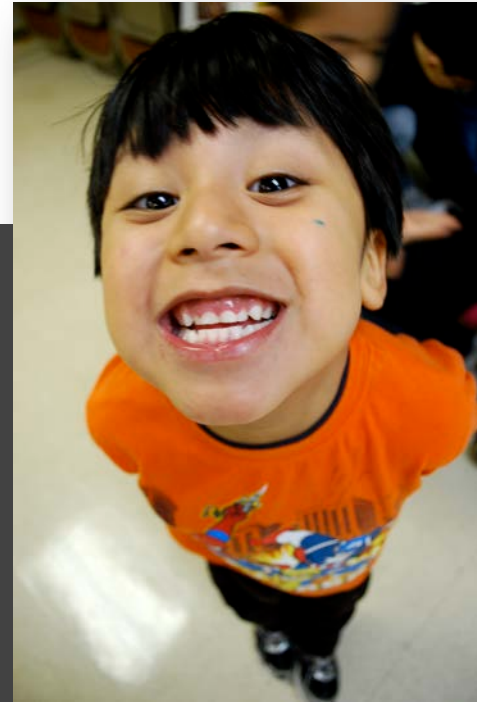




Cultivating Community



The Growth and Goals of the
New Brunswick Community
Gardening Coalition

Spring 2012 Independent Study

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To assist with the growth and management of the newly-formed New Brunswick Community Gardening Coalition and assess its effectiveness as a community development strategy.



objective

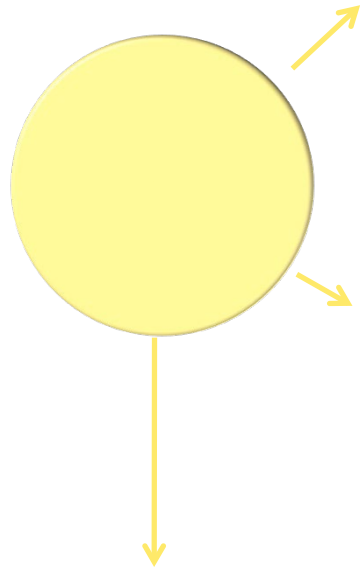
Main Actors





Seed Swap

New Brunswick Community Garden's Coalition's Kick Off Event



Community Building

Resource Sharing

Awareness Spreading

Three Goals

of the March's Seed Swap

Conclusions Reached:

- Informal setting is more conducive to building networks
- Provide food and they will come
- Laughter is a universal language



Issues to Address:

- Language and Literacy Barriers
- Cultural Relevancies



Goal #1:

Community Building

Goal #2:

Resource Sharing

Conclusions Reached:

- Unique and diverse skill sets across the gardeners
- Different ages, backgrounds, life stages, etc
- Looking forward to next year



Issues to Address :

- Encourage Future Sharing
- Talk with one another, not at one another



Conclusions Reached:

- Build transitions into program
- Word of mouth is an effective form of communication



Issues to Address:

- Length and Accuracy of Translated Instructions
- How to test pre and post knowledge

Goal #3:

Awareness Spreading

Where is your garden plot?

Do you know the name of Your Garden Coordinator?

How long have you been working in the your garden?

Do your children participate in the garden process?

Future Workshop Ideas?

What methods of preservation do you practice?

Gardeners' Survey



Do you have adequate access to gardening tools?

Would you be interested in becoming an Urban Master Gardener?

How did you hear about the Seed Swap?

What do you grow in your garden? What would you like to grow?

Season's Goals?

Question #10:

Season's Goals?

“grow more.”



“continuing to learn how to garden fresh vegetables”

“learn more.”

“to have greater yields.”

“cosechar muchas plantas”

“Cosechar todo en mejor estado y dedicacion a los plantos.”



“start earlier.”

“sembrar lo mas que se pueda”



Question #11:

What have you grown?

“lettuce.”

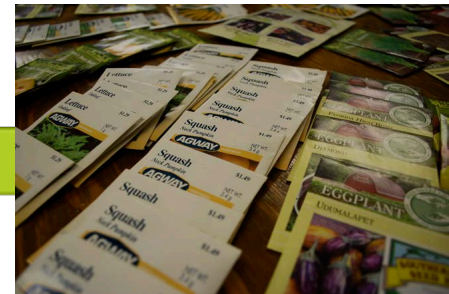
“chiles”

“tomatoes”

“carrots”

“peppers”

“radishes”



“chiles”

“cilantro”

“tomatoes”

“broccoli”

“peas”

“radishes”

“green beans”

Question #12:

What do you want to grow?

New Brunswick Community Gardening Coalition

Short-Term Goals

Create workshop series for gardeners

1. Methods of Preservation
2. Composting
3. Gardening 101
4. Season Extending: Hints & Tips
5. Possible Statewide field trips to other local gardens?

Set up quarterly focus groups with gardeners

1. Solicit gardener feedback on what they would like to see the coalition spearhead
2. workshop/field trip ideas
3. identify community leaders

Expand upon NBFOOD.ORG

1. Develop a streamlined method of communication used for resource sharing and community development



New Brunswick Community Garden Coalition

Long-Term Goals

Become a regional model for community gardening coalitions

1. Marketable
2. Scalable
3. Versatile

Expand Our Community Gardens

Strengthen Community and University Partnerships

Promote Urban Agriculture in New Brunswick, NJ

1. Build up Urban Gardeners as Community Leaders
2. Strengthen business savvy
3. increase food security in New Brunswick, NJ



New Brunswick Community Garden Coalition



Questions or More Information?

visit NBFood.org today!

Stay tuned for future workshops, upcoming meetings, and all things gardens!
