive Director – Social Planning Council of Sudbury, Ontario & Food Secure Canada Board Member |
| Chief Mathieya Alatini | Chief - Kluane First Nation (Burwash Landing) | Kathleen Wayne (Speaker) <i>Kathleen.Wayne@alaska.gov</i> | Manager – Alaska Department of Health and Social Services |
| Sandy Johnson <i>cultussandy@nothwestel.net</i> | Kluane First Nation (Burwash Landing) | Hannah Wittman | Academic Director, Centre for Sustainable Food Systems and Associate Professor, Institute for Resources, Environment and Sustainability (IRES) at the University of British Columbia |
| Kate Ballegooyen <i>environment@kfn.ca</i> | Environment Officer - Kluane First Nation (Burwash Landing) | Tammara Soma (Pierre Elliott Trudeau Scholar) | University of Toronto, PhD Candidate in Planning (Food Waste, Urban Studies, Indonesia) |
| Mary Jane Johnson | Kluane First Nation (Burwash Landing) | Evan Fraser (Pierre Elliott Trudeau Fellow) | University of Toronto, PhD Candidate in Planning (Food Waste, Urban Studies, Indonesia) |
| Nadine Peters <i>gandn365@gmail.com</i> | (Teslin) | Nancy Turner (Pierre Elliott Trudeau Fellow) | University of Victoria, Professor (Ethnobotany, Ethno-Ecology, Indigenous Languages) |
| Dalelyn Secord | Teslin Tlingit Council (Teslin) | Logan Mardhani-Bayne (Pierre Elliott Trudeau Scholar) | Yale University, PhD Candidate in History (Indigenous Studies, Postwar History, Urban Municipal Governance) |
| Lori Joe <i>joelori@selkirkfn.com</i> | Mental Wellness - Selkirk First Nation (Pelly Crossing) | Caroline Lieffers (Pierre Elliott Trudeau Scholar) | Yale University, PhD Candidate in History and Science of Medicine (Food, Disability, Race and Citizenship) |

| | | | |
|---|---|--|---|
| Jennifer Clapp (Pierre Elliott Trudeau Fellow) | University of Waterloo, Professor (Global Governance, International Trade and Finance, Food Security) | Jesse Thistle (Pierre Elliott Trudeau Scholar) | 2016 Trudeau Scholar (History, Trauma, Memory, Homelessness, Métis, Cree, Northern Saskatchewan, Northern Great Plains) |
| John Coleman (Pierre Elliott Trudeau Mentor) | Norton Rose Fulbright law firm, Senior Partner and Advisor (Corporate Management and Governance, Labour and Employment Law, Classical Languages, Human Rights Law) | Anelyse Weiler (Pierre Elliott Trudeau Scholar) | University of Toronto, PhD Student in Sociology (Food and Environmental Justice, Immigrant and Migrant Workers, Race, Humane Jobs) |
| Robert (Bob) Moody (Pierre Elliott Trudeau Mentor) | President and CEO of Aqsarniit Management Consulting, Former Deputy Minister of Education, Nunavut; Former Deputy Minister of Finance, Education, Nova Scotia) | Marie Wilson (Pierre Elliott Trudeau Mentor) | Commissioner, Truth and Reconciliation Canada (Journalism, Broadcasting, Northern Canada, Indigenous Arts and Culture) |
| Sophia Murphy (Pierre Elliott Trudeau Scholar) | University of British Columbia, PhD Candidate in Resource Management and Environmental Sciences (Food Security, Food Sovereignty, Right to Food, International Trade and Finance) | Susan Delacourt (Pierre Elliott Trudeau Mentor) | Columnist with the Toronto Star and iPolitics, Instructor, Strategic Communications and Journalism at Carleton University (Political Culture) |
| Wendell Adjetey (Pierre Elliott Trudeau Scholar) | Yale University, PhD Candidate in History and African American Studies (Migration, Diaspora, Civil Rights and Labour Activism, African Canadian and African American Studies) | | |

Appendix 3. Speaker Bios



Anelyse Weiler

Anelyse Weiler is a PhD student in Sociology at the University of Toronto and a 2015 Trudeau Scholar. Her research, teaching and advocacy focus on movements to advance farmworker food sovereignty, health equity and sustainable agriculture. She has been involved in community-based research with partners like Sustain Ontario and volunteer advocacy with the BC Employment Standards Coalition, Justicia for Migrant Workers, and the Umbrella Mobile Clinic. Some of her current side projects are focused on meat consumption, farm animal labour, and food security in northern Canada.



