



CITY OF WHITEHORSE  
**LOCAL FOOD &  
URBAN AGRICULTURE STUDY**  
POTENTIAL ACTIONS  
2020-2030

OCTOBER 2020



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Background Information	Online
Food Project Series	Online
Public Survey 1 - What We Heard, Input Summary	Online
Public Survey 2 - What We Heard, Input Summary	Online





## Executive Summary

The City of Whitehorse's (the City's) *Local Food and Urban Agriculture Study (LFUAS)* is the culmination of a 4-year review and engagement process led by the Planning & Sustainability Services department, with financial support from the *Canada-Yukon Growing Forward 2 Fund* and *Canadian Agricultural Partnership*.

The LFUAS process was initiated in recognition that supporting local food and urban agriculture can bring many benefits to Whitehorse, including strengthening the local economy, better connecting residents to their food system, bringing people together in pursuits that help to build community, providing connection to land, nature, and culture, and boosting resiliency.

Developing the LFUAS fulfills implementation items identified in the City's *Whitehorse Sustainability Plan (2015)* and *Community Economic Development Strategy (2015)*. The study's *Potential Actions* document aligns with the directive established in the City's *Official Community Plan (2010)* to support local food production and complements objectives identified in the Government of Yukon's *Local Food Strategy for Yukon (2016)*.

The LFUAS provides a cross-departmental work plan that, through implementation, can help to lead Whitehorse towards a more food-secure future over the next 10 years, and beyond. It identifies opportunities for the City to confirm its commitment to supporting a robust local food system that is **sustainable, resilient, and accessible** to all Whitehorse residents.

**Eight overarching goals and 67 potential actions** are described, which the City can undertake or provide support to other organizations to implement. Many of the actions build on initiatives and themes that the City is currently working on, while others reflect new ideas, directions, and partnerships.

Food system goals and potential actions are categorized under the following components:

- > **Production:** 31 actions to increase local food production at all scales, from backyard plots to commercial farms, and on public lands.
- > **Wild Harvesting:** 7 actions to increase opportunities to build cross-cultural knowledge and skills for the sustainable use of wild local foods and medicines.
- > **Processing and Preservation:** 4 actions to increase opportunities for processing and preserving locally sourced foods.
- > **Distribution and Retailing:** 4 actions to increase opportunities for distributing and retailing locally sourced and prepared foods.
- > **Nutrition Support:** 5 actions to improve access to fresh and affordable local food, for all residents.
- > **Consumption:** 2 actions to increase consumption of local foods in homes, businesses, institutions, and at community meetings and events.
- > **Resource Recovery:** 5 actions to increase the recovery of food and production, sale, and use of compost for food production.
- > **System-wide:** 9 actions to provide system-wide support to advance all food system components.

A timeline target is identified for each potential action, with **27 actions intended for the short-term** (to occur within less than 5 years), **7 actions intended for the medium-term** (5-7 years), and **33 actions intended to be ongoing** (whenever capacity is available, and continuing for 10 years or beyond). The following collective initiatives to update existing City plans and bylaws can capture priority actions, and provide a kick-start on implementation:

- > **Official Community Plan update**, to revise policy directives relating to the Agriculture land use designation and explore expanding the designation to additional areas within Whitehorse.
- > **Zoning Bylaw update**, to respond to trends and interests in small-scale and indoor agriculture activities that offer growing methods well suited for Whitehorse's cold climate and urban context.
- > **Animal Control Bylaw update**, to improve regulations on hen keeping and coop development, expand allowances for beekeeping, and set limits for livestock kept in country residential areas.
- > **Business License Bylaw (and associated fees) update**, to better reflect the short-term and seasonal nature of market and mobile food vending.





## 1.0 Introduction

Governments at all levels, and across Canada, are taking steps to recognize and celebrate the important role that food and agriculture play in the health, culture, identity, economy, and sustainability of communities. A growing number of municipal, provincial, territorial, and Indigenous governments have developed strategies aimed at increasing local food production, improving access to nutritious foods, and empowering residents to participate in food initiatives that help to better their communities. At the federal level, the Government of Canada released a national food policy (*Everyone at the Table!*) in June 2019 that provides a roadmap for a healthier and more sustainable food system in Canada, and recognizes the vital role that local actors can play in achieving national goals.

Food and agriculture have been at the forefront of many recent discussions here in Yukon. Following two years of engagement, the Government of Yukon finalized its *Local Food Strategy for Yukon* in May 2016 to support and encourage the production and consumption of Yukon-grown food across the territory, with an implementation horizon of 2021. Research and advocacy groups have contributed to the conversation through projects that have highlighted the barriers faced by marginalized residents relating to food access and affordability. These and other themes were explored later in May 2016 at the *Yukon Food Security Roundtable*, hosted by the Arctic Institute of Community-Based Research. This cross-sectoral event involved 79 participants and resulted in 50 recommendations for reducing food insecurity in Yukon.

The City increased its participation in the local food security movement in the summer of 2016 by embarking on a process that would take a dedicated look at the organization's municipal tools (e.g. plans, bylaws, policies, grants, programs, events, facilities, services, and products) and assess how these can be used to support a stronger local food system, within the urban context of Whitehorse. The City's *Local Food and Urban Agriculture Study (LFUAS)* is the culmination of a 4-year review and engagement process, with financial support provided by the *Canada-Yukon Growing Forward 2 Fund* and the *Canadian Agricultural Partnership*.

## Highlight Box 1:

### Commitment to Enhancing Local Food Security

The 2015 *Whitehorse Sustainability Plan* was adopted by City Council to establish 12 sustainability goals that describe what the city wants to achieve in the long term. Goal 12 of the plan is to have "Resilient, Accessible Food Systems". Advancing this goal helps to support related goals that focus on having livable neighbourhoods, economic diversity, social equity, culture, and waste reduction.

In a **sustainable** system, food is produced, processed, bought, sold, eaten, and recovered in ways that provide social, cultural, and economic benefits, while avoiding harm to the environment. In a **resilient** system, food availability is maintained throughout fluctuations in environmental and economic conditions. In an **accessible** system, all residents have affordable and healthy food options available to them, and inclusive opportunities exist for residents to grow food and participate in local food culture.

Development of the LFUAS fulfills implementation items identified in the City's *Whitehorse Sustainability Plan* (2015) and *Community Economic Development Strategy* (2015). The study aligns with the *Official Community Plan* (2010) directive to support local food production and complements the objectives identified in the territorial government's *Local Food Strategy for Yukon* (2016). It draws inspiration from food planning successes achieved in other municipalities, and reflects the input and ideas received from the local governments, organizations, associations, businesses, and residents who have contributed through the study's engagement process.

