

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, February 23, 2021
7:00pm

In Attendance Via Virtual Zoom Meeting:

Trustees:

Sheila McDonnell, Board Chair
Michelle Waite, Vice Chair
Janice Caton, Trustee
Tonia Frawley, Trustee
Kat Hawksby, Trustee
Sarah Jane Howe, Trustee
Cristi May Sacht, Trustee

Staff:

Tom Demeo, Superintendent of Schools
Brenda Hooker, Secretary-Treasurer
Geoff Manning, Assistant Superintendent
Candice Hilton, Director of Finance
Ian Heselgrave, Director of Operations
Esther Shatz, Director of Instruction (Student Services)
Allan Douglas, Director of Instructional Services K-12
Josh Porter, Director of Information Technology

Regrets:

Paul Berry, Director of Instruction (Health & Safety)

Recording Secretary:

Marlene Leach, Sr. Executive Assistant

1. Call to Order

Board Chair, Sheila McDonnell called the meeting to order at 7:01pm and acknowledged that the meeting is being held on the traditional territories of the K'ómoks First Nation.

2. Adoption of Agenda

Recommendation:

THAT the Board of Education adopt the February 23, 2021 Regular Public Board Meeting Agenda as presented.

CARRIED

3. Board Meeting Minutes

Recommendation:

THAT the Board of Education adopt the January 26, 2021 Regular Public Board Meeting Minutes as presented.

CARRIED

4. Old Business

None

5. Report on In-Camera Meetings

A. In-Camera Education Committee of the Whole Meeting – February 09, 2020

- Other

B. In-Camera Meeting - February 23, 2021

- Other

6. Board Chair’s Report

None

7. Presentations / Delegations

- A. School Food Programs – Live via Zoom, presentation by Maurita Prato, Executive Director of LUSH Valley Food Action Society.
Board Information**

8. Education Committee Meeting – February 09, 2021

Recommendation:

THAT the Board of Education receive the Education Committee Board Report as presented.

CARRIED

Next Education Committee Meeting:

TOPIC: TBD
DATE: April 13, 2021
TIME: 6:30 pm
LOCATION: Zoom Meeting (live and recorded)

9. Strategic Direction

A. Superintendent

- i. District News**
Board Information

B. Assistant Superintendent

i. Proposed District Calendars

Recommendation:

THAT the Board of Education accept the draft 2021/22, 2022/23, 2023/24 regular Calendars and Distance Learning (Navigate) Calendars for consultation purposes as the proposed calendars for the next school years.

CARRIED

C. Secretary-Treasurer

**i. Enrolment Projections 2021-22 – Verbal Report
Board Information**

D. Human Resources

i. Retirements and Recognition

None

10. Board Standing Committee Reports

A. Finance Committee Board Report – February 17, 2021

Recommendations:

THAT School District No. 71 (Comox Valley) Amended Annual Budget Bylaw for 2020-21 in the amount of \$122,952,276 receive its first reading.

CARRIED

THAT School District No. 71 (Comox Valley) Amended Annual Budget Bylaw for 2020-21 in the amount of \$122,952,276 receive its second reading.

CARRIED

THAT the Board unanimously agree to suspend the requirements of the School Act to have the third reading of the Amended Annual Budget Bylaw at a subsequent meeting.

CARRIED

THAT School District No. 71 (Comox Valley) Amended Annual Budget Bylaw for 2020-21 in the amount of \$122,952,276 receive its third and final reading.

CARRIED

Recommendation:

THAT the Board of Education receive the Finance Committee Board Report as presented.

CARRIED

B. Facilities Committee Board Report– February 17, 2021

Recommendation:

THAT the Board of Education approve DDC upgrades for Brooklyn and Queneesh Elementary Schools. The funding for the project will first come from the Federal COVID-19 fund and the remainder from Local Capital Reserve, to a maximum of \$425,000 from the Facilities reserve.

CARRIED

Recommendation:

THAT the Board of Education receive the Facilities Committee Board Report as presented.

CARRIED

C. Policy – Ad Hoc Committee Board Report - February 01 and 22, 2021

Janice Caton, Trustee – Verbal Report
Board Information

11. Board Business

A. Board Committees 2020-21

Recommendation:

THAT the Board of Education approve the Board Committees 2020-21 schedule as presented.

CARRIED

B. Trustee School Liaisons 2020-21

Recommendation:

THAT the Board of Education approve the Trustee School Liaisons 2020-21 schedule as presented.