Chief Kristina Kane

Chief Kristina Kane was born and raised in Whitehorse and comes from the Chief Jim Boss Family of the Ta'an Kwach'an Council. She is now serving in her second term as Chief after being reelected on October 19, 2015. She was first elected on October 15th, 2012, after serving as Councillor for her First Nation for 3 years. In 1902, Chief Kane's great-grandfather, Chief Jim Boss wrote to England and the Commonwealth to articulate the need for First Nations government to be respected. His message was clear: protect the rights of citizens and the power of the Ta'an Kwach'an self-government. Chief Kane strives to honour her ancestors and the important work that they did as well as working towards a bright future for Ta'an Kwach'an citizens and the whole of the Yukon through effective collaboration.



Chief Mathieya Alatini

During her formative years, Math'ieya Alatini was fortunate to have lived a traditional lifestyle in the lands surrounding Burwash Landing, Yukon. She also had the opportunity to live and learn the city life in Victoria, BC. These two lifestyles have given her the ability to see both sides of the picture. Chief Alatini graduated from the University of Victoria with a degree in Commerce, after which she returned home to work with her First Nation. She spent a few years working as a Capital Projects Manager creating infrastructure in Burwash. The pull of the bright lights and big city however was very strong so she and her husband moved to Vancouver in 2001. While in Vancouver, Math'ieya worked with Aboriginal Tourism Association of BC, CESO Aboriginal Services, and the Department of Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada. The experience that Math'ieya has gained in her diverse history is now assisting her in her role as Chief of Kluane First Nation.



Diana Bronson

Diana joined Food Secure Canada as Executive Director in March 2012 and has worked to strengthen FSC as the national voice of the Canadian food movement. Diana is trained as a political scientist and sociologist and has a professional background in journalism (CBC radio) and international human rights (Rights & Democracy) as well as international climate and technology negotiations at the UN (ETC Group.) Diana's research, policy and advocacy work has centered on supporting social movements around the world, critically reviewing and educating around international trade and investment agreements, looking at the impacts of Canadian mining companies, and assessing the social and environmental impacts of emerging technologies. She has participated in many international negotiations on human rights, climate change, technology and sustainable development over the past two decades. She also worked in a senior position on Parliament Hill from 2006-2008. She lives and works in Montreal.



Dr. Joseph LeBlanc

Dr. Joseph LeBlanc is a life-long Northern Ontarian. Passionate about social planning, he has extensive expertise in community-based research and development throughout the region. Before joining the Social Planning Council of Sudbury in 2015, he worked for a diverse range of organizations, including academic institutions, non-profits, and Aboriginal non-profit governance corporations. He holds an Honours Bachelor of Environmental Studies in Forest Conservation, an Environmental Management Certificate, and a PhD in Forest Sciences from Lakehead University.

Contribution to FSC: Joseph has been an active member and leader with the Northern and Remote Food Network and Indigenous Circle of FSC over the last 4 years. He is able to support FSC on indigenous issues, policy and community building.



Kathleen Wayne

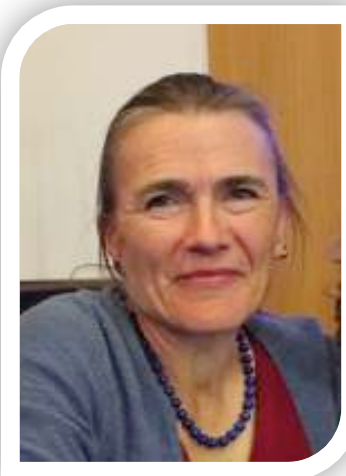
Kathleen Wayne, MS RD LD, is WIC State Director and the Family Nutrition Program Manager for Alaska's Division of Public Assistance within the Department of Health and Social Services. She is a mother of two teenage daughters, a voice teacher, artist, and an occasional opera singer. Kathleen has worked in and administered local and state food and nutrition programs in Alaska for 30 years. Kathleen has become familiar with effective and efficient managing skills that provide statewide services across Alaska's large geographic mass and preserve its culturally diverse heritage. A key factor to Kathleen's success is seeking and nurturing program partnerships. Since October 2015, Kathleen, Norma Kassi, and other Alaska and Northern Canada partners have met to share, listen, and collect resources, knowledge and experiences on ways to support healthy northern communities.

The emerging Arctic Food Security and Nutrition Network (AFSNN) is a one-of-a-kind cross-border partnership to help local, state, government, academic, and non-government partners identify solutions to increasing food security, championing the work of the AFSNN members, and promoting broad cross-border partnerships to address hunger and nutrition concerns of the North.