The LFUAS' *Potential Actions* document (this document) provides a 10-year work plan that can help Whitehorse to achieve its environmental, social, and economic goals. It identifies 8 goals and 67 potential actions that the City can take a leading or supportive role to implement. Many actions build on initiatives and themes that the City is presently working on, while other themes reflect new ideas, directions, and partnerships. Pursuing funding opportunities available through territorial and federal government sources will be key to achieving implementation success.

## 1.1 Process and Engagement

The LFUAS has been informed through an extensive review and engagement process led by the City's Planning & Sustainability Services department with the help of hired consultants to assist with research, analysis, and editing tasks (Larissa Lychenko Consulting, Tetra Tech Canada, and Raven Quest Consulting).

The process began with a scan of City plans (5), bylaws (11), policies (5), grants (2), programs and events (4), facilities (5), and services and products (6) that connect to various aspects of the local food system (see list in Appendix). This was followed by interviews with staff in the following City departments that work on food and agriculture related themes: Land & Building Services, Water & Waste Services, Bylaw Services, Engineering Services, Parks & Community Development, and Recreation & Facility Services.

A review of the food security work carried out by other local organizations occurred to ensure that the City's process could provide a forward-moving dialogue that builds on previous community discussions and reports. A scan also occurred of strategies, policies, and regulations developed in other municipalities across Canada to learn about the innovative tools and initiatives being implemented elsewhere, and explore options that could potentially be successful if implemented in Whitehorse.

Engagement tools have included public surveys, focus group sessions, and interviews held with businesses, community and gardening associations, and individuals involved in food activities (Figure 1, next page). The project team met with staff in various departments at other governments (Government of Yukon, Kwanlin Dün First Nation, and Ta'an Kwächän Council) for input and to help ensure suitability of the goals and potential actions identified within this document.



Figure 1: Participation by the Numbers

 Timeline:	 Input Channel:	 Participants:
Summer 2016	<b>City Staff Interviews:</b> <i>Various departments</i>	17
Summer 2016 and ongoing	<b>External Interviews:</b> <i>Governments, associations, businesses, and individuals</i>	47
Summer 2016	<b>Public Surveys:</b> <i>Challenges, opportunities, and interests</i>	159
Spring 2017	<i>Food access, community gardens, and City compost</i>	296
Fall 2017	<b>Focus Group Sessions:</b> <i>Hens and coops</i>	6
Fall 2017	<i>Beekeeping</i>	5
Fall 2018	<i>Indoor agriculture and processing</i>	10
Summer 2020	<b>Draft Release:</b> <i>Comment submissions</i>	14
<b>Interactions</b>		<b>554</b>

## 1.2 What Does 'Local Food' Mean?

The LFUAS uses a regional sense of the term 'local food' to recognize the important contribution that producers outside of city limits make to the diet of Whitehorse residents, and to encompass the wild foods and medicines found in harvest areas within reach of urban residents (Figure 2, below). Goals and actions proposed in this document focus on the area located within the municipal boundary of Whitehorse.

Figure 2: Spectrum of Local Food



## 1.3 What is 'Urban Agriculture'?

The term 'urban agriculture' is used in the LFUAS to encompass all commercial and recreational agriculture activities that occur within Whitehorse city limits, from core out to country residential neighbourhoods, and including commercial and industrial lands. While the focus of urban agriculture is usually on producing food, it can also be used to add amenities and visual interest to urban spaces. Farms, market gardens, edible landscaping, and community and residential gardens are common elements.

Urban agriculture can occur outdoors or indoors using a variety of structures and systems. Exterior production methods often involve the use of raised soil beds and season extenders, such as hoop houses and cold frames. Warehouses, greenhouses, and shipping containers are structures that can be used for indoor production, often in conjunction with vertical and non-soil based growing systems, such as aeroponics, hydroponics, and aquaponics. Rooftops and balconies can also be used to grow food, which is commonly seen in denser urban centres where land availability may be limited.

## 1.4 Why Support Local Food and Urban Agriculture?

The benefits of supporting local food and urban agriculture are numerous, and extend beyond just increasing food supply, for the ways they can:

- > **Be good for the economy**, by creating employment in the 'green' sector, providing job diversity, and keeping food revenues within the community.
- > **Be good for the environment**, by reducing the distance that food travels from source to table.
- > **Connect residents to their food system**, by providing visible and accessible opportunities for demonstration, learning, and employment.
- > **Encourage accountability**, by connecting consumers to nearby producers, allowing residents to ask questions and learn about the inputs and methods used to produce food.
- > **Provide opportunities for social cohesion and inclusion**, by bringing people together in gardens, markets, and kitchens to grow and enjoy food, while building skills and relationships.
- > **Provide connection to land, nature, and culture**, by promoting outdoor activity that involves growing food and harvesting wild foods and medicines in wilderness areas.
- > **Increase self-sufficiency**, by building local capacity for food production and reducing reliance on imported foods.





## 2.0 Our Food System

Whitehorse is part of a far-reaching, intercontinental food system. Simply described, a 'food system' is the path that food travels from its point of origin to point of consumption or disposal.

The vast majority of Yukon's food travels 2,000 km or more to reach consumers. Most arrives by truck from producers in southern Canada, USA, Mexico, and other locations in Central and South America. Some is shipped from abroad to ports in southern Canada before starting the truck journey north.

Estimates indicate that Yukon is commercially producing only ~1-2% of the food consumed within the territory<sup>1,2</sup>. An important contribution to local diet also comes from food grown in community and residential gardens, and wild foods and medicines harvested from natural areas. Data is limited so quantities are unknown, but the health, social, and cultural contributions made by non-commercial sources are generally well understood.



Figure 3: Food Commercially Produced in Yukon, 2012

Importing food provides residents with many benefits, including year-round availability of produce and variety in selection; but reliance on a long food-supply chain can have negative consequences as well. A large carbon footprint is generated from transport, and supply routes are vulnerable to disruptions. For many residents, the experience of seeing empty grocery store shelves for several days during a washout of the Alaska Highway in 2012 was a wake-up call on the fragility of the territory's food distribution network. The long distance that food travels has additional implications on its freshness, taste, and shelf life. It also means that industry revenues are leaving the territory.

## 2.1 Whitehorse Context

Whitehorse is located in southern Yukon, within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwächän Council. Five governments have jurisdiction here: the City, Kwanlin Dün First Nation, Ta'an Kwächän Council, the Government of Yukon, and the Government of Canada.