CARRIED

C. Notice of Motion: Janice Caton, Trustee (City of Courtenay)

The Board of Education write a letter to the Ministry of Education to consider enhancing Mental Health services and education for all K-12 students.
Board Information

- D. BC School Trustees Association Provincial Council Meeting – February 20, 2021**
Janice Caton, Trustee - Verbal Report
Board Information

12. Board Correspondence

None

13. Public Question Period

14. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:47pm.

Board Approved on:
March 16, 2021


Certified Correct:




Brenda Hooker, CPA, CGA
Secretary-Treasurer



Sheila McDonnell
Board Chair



LUSH VALLEY




Presentation to

SD 71- Feb 23rd, 2021-
The power of our
partnership!

WHO ARE WE?

Vision: A region where healthy, local food is at the heart of community well-being.

Mission: We support the Comox Valley community in gaining food-systems skills and knowledge to increase food security, self-sufficiency, and local food production across the region.



LUSH VALLEY

DID YOU KNOW?

FOOD SECURITY

exists when all people, at all times have availability and access to safe, sufficient, nutritious food to maintain a healthy and active life.

1 IN 5

20% of Comox Valley children experience poverty

31%

of Comox Valley Food Bank users are children



LUSH VALLEY

Food Action Society



Delivering 'Good Food Box' hampers by School Bus!



Good Food Box Program- Outcomes-(SD 71 Students and Families made up $\frac{1}{3}$ of our GFB Recipients) From April 8th, 2021- December 18th 2021; We supported approximately 200 households of SD71 students and families, with **3833 Good Food Boxes (each box is a week's worth of fresh food)!**

Good Food Box 2020 Stats

- Total "GFB units" distributed April-December 2020: 11,447 (one third of recipients are students and their families)
- Households served: 604, including 1567 people
- Waitlist 72 (From December)
- Partnered with 18 farmers, roughly \$150, 000 going to Comox Valley producers
- Partnered with School District 71, Indigenous Education, and many community agencies and organizations.

Healthy Student Meal Program
Serving 800+ students each week!





The cover features a white background on the left with three logos: 'upland agricultural consulting' (a green stylized 'U' with a plant), 'LUSH VALLEY' (a red apple), and 'BRITISH COLUMBIA' (a sun and mountains logo). The right side is a dark red background with white text.

**Local Food in
Comox Valley
K-12 Schools**

An Aggregation Feasibility Report
and Business Plan

March 2020

Steering Committee

Steering Committee

- Arzeena Hamir, Amara Farm and CVRD Board Director
- Charlene Sieffert, Siefferts Farm Market
- James McKenicher, LUSH Valley and Butchers Block
- Shawn Thir, Executive Director, Courtenay Elementary Community School Society
- Gerald Fussel, Principal, Lake Trail Middle School
- Megan Cowling, Brooklyn Elementary and Regional PAC
- Carmen Wakeling, Eatmore Sprouts
- Karen Grober, Fiesta Greenhouses
- Bruce Carlos, District Principal Indigenous Education
- Jenn Meilleur, Farm to School BC
- Maurita Prato, Lush Valley Food Action Society (ex officio)
- Jill Hatfield, Regional Agrologist, BC Ministry of Agriculture (ex officio)

- **The Steering Committee met 4 times over the course of the project between October 2019 and February 2020**