Norma Kassi

Co-founder of the Arctic Institute of Community-Based Research, and currently the Director of Indigenous Collaboration, Norma has been working on issues related to contaminants, food security, climate change, wildlife protection, youth engagement, and building community capacity for over 30 years. Norma is Vuntut Gwitchin (People of the Lakes) of Old Crow, Yukon Canada and carries vast experiences and Indigenous Knowledge that is reflected in her work with AICBR. Raised in Old Crow and in the wetlands of Old Crow Flats, Norma gained a great depth of traditional, scientific and ecological knowledge. In 1985, Norma was elected into Yukon's Legislative Assembly as Member for Vuntut Gwitchin, a position she held until 1992. During this time, Norma was selected by the Elders of to act as a spokesperson on behalf of the Gwitchin people for the preservation of the Porcupine Caribou Herd. As a spokesperson, Norma traveled extensively throughout the world educating many people about the critical and inseparable relationship of the Gwitchin people and the Porcupine Caribou Herd, and the devastating effects of proposed industrial development.



Sophia Murphy

Sophia Murphy has twenty-five years of professional experience in international development cooperation as a policy researcher and advocate. Her work is focused on multilateral and regional trade and investment agreements and their relationship to food security and rural development. In 2013 she embarked on a full-time PhD programme at the University of British Columbia's Institute for Resources, Environment and Sustainability. She holds a Vanier scholarship and is a 2013 Trudeau scholar. She serves as one of 15 members of the High Level Panel of Experts advising the UN Committee on World Food Security.

Appendix 4. Resources

Arctic Institute of Community-Based Research

- Food security - <http://www.aicbr.ca/food-security/>
- Climate change adaptation - <http://www.aicbr.ca/climate-change-adaptation/>
- Healthy Living Inventory Maps - <http://www.aicbr.ca/healthy-living-inventory/>

Department of Health and Social Services, State of Alaska

- Alaska Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children - Nutrition Education Resources - <http://tinyurl.com/zvf63fj>
- Arctic Food Security & Nutrition Network (AFSNN) - AFSNN is group of experts in nutrition and food security working in areas of policy, research, service provision, and advocacy across the Canadian North and Alaska - *for more information and how to get involved, contact: kathleen.wayne@alaska.gov*

Food Secure Canada

- Paying for Nutrition: A report on food costing in the North - <http://tinyurl.com/jc6u26w>
- Resetting the Table: A people's food policy for Canada - <http://tinyurl.com/gwr4ayh>
- Eat, Think Vote Campaign - prioritizing food policy in Canada's 2015 Federal Election - <http://tinyurl.com/j7h2smc>

Government of Yukon's Department of Energy, Mines and Resources - Agriculture Branch

- Local Food Strategy for Yukon - <http://tinyurl.com/hrhr43c>

Potluck Food Co-op

- <http://www.potluckcoop.com/>

Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Teaching and Working Farm

- In the news:
 - <http://www.trondek.ca/media.php>
 - <http://tinyurl.com/zyrp5r4>

Yukon Agriculture Association

- Yukon Farm Products & Services Guide - <http://tinyurl.com/z4kvxyy>
- Local Agricultural News - <http://tinyurl.com/zl3njym>
- Yukon Young Farmers - <http://tinyurl.com/hpcdwzm>

Yukon Anti-Poverty Coalition

- Our Food In Place: Community Food Mapping project - <http://tinyurl.com/zceqz3g>
 - Recommendations & Next Steps - <http://tinyurl.com/znut7gg>

Appendix 5. Association of Yukon Communities Questionnaires

The following list of questions and responses are from the Association of Yukon Communities Annual General Meeting in Watson Lake prior to the Roundtable. In total, we collected 29 questionnaires completed by mayors, senior municipal administrators and others from communities across Yukon.

1. What are the most important food security related issues in your community?

- **Transportation** (i.e. Road disruptions; reliance on shipping from the South)
- **Food Costs High** (i.e. Healthier food seems to cost more; high transport and shipping costs)
- **Limited Options/Suppliers** (i.e. Less competition, associated with higher costs; risks related to transportation, particularly, road closures if there is only one grocery store)
- **Limited Fresh, Local Product Availability** *Especially in winter months (i.e. Reliance on heavily processed foods; less wild game accessible; home/community gardening is important)

2. What is a recent food security success in your community that you'd like to share? (i.e. Community Garden/Greenhouse project? Educational programs? etc.)