In December 2019, the population of the greater Whitehorse area (including residential areas close to the city and the community of Marsh Lake) was 32,774 people, representing ~78% of Yukon's total population<sup>3</sup>. The area is becoming increasingly multicultural, which is a diversity reflected in its social and business life. In 2019, ~15% of residents identified as being Indigenous<sup>4</sup>. In 2016, ~10% of residents identified as being part of a visible ethnic minority group other than Indigenous; an increase of ~3% from 2011. Larger ethnic communities include Filipino, South Asian, and Chinese<sup>5</sup>.

Housing affordability continues to be a significant challenge in Whitehorse, especially for low and modest income households. Between 2004 and 2017, the average cost to purchase a single detached home rose from \$184,000 to \$443,000 (adjusted for inflation); the cost of purchasing a condominium rose from \$127,000 to \$319,000<sup>6</sup>. Higher purchasing costs have translated into higher rental costs.

The 2019 'living wage' calculated for Whitehorse residents by the Yukon Anti-Poverty Coalition was \$19.07/hour<sup>7</sup>, contrast to the regulated minimum wage for Yukoners of \$12.71/hour in that same year. The calculation reflects the required earnings of a two-income household with two children to cover the costs of housing and other basic needs, such as food purchases.

### Highlight Box 2:

#### Food Security and Food Insecurity Monitoring

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations defines 'food security' as a situation that "exists when all people, at all times, have physical, social, and economic access to sufficient, safe, and nutritious food which meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life". 'Food insecurity' exists when people lack adequate access to food<sup>8</sup>.

In Canada, the measurement of food insecurity has focused primarily on household level experiences with inadequate access to food resulting from financial constraints. The proportion of income spent on housing is often a major contributing factor. Food insecurity is recognized as a public health problem that has negative impacts on the physical, mental, and social wellbeing of individuals, families, and communities.

Statistics Canada has monitored food insecurity since 2005 using the *Household Food Security Survey Module* of the *Canadian Community Health Survey*. The module features questions that focus on whether members of a given household were able to afford the food they needed over the prior 12 months.

Using the latest data available, the PROOF Food Insecurity Policy Research Centre at the University of Toronto estimated that in 2017/18, ~17% of Yukon households (~6,880 residents) were food insecure. Experiences of insecurity included missing meals, reducing food intake, or compromising on the quality, quantity, or selection of food due to lack of food, or lack of money to purchase food. Experiences also included worrying about running out of food before having access to more food, or before having more money to purchase food<sup>9</sup>.

~17% of Yukon households are food insecure

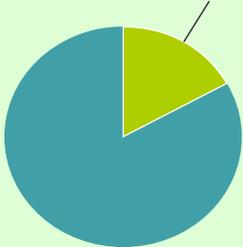


Figure 4:  
Food Insecure Households  
in Yukon, 2017/18

## 2.2 Components and Assets

Figure 5 indicates the components of Yukon's food system and the many assets that exist locally and within reach of Whitehorse residents. It shows common resource paths that connect between system components. Additional details can be found in the LFUAS' *Background Information* and *Food Project Series* documents, available on the project website.

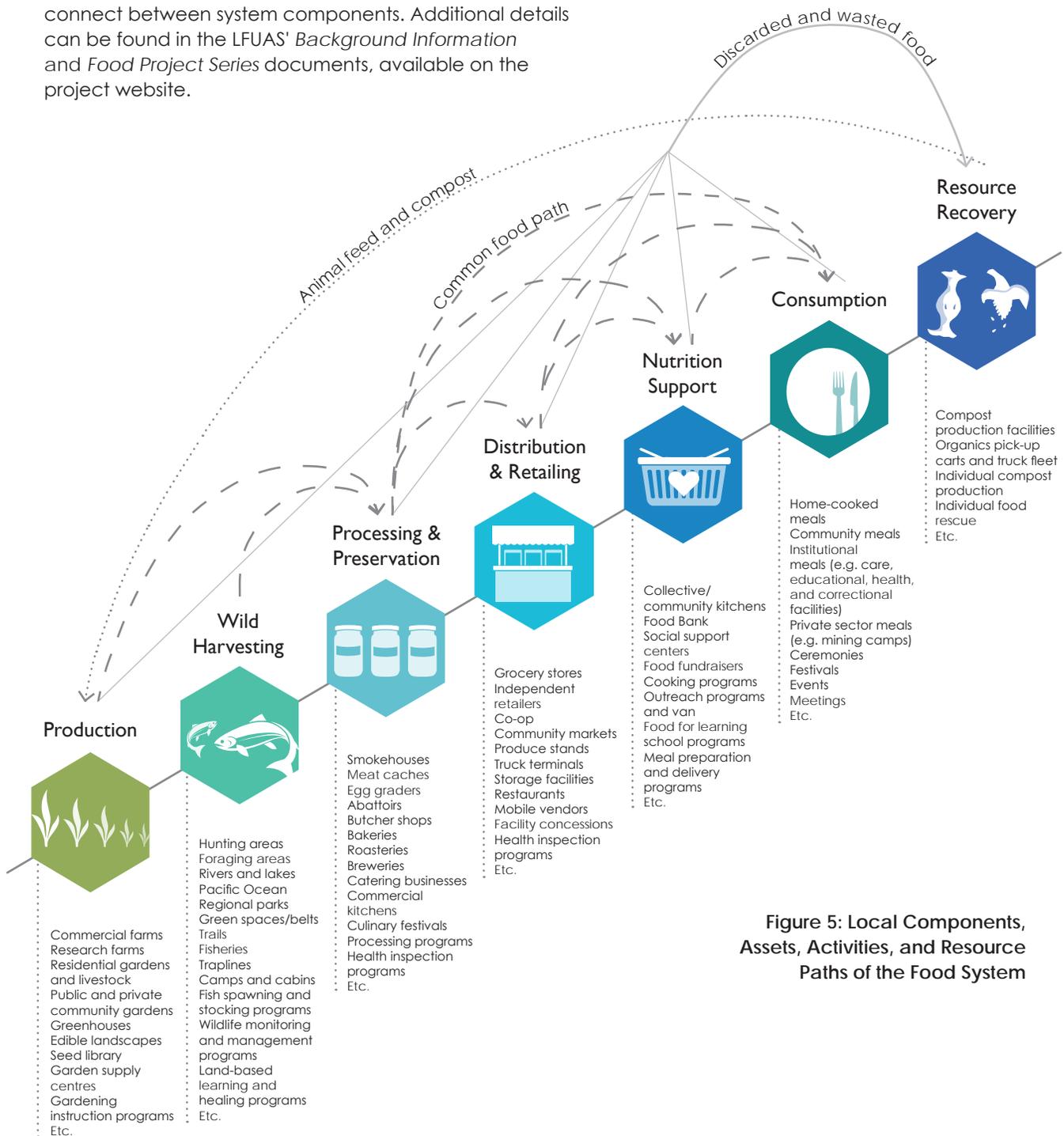


Figure 5: Local Components, Assets, Activities, and Resource Paths of the Food System

## 2.3 Looking to the Future

Under a likely growth scenario calculated by the Government of Yukon's Bureau of Statistics, the Whitehorse area is projected to reach over 40,000 residents by 2040<sup>10</sup>. As the population continues to grow, so too will the need to increase the amount of food available to residents through imported or locally produced sources.