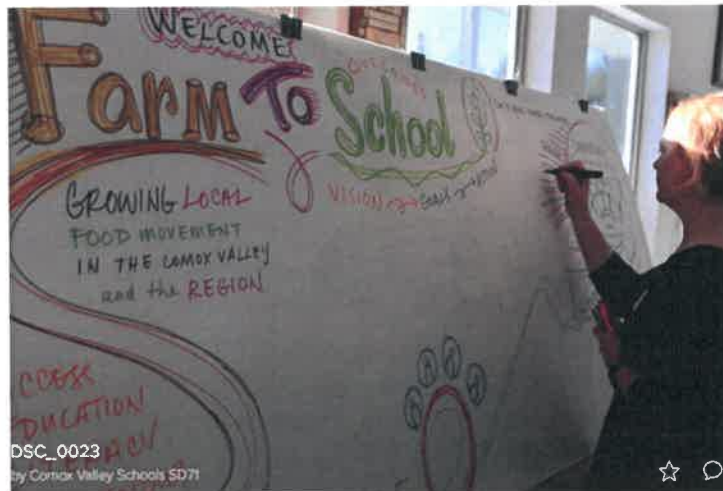
Project Objective

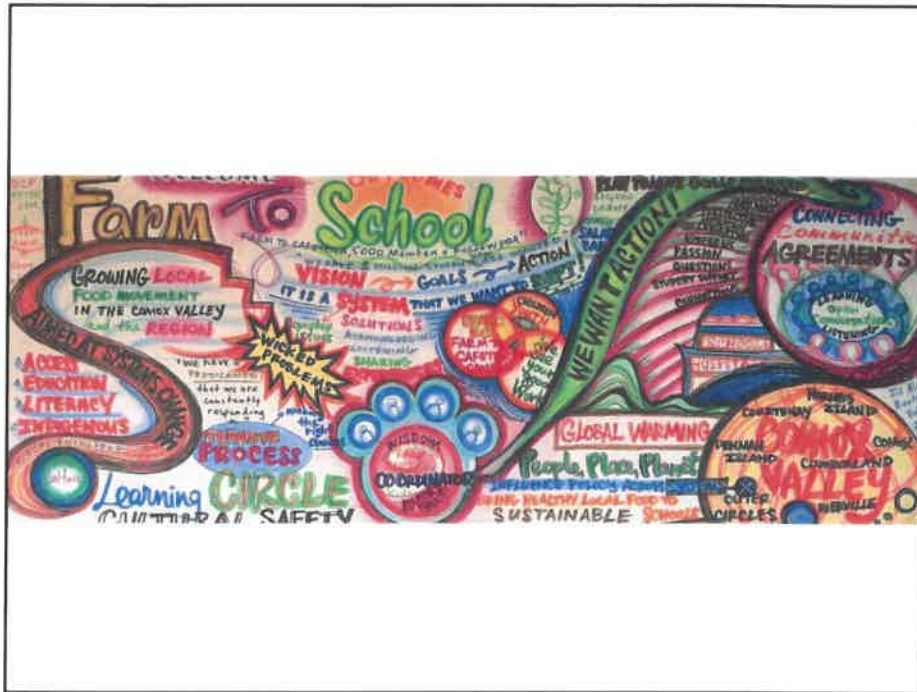
To explore and assess opportunities for regional food aggregation in the Comox Valley to supply the K-12 school system and other potential markets.

The Project will support the Steering Committee to assess readiness for an aggregation initiative and, based on these results, evaluate options for aggregation models that could support economies of scale related to food storage, preparation, storage, distribution, transportation and small-scale processing for producers and schools in the region.

4 Recommendations

1. Establish an Organization-run Aggregation Model (LUSH Valley)
2. Operate as a Non-Profit Program
3. Develop and Grow Key Partnerships
4. Work Towards Securing Infrastructure





Comox Valley Farm2 School Coordinating Circle:

Draft Vision:

Food is medicine and nourishment. We celebrate the intimate connection between children, healthy food, community, culture, and planet. Local food is at the centre of our schools, integrated into all aspects of learning - in school yards, classrooms, farms, and Indigenous community.

Lens: We do this work with a focus on cultural safety, social justice, sustainability, and collective action toward Reconciliation. We are part of the global climate action movement.

Goals: Centralized School / Food Coordinator and Hub, 2. Food Programs at Every School 3. Food Literacy Curriculum Development 4. Community Supports for School Food

Having a regional food-system education coordinator would support these 4 goals



Coalition for Healthy School Food



- 140 non-profit **member organizations** in every province and territory
- Thousands of experienced and passionate community-based school food practitioners, Indigenous leaders and national health, education and philanthropic organizations

A National School Food Program for Canada

- Strengthen the health and well-being of students, their families and communities.
- Support job creation in agriculture, food service, construction and other hard-hit sectors.
- Support infrastructure and equipment such as kitchen and cafeteria retrofits, greenhouses and gardens, and the purchase of appliances and tools.
- A crucial support to families, especially women as schools reopen (similar to childcare).
- Take pressure off of the family budget and be a support for the millions of children and youth who are unable to access healthy food.



Next Steps- LUSH Valley and SD71

- We need more support for our 2021 Good Food Box program- which supports our local farmers and the local Economy and our vulnerable students and families. Would the SD enter into conversations on how to get more local food into classrooms/homes for students?
- Supporting School Gardens and Food Literacy in Classrooms- We will run a small pilot in spring 2021 with 4 school gardens, and are awaiting a final report from Farm2School. Will SD71 enter into conversation with LUSH and other partners regarding a regional food literacy coordinator?
- Would SD 71 be interested in support the Coalition for Healthy School Food (LUSH Valley is a member).



Thank you

LUSH Valley Food Action Society
PO Box 20008
Courtenay, BC V9N 0A7

www.lushvalley.org
admin@lushvalley.org
250-331-0152



LUSH VALLEY