- **Gardening & Greenhouses** (i.e. Interest is growing; many successful existing projects and new ones starting)
- **Local Retailers** (i.e. Community stores and farmers markets available in some communities; long history of food co-ops)
- **Education** (i.e. Courses in gardening and greenhouse production at Yukon College)
- **Public Health Initiatives** (i.e. Developing a shopping list and meal planning help available; nutrition and food classes in school for grades 1-12)
- **Policy Change** (i.e. A community convinced wholesaler to absorb some of freight costs - food became cheaper so consumers were able to buy more)

3. What actions would contribute to your community members being more food secure now?

- **Local, Affordable Fresh Food Available** (i.e. Community gardens/greenhouses; fresh, locally grown/made foods in stores/markets more regularly; more food co-ops with wholesale vegetables and fruits)
- **More Education** (i.e. Courses and classes available around waste reduction and tips/info on gardening)
- **More Support** (i.e. Subsidies/bylaws/incentives for greenhouse/farming/animal husbandry; support those most in need as well as those community groups offering opportunities to improve food security; more agricultural land available and easier access to soil; invest in rideshare, cooperatives and tool sharing)

continued on next page...

*Mayors of Dawson City, Town of Faro and City of Whitehorse founded the Association of Yukon Communities in 1974 under the name of Association of Yukon Municipalities. The Association was created to improve and unite governments at the community level to advance community ambitions, thereby increasing communities' capacities for sustainable, strong and effective governing and improved quality of life for Yukon residents. AYC Incorporated Members include Dawson City, City of Whitehorse, Towns of Faro and Watson Lake, and Villages of Haines Junction, Carmacks, Mayo, and Teslin. Associated Members include Kluane First Nation, Tagish Local Advisory Council, Hamlet of Mount Lorne, Marsh Lake, and South Klondike.

Source: <http://www.ayc-yk.ca/>

4. What actions would contribute to your community being more food secure in the future

- **Access** (i.e. Improved access to locally grown foods & local meats in restaurants and stores; develop a process for sharing locally processed or hunted foods)
- **Distribution & Transport** (i.e. Distribution process for those in need - include low income in free food distribution (through community gardens); lower freight and fuel costs)
- **Education & Public Engagement** (i.e. Encourage youth and others to to garden/reduce waste/compost; teach self-sufficiency (including information on wild foods - seasonal preparation/preservation; have ongoing discussions with residents and communities around food security; create agency or organization focusing on food security in Territory)
- **Waste Management** (i.e. Encouraging community compost)
- **Support** (i.e. More agricultural land/incentives for growing available (including greenhouse subsidies and grant funding); government investment in farm tool sharing, egg grading and abattoire capabilities)
- **Innovation, Research & Partnerships** (i.e. Explore ways to get food out to communities more regularly and grow locally year-round; research biomass heated compost; create partnerships and work together with municipalities, Yukon Government and First Nations on growing food and raising livestock locally)

5. What groups are most active in food security in your community?

- **Community Groups/Non-Profits** (i.e. Community Associations, for example, Mount Lorne; Food Bank; food co-ops; YAPC; farmers markets)
- **City/Village** (i.e. Composting/recycling initiatives; Chamber of Commerce in Watson Lake)
- **Private Industry** (i.e. Composting and recycling outlets; retailers, for example, Klondike Kate's in Dawson City)
- **Producers** (i.e. Local growers; citizens, mainly those aged 40 years or older; community gardeners)
- **Funders & Private Organizations** (i.e. Yukon Fish & Wildlife Enhancement Trust; Economic Development organizations, for example, CREDO in Faro)
- **Educational Institutions** (i.e. Yukon College, schools, for example St. Elias Community School in Haines Junction)
- **Governments** (i.e. First Nations)

6. Are there projects planned or underway to increase food security in your community?

- **Gardening/Greenhouse Projects at Local Level** (i.e. First Nations, such as Teslin Tlingit and Na-Cho Nyak Dun; communities, such as Lower Post)
- **Markets for Local Foods** (i.e. Farmer Roberts in Whitehorse; farmers markets in some communities)
- **Innovation & Education** (i.e. Yukon College (courses and feasibility studies around greenhouse/gardening); Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Teaching and Working Farm)
- **Government** (i.e. Commitment to increase agricultural acreage)

7. Any other comments?

- **Access to Healthy Foods** (i.e. Buying healthy is expensive)
- **Fundraisers** (i.e. Need more programs available outside Whitehorse, such as selling vegetable baskets instead of chocolates in schools)
- **Access to Traditional Foods** (i.e. Issues around fishing restrictions are very important in many First Nations (some communities haven't set nets for 17 years); develop mechanism for locally processed or harvested food to be available for others to use)
- **Education & Research** (i.e. Food safety; where to go from here - follow up after report; gardening skills in schools; greenhouse building - throughout winter; research in farming methods)
- **Support** (from government - i.e. Farming subsidies and micro-loans)





*Food security means you can address other issues like
mental health, leisure, etc."*

- Roundtable participant