A myriad of economic, social, and environmental factors will dictate the future foodscape of Whitehorse and Yukon. Amongst the most profound is likely to be climate change. The territory's average temperature increased by 2.3°C between 1948 and 2016; winter temperatures increased by 4.3°C over the same time period. Northern Canada is expected to continue to warm at more than double the global rate<sup>11</sup>.

A warming climate is anticipated to influence Yukon's soil conditions, precipitation rates, and the incidence of extreme events, such as flooding and wildfire. The reliability of the Alaska Highway as a critical link in the territory's food supply chain could be compromised by closures with increased frequency. Meanwhile, the distribution and availability of wild food sources will continue to alter, with changes already observed in the variety, quality, and accessibility of some plant and wildlife species. New species of game could migrate north, following shifts in terrestrial zones; crop pests could also appear<sup>12</sup>.

The food system challenges that rest ahead for Yukon are predicted to be accompanied by new opportunities to grow food afforded by warmer soils and a lengthened growing season. Through strategic planning and action, Whitehorse can position itself to take advantage of future climatic conditions that are favourable for soil and solar based production. Industry diversification could also be encouraged to include controlled systems insulated from seasonal and environmental variability.

In September 2019, City Council declared a Climate Change Emergency in Whitehorse to acknowledge the importance of reducing carbon emissions and building resilience to the likely effects of climate change. This was preceded in May 2019 by a declaration made by the Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation, of the northern Yukon area. The Government of Yukon made a similar declaration in October 2019, followed in February 2020 by a joint declaration by all 14 Yukon First Nations, the Assembly of First Nations, and the Council of Yukon First Nations.

Other factors likely to influence the territory's food system include cycles of La Niña and El Niño, international trade agreements, and release of the most recent *Canada's Food Guide* (2019), which emphasizes a more plant-based diet than featured in previous versions of the guide. Canada's recent legalization of cannabis is also likely to have an influence, given the technological advancements occurring within this industry's indoor production sector and the transferability of applications to food production.





## 3.0 Goals and Actions

In a thriving food system, components and assets are able to work together through synergies to achieve positive outcomes. Eight overarching goals have guided development of the 67 potential actions identified in this document, geared at moving Whitehorse towards a more food secure future. A goal is set for each of the 7 food system components; an additional goal is set to acknowledge the need for system-wide support (Figure 6, next page).

A timeline target is identified for each potential action, with 27 actions intended for the *short-term* (to occur within less than 5 years), 7 actions intended for the *medium-term* (5-7 years), and 33 actions intended to be ongoing (whenever capacity is available, and continuing for 10 years, or beyond). The proportion of actions in each timeline target is indicated in Figure 7, next page.

Partnerships between the City and other governments, organizations, associations, businesses, and residents, will be vital to advancing each goal and action.

Figure 6: Food System Goals and Actions

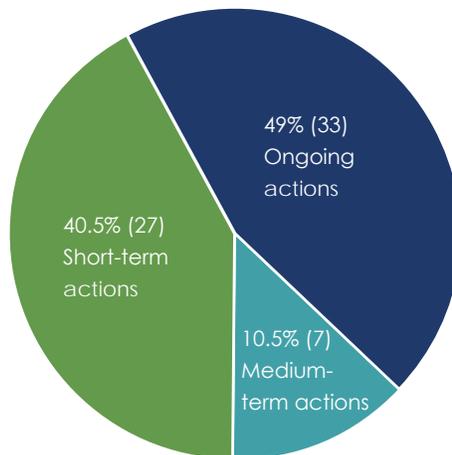
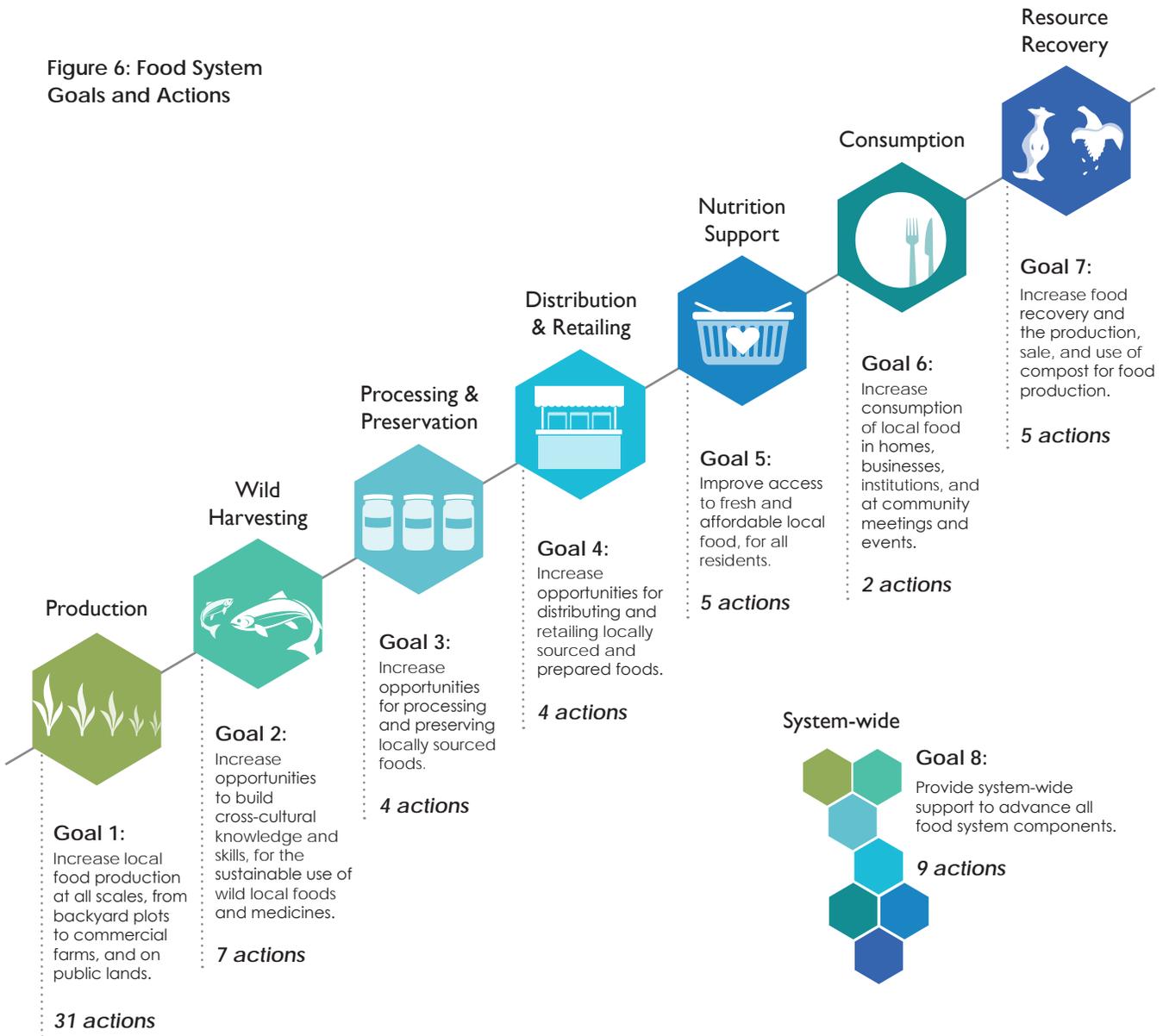


Figure 7: Target Terms of Potential Actions



## 3.1 Production

### Goal 1: Increase local food production at all scales, from backyard plots to commercial farms, and on public lands.

Increasing the amount of local food available to Whitehorse residents begins with creating a policy and regulatory framework that is supportive of urban agriculture. Engagement activities revealed that considerable interest exists for the City to revise its regulations in ways that can provide residents with greater ability to produce food at the personal, community, and commercial scales.

The need to carefully consider the management of wildlife attractants and mitigation of agricultural nuisances (e.g. noise and smell) were emphasized in the input received. Ensuring protection of riparian areas and groundwater sources are additionally of paramount importance, given that municipal water is sourced from an aquifer and properties in unserved areas generally rely on private wells for water supply.

The LFUAS places a large focus on food production, reflecting the City's regulatory and operational roles that connect to this component, and for the ability of local production to support other food system goals. Thirty-one potential actions have been developed, which are divided into the following themes:

- > Commercial agriculture
- > Public and private community gardens
- > Residential gardens
- > Livestock
- > Land, tool, and skill-sharing
- > Edible and pollinator-supporting landscapes
- > Pesticide control and historical contaminants

### Commercial Agriculture

Approximately 80 ha (0.8 km<sup>2</sup>) of land within Whitehorse is designated 'Agriculture' in the City's 2010 *Official Community Plan*, representing approximately 0.2% of the total municipal land base. This designation is located in two separate and similarly sized areas. One portion consists of vacant Commissioner's land, at the north end of the City near Cousins Airstrip. The area contains soils that have some known potential for agricultural production, though lack of a formal road connection and servicing remain barriers to activation. The other portion is located next to Fish Lake Road, and is used for commercial fish farming. This area contains soils considered unsuitable for soil-based cultivation.

To support food system goals, the City could develop policies for the Agriculture designation that favour food production over other types of agriculture, provide buffers to mitigate agricultural nuisances (e.g. noise and smell), and introduce stricter measures to protect agricultural lands from rezoning and subdivision for residential purposes. Encouraging non-soil based forms of agriculture that can occur within commercial and industrial areas could also contribute towards increasing food supply and enhance the year-round availability of fresh local foods. Currently, Whitehorse has two indoor food producers operating in the CIM-Mixed Use Commercial/Industrial zone under the general land use of 'light processing'.

Many opportunities exist to produce food within Whitehorse, but some activities are restricted, or are not clearly or adequately addressed within City bylaws. Indoor and rooftop agriculture are examples that do not fit neatly within current land use definitions and categories stated in the Zoning Bylaw. In other cases, production is addressed through conflicting regulations. 'Market gardening', for example, is a provision of the 'hobby agriculture' land use allowed in country residential areas, yet home-based businesses are generally restricted from having outdoor operations. Uncertainty about the legitimacy of agricultural activities can discourage investment and development in the production sector.

Review of regulations are particularly needed in light of emerging interests in indoor food production and the specific servicing (water and sewer) requirements of this sector. The controlled environment provided by indoor systems can offer benefits over field agriculture, such as efficiency of up to 95% less water used in production, faster crop growth, demand-responsive supply, and pest avoidance, which can reduce or eliminate the need for pesticide use. Lighting systems can be energy intensive, but efficiencies are improving as technologies mature. This review work could occur in tandem with the City's development of regulations for cannabis production, reflecting similarities in the growing systems used.

Potential Actions:		Target Term:
1.1	Revise and create new <b>bylaw definitions</b> , where needed, to add clarity on agricultural activities, allowances, and restrictions.	Short
1.2	Integrate <b>indoor agriculture</b> as a specific and allowable principal use within compatible commercial and industrial zones.	Short
1.3	Integrate allowances for <b>commercial rooftop agriculture</b> as a complementary secondary use within compatible commercial and industrial zones.	Short
1.4	Allow for indoor and outdoor <b>market gardening</b> as a principal use in Downtown and Marwell, to encourage intermediate activation of underutilized commercial properties.	Short
1.5	Remove restrictions for <b>soil-based agriculture</b> in the OCP's Agriculture designation areas to let soil, site, and market factors determine the nature of agricultural activities.	Short
1.6	Explore the feasibility of activating the OCP's <b>Agriculture designation</b> area located near Cousins Airstrip.	Short
1.7	In partnership with other governments, initiate a <b>soil assessment</b> for criteria selected areas that have potential for agriculture, and explore expanding the OCP's Agriculture designation to suitable areas.	Short

## Public and Private Community Gardens

Community gardens add vibrancy to neighbourhoods by providing residents with spaces to grow food, while supporting a wide range of social relationships and community partnerships. Three public community gardens operate on City-owned land in the neighbourhoods of Downtown, Valleyview, and Takhini North, offering a combined total of 104 food plots. A garden also operates on Government of Yukon-owned land in Whistle Bend, which features a large communal plot model. Private community gardens can be found throughout the city at schools, churches, multiple housing developments, and on properties used by various organizations and associations.

To get new community gardens started on public and private lands, residents need access to information, technical support, and funding. When identifying new sites for gardens, thoughtful planning is required that considers site characteristics (e.g. sunlight, wind exposure, wildlife, and access to water and electrical services), proximity to residences (to support membership), visibility (for awareness building and vandalism prevention), and long-term viability of operating models. Opportunities exist to locate gardens on public lands (e.g. within neighbourhood parks), or to co-locate gardens on institutional lands (e.g. schoolyards) and private lands (e.g. church and multiple housing yards).

A variety of gardening styles and interests should be considered, from private allotments to collaborative plots, to provide residents with diversity in options. Gardens should strive to be inclusive to youth, seniors, community groups, and low income residents. Universally accessible plots should be included, where possible, to provide gardening opportunities to residents of differing mobilities and abilities.

Potential Actions:		Target Term:
1.8	Allow for <b>greenhouses</b> to be developed within the amenity space dedication of multiple housing developments, exempt fully or in part from site coverage calculations.	Short
1.9	Conduct a <b>land inventory</b> to identify potential locations for new public community gardens in neighbourhoods across the city.	Short
1.10	Develop a <b>Community Garden Policy</b> and information resource for the management of community gardens on public lands, to outline site considerations, lease and permitting processes, insurance requirements, and options for land donation.	Medium
1.11	Investigate expanding the <b>downtown community garden</b> lease area to include City-owned land located north of the garden.	Medium
1.12	Continue to provide <b>low-cost land leases</b> to associations for the development of public community gardens.	Ongoing
1.13	When renewing existing infrastructure and planning new neighbourhoods, investigate options for installing <b>water connections</b> into parks and green spaces to facilitate the development of new community gardens.	Ongoing
1.14	Encourage the development of <b>private community gardens</b> within the yards of multiple housing developments and other organizations (e.g. churches, schools, care facilities, and other institutional properties).	Ongoing

## Residential Gardens

Urban agriculture may seem to be a trendy topic today, but war-time 'victory gardens' were once a common sight in Whitehorse. Residential gardens provide residents with a close connection to food production. Interest in gardening is increasing in the city's core and country residential neighbourhoods as more residents take up the activity for health, leisure, and aesthetic purposes. Input received through public surveys showed interest to see greater allowances provided for residential properties to generate income from growing food through activities such as market gardening (also known as 'lawn farming' or 'small plot intensive (SPIN) farming'). Clarity was requested on allowances for boulevard gardens (located in the area between the property line and the street), which can provide the added benefits of creating visual interest in neighbourhoods and help to calm traffic by narrowing the perceived width of roadways.

Potential Actions:		Target Term:
1.15	Review and revise <b>yard maintenance regulations</b> relating to food production on private property.	Short
1.16	Review and revise <b>boulevard maintenance regulations</b> to consider food production interests, and develop an information resource on gardening allowances.	Short
1.17	Review <b>market garden and home-based business allowances</b> in tandem, and explore thresholds for growing space and onsite sales to potentially: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Legitimize outdoor market gardens in select <b>serviced residential zones</b> (indoor market gardens are already allowed).</li> <li>b) Set limits for existing use allowances in <b>unserviced residential zones</b>, reflecting priorities for well water protection.</li> </ul>	Short
1.18	Promote residential food production through <b>information campaigns and online resources</b> .	Ongoing

## Livestock

Allowing for livestock to be kept on properties provides residents with opportunities to produce their own food, as well as fertilizer. Developing regulations can be complicated given that each type of animal requires specific conditions to ensure its safe and ethical treatment. Equally important to consider is the wellbeing of wildlife that may be attracted into neighbourhoods, and onto properties, by the introduction of livestock (more in Highlight Box 3, next page).

Hens, roosters, rabbits, bees, and larger livestock are currently allowed to be kept on properties in the Agriculture and Country Residential 1 (RC1) zones without restriction on the number of animals kept. Similar allowances apply in the Country Residential 2 (RC2) zone, but with a restriction on roosters and a limit of 6 hens per property. Up to 6 hens can also be kept on properties in several of the city's denser residential areas. A permitting and inspection process applies for properties where the hen limit is in effect. Twenty-five permits have been issued since the City introduced the regulations in 2012.

Public suggestions for changes to regulations have included increasing the number of hens allowed on properties, customizing coop development specifications for a better winter-city fit, and removing the neighbour approval process. Support for expanding beekeeping allowances to additional zones was expressed, along with concerns for public safety and potential impacts to wild bee populations. Several residents expressed interest to keep goats and ducks within the city's denser neighbourhoods, but given the associated potential for noise nuisance, these animals remain better suited for country residential areas.

Potential Actions:	Target Term:
<p><b>1.19</b> Review the <b>coop development regulations and permit application process</b> for keeping hens within the urban containment boundary, and explore revisions to potentially:</p> <hr/> <p>a) Remove the <b>neighbour approval</b> requirement.</p> <hr/> <p>b) Reduce the minimum <b>coop and run requirements</b> to reflect best practices, and make other amendments to incorporate winter-city design principles.</p> <hr/> <p>c) Increase the <b>hen allowance</b> from 6 up to 10 hens on larger residential properties.</p> <hr/> <p>d) Remove the allowance for <b>roosters</b> on RC1 properties located within the urban containment boundary.</p> <hr/> <p>e) Introduce minimum <b>design standards or guidelines</b> for coops on RC1 properties.</p> <hr/> <p>f) Allow <b>institutional facilities</b> to keep hens on properties (e.g. educational, care, and correctional facilities).</p>	Short
<p><b>1.20</b> Consider establishing a permitting system for <b>honey beekeeping</b> and explore expanding allowances to additional zones within the urban containment boundary to potentially:</p> <hr/> <p>a) Allow for a capped number of honey bee hives and nucleus boxes on properties in select <b>residential zones</b> and on select property sizes.</p> <hr/> <p>b) Increase the number of honey bee hives allowed at the community garden in Downtown, add allowance for nucleus boxes, and allow for the same number of hives and boxes at other <b>public community gardens</b> (excluding gardens within City parks).</p> <hr/> <p>c) Allow for honey bee hives and nucleus boxes in select <b>institutional, public service, cultural, commercial, and recreational zones</b>, with a cap on the number applied, where appropriate.</p> <hr/> <p>d) Develop an information resource on <b>honey bee swarms</b>, and a contact list of volunteer beekeepers that can be dispatched to collect swarms.</p>	Short

Potential Actions:		Target Term:
1.21	Explore introducing an <b>electric fence</b> requirement for hen coops and honey bee hives located in country residential neighbourhoods, near greenbelts, and other high bear incident areas.	Short
1.22	Explore establishing <b>maximum allowances</b> for the number of livestock kept on country residential properties, to protect groundwater sources and manage potential nuisances.	Medium

## Highlight Box 3:

### Agricultural Wildlife Attractants



The management of wildlife attractants is a responsibility shared by governments and residents, and is particularly important during months when bears are most active (typically April to November). In 2017, the City collaborated with the Government of Yukon's Environment Branch and WildWise Yukon to analyze wildlife incident reports generated by Conservation Officers in recent years. The analysis found that **between 2012 and 2017, an average of approximately 20 bear incidents were reported each year within city limits**. Garbage was the main attractant identified in more than half of all incident reports. **Agricultural attractants, including berry bushes, vegetable gardens, compost piles, manure, sheep, goats, hens, and bees, were linked to approximately 11% of incident reports, averaging 2 to 3 incidents annually\***.

\*Data collection models were inconsistent between years, and not all wildlife encounters are reported to Conservation Officers.

## Land, Tool, and Skill-sharing

Encouraging residents to share resources and skills can help to support the food system goal of increasing local food production, while strengthening the social economy of Whitehorse. Interest to see a land sharing program started for Whitehorse was a popular theme heard in public survey responses, drawing comparison to the Government of Yukon's Land Link pilot program, but at the garden scale. Initiating a tool lending library was also mentioned as a way to make gardening a more feasible and affordable undertaking for residents, and would complement resources available at the Government of Yukon's Seed Library (located in the Elijah Smith Building). Whitehorse has many local experts that are willing to lead workshops and share their knowledge to build community capacity for growing food; the City can draw on this expertise to expand the learning opportunities provided through its Active Living programming.

Potential Actions:		Target Term:
1.23	Encourage the establishment of a Whitehorse <b>land link program</b> , to connect property owners with available land to gardeners that lack access to growing space.	Short
1.24	Encourage the establishment of a <b>tool library</b> , to help increase access to tools and make gardening a more affordable undertaking.	Short
1.25	Continue to provide <b>skill-sharing workshops</b> on food production topics, and investigate topics and partnerships for future workshops.	Ongoing

## Edible and Pollinator-Supporting Landscapes

The edible landscaping planted by the City on public grounds has been well received by residents. Public input indicated support for the City to continue with similar efforts, for the food access and educational benefits they can bring to the community. Where edible landscaping may not be appropriate due to the potential for wildlife conflict, pollinator-supporting gardens may be a suitable alternative that can provide similar benefits. Edible and pollinator gardens are best located in highly visible locations with ample pedestrian traffic so that residents can encounter and interact with the gardens. The City's infrastructure renewal process for reconstructing streets and boulevards is an opportunity to introduce landscaping varieties that build awareness on food security topics and support food system goals.

Potential Actions:		Target Term:
1.26	Continue to explore opportunities to plant edible and pollinator-supporting landscaping on <b>public lands</b> , where appropriate, and identify new locations during future planning processes.	Ongoing
1.27	Encourage the use of edible and pollinator-supporting landscaping on <b>private property</b> , where appropriate, as productive alternatives to ornamental plantings.	Ongoing
1.28	As more gardens are planted, create a <b>map and information resource</b> on where edible landscaping and pollinator gardens are located on public lands.	Ongoing

## Pesticide Control and Historical Contaminants

The use of pesticides (which include herbicides, insecticides, fungicides, and rodenticides) can offer the benefits of crop protection and prevention of vector-borne diseases; their use can, however, also lead to unintended consequences due to the toxicity of many pesticide products. The ill effects on people, especially children, and pollinators have been widely reported by health and environmental organizations. Over 180 Canadian municipalities have responded by introducing controls to reduce pesticide use, typically focused on restricting the application of 'cosmetic' (or 'non-essential') pesticides<sup>13</sup>.

The City's commitment to increasing local food production needs to be balanced with measures to protect residents and ecosystems from harmful contaminants. This work includes safeguarding the groundwater resources that supply municipal and private wells. Further investigation into this topic would help the City to develop precautionary regulations and best management practices that can steer the production methods used in future agricultural projects.

Mindfulness regarding the potential presence of historical contaminants is also important for protecting resident health. Former railway corridors and industrial sites, for example, are locations known for often containing residuals of Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs), Petroleum Hydrocarbons (PHCs), and other harmful contaminants. Soil testing should be strongly encouraged, or in some cases required, prior to soil-based agriculture being pursued.

Potential Actions:		Target Term:
1.29	Increase <b>awareness</b> on the harmful effects of pesticides to discourage use, and develop information resources on natural alternatives.	Short
1.30	Review options for a <b>municipality-wide ban</b> on the use of cosmetic (non-essential) pesticides.	Short
1.31	Encourage or require <b>soil contamination testing</b> where agricultural pursuits are proposed, especially at sites considered for public and/or commercial agricultural uses.	Ongoing





## 3.2 Wild Harvesting

**Goal 2: Increase opportunities to build cross-cultural knowledge and skills, for the sustainable use of wild local foods and medicines.**

The pursuit of wild foods and medicines is often just as important as the resources themselves. Harvesting is a social activity that gets Whitehorse residents out onto the land and water to participate in foraging, fishing, and hunting. These activities provide connection to heritage, landscape, and natural elements of the food system. The mental health benefits are considerable, and since wild foods are grown without the assistance of hormones, pesticides, ripeners, and other chemicals, they tend to be more nutrient rich and healthier than many store bought foods.

The City can work with partner organizations to provide educational and stewardship opportunities that help residents to build their harvesting knowledge and skills. Emphasis should be placed on sustainable and respectful harvesting practices. For example, foraging in appropriate seasons can support the natural regeneration of native species, and residents can be encouraged to take only what they need. Caution can be provided on harvesting for commercial purposes, which has led to resource depletion in some forage areas.

Potential Actions:		Target Term:
2.1	Partner with other organizations to identify stewardship opportunities and develop informational resources on <b>safe, responsible, and respectful harvesting practices</b> .	Short
2.2	Ensure <b>recognition of impacts</b> that historical events, developments, systems, and policies have had, and continue to have, on wild resources and First Nation opportunities and abilities to harvest.	Ongoing
2.3	Partner with other organizations to host <b>wild food and medicine walks</b> during Regional Park planning, and other engagement, processes.	Ongoing
2.4	Ensure recognition of significant <b>forage areas</b> within park, trail, and other land use planning processes and documents.	Ongoing
2.5	Continue to provide fly fishing classes, and investigate topics for additional wild harvesting <b>classes and workshops</b> .	Ongoing
2.6	Encourage the use of <b>stocked lakes</b> as destinations to harvest fish as a local protein source, and to help reduce pressure on rehabilitating and wild fish populations.	Ongoing
2.7	Encourage foraging in <b>green spaces scheduled for development</b> , so that resources are not wasted.	Ongoing



### 3.3 Processing and Preservation

**Goal 3: Increase opportunities for processing and preserving locally sourced foods.**

The City owns and operates three kitchen facilities used for food processing that range in their equipment grade, and are available to rent by small businesses and community groups. City kitchens are located in the Frank Slim Building, Takhini Arena, and Mount McIntyre Recreation Centre; a fourth kitchen is in the planning stage for a new reception centre at the Robert Service Campground. A need exists to create a long-term vision and plan for these facilities to ensure they can continue to support food system goals, and remain available and functional for the groups that use them. The City could also explore creative ways to expand its processing programs and infrastructure. There are numerous other kitchen spaces in Whitehorse operated by businesses and associations that are available for rental and programming. Public input indicated interest to see more kitchen spaces available to meet a diversity of community needs.

Potential Actions:		Target Term:
3.1	Create an information resource on the <b>commercial grade kitchens</b> available in City facilities and throughout Whitehorse, for rental and programming by businesses and community groups.	Short
3.2	Identify long-term goals for <b>City kitchen facilities</b> , including potential equipment upgrades and program delivery.	Medium
3.3	Continue to provide <b>food skills workshops and classes</b> , and explore additional themes to meet emerging interests.	Ongoing
3.4	Encourage <b>community, collective, and incubator kitchen initiatives</b> , to help build community food preparation skills and support food entrepreneurs.	Ongoing



### 3.4 Distribution and Retailing

**Goal 4: Increase opportunities for distributing and retailing locally sourced and prepared foods.**

Food distributors and retailers make a vital contribution to the diet enjoyed by Whitehorse residents. The City's closest connections to this system component are to the food activities that take place on public lands, authorized through lease agreements, facility bookings, and seasonal and event permits. The Fireweed Community Market in Shipyards Park is a weekly anchor for summer activity on the Yukon River waterfront, while mobile food vendors and concessions draw people outdoors during the week to eat, socialize, and enjoy public spaces throughout Downtown. Interest was expressed for the City to continue to support the expansion of these social food activities and further integrate sustainability principles, such as zero waste (Highlight Box 4, next page) and procurement of local foods, into public space activities.

Potential Actions:		Target Term:
4.1	Explore creating a shorter duration (less than 6 months) <b>business license</b> that better reflects the operational nature of food vendors.	Short
4.2	Continue to develop and expand the City's <b>mobile food vendor program</b> by seeking out new vendor sites, working towards zero waste, and encouraging the use of local ingredients.	Ongoing
4.3	Continue to build on the success of the annual <b>Street Eats Festival</b> , while working towards zero waste and encouraging the use of local food ingredients.	Ongoing
4.4	Continue to support <b>community market initiatives</b> in public gathering spaces.	Ongoing

## Highlight Box 4:

### Working Towards 'Zero Waste'

**Zero waste is a framework that shifts the idea of making a product “go away” at the landfill to becoming a resource that can be used again.** Zero waste follows a 4R hierarchy of rethink, reduce, reuse, and recycle/compost. Within a zero waste model, materials that are currently not recyclable or compostable (roughly 20 to 35% of waste, depending on the sector) are redesigned so they can become an input via reuse, recycling, and composting. Ideally, the cycle starts with waste prevention by redirecting and optimizing resources before they are considered waste.



## 3.5 Nutrition Support

### Goal 5: Improve access to fresh and affordable local food, for all residents.

A paradigm shift is occurring for how food systems can deliver nutrition support to residents at risk of hunger and malnutrition. Increasingly, it is recognized that emergency food donation/pick-up models, on their own, are insufficient for addressing the root causes of food insecurity, which typically relate to income insufficiency and housing affordability. Food literacy is another significant and influencing factor (Highlight Box 5, next page). New food access models are emerging that integrate educational opportunities and empowerment into programming and services. The *Whitehorse Sustainability Plan* speaks to the need for the City to engage in partnerships with other organizations and support projects that increase access to nutritious food for low income residents. Governments, businesses, associations, and residents all have a role to play in fostering the socially inclusive and affordable living conditions that can help to reduce household food insecurity.



Potential Actions:		Target Term:
5.1	Encourage <b>social inclusion initiatives in public food spaces</b> , to help connect food-insecure residents with local produce while supporting small-scale farmers.	Short
5.2	Encourage the development of new and innovative <b>nutrition support programs</b> , modeled after successes occurring elsewhere in Canada and globally.	Medium
5.3	Promote <b>donation streams</b> to grocery stores and other food businesses, to channel non-expired foods into the nutrition support stream.	Ongoing
5.4	Encourage ' <b>plant-a-row</b> ' initiatives for residential, community, and commercial gardens, promoting food grown specifically for donation to nutrition support centres.	Ongoing
5.5	Continue to work on strategies and partnerships that address <b>attainable housing, homelessness, and poverty reduction</b> , to help reduce root causes of household food insecurity.	Ongoing

## Highlight Box 5:

### What is 'Food Literacy'?

Food literacy refers to an individual's understanding of the impacts food choices have on their health, community, and environment<sup>14</sup>. Food literacy programs help to build resilience by focusing on food skills (e.g. nutrition awareness, cooking techniques, meal planning, and grocery budgeting) and other attributes that help people to prepare healthy, affordable meals for themselves and for their households. Effective programs are accessible and practical to the cultural and living situations of program participants. Food literacy is important for all residents, and is particularly important to foster in youth to encourage life-long healthy eating habits.



## 3.6 Consumption

**Goal 6: Increase consumption of local foods in homes, businesses, institutions, and at community meetings and events.**

Increasing resident consumption of local food requires a multifaceted approach that combines the actions identified in other sections of this document, particularly those geared at increasing the supply and availability of local food, with promotion of reasons for why eating local food is good for the sustainability of Whitehorse. The benefits of choosing local food are well understood by many residents; further promotion can help to sustain this awareness and ensure that demand is present when new local food products come to market. The City can lead by example by procuring businesses that source locally when hosting public meetings and events.



Potential Actions:		Target Term:
6.1	Develop campaigns and use media channels to promote the <b>benefits of buying and eating local food</b> .	Ongoing
6.2	Encourage the <b>procurement of local foods</b> for City meetings and events by including information in the City's <i>Green Meeting Guide</i> for employees.	Ongoing



### 3.7 Resource Recovery

#### Goal 7: Increase food recovery and the production, sale, and use of compost for food production.

Promotion, public education, and outreach are important aspects of a successful food recovery program. Enforcing penalties for unsorted waste at the landfill is another essential, but often difficult, part of ensuring that all sectors are putting food resources to their optimal use. The City has made significant strides in its recovery efforts, with compost sales reaching 2,386 cubic yards in 2019. The future direction of the organics collection program should focus on increasing participation to grow the intake of organics available for the production, sale, and use of agriculture-grade compost. An excellent standard has been achieved in product quality, but there remains room for improvement to reduce debris content and find alternatives to the plastic packaging currently used for distribution. The City could work towards making the product more accessible for purchase and develop information resources to help gardeners use the product to its fullest potential. The City could also encourage residents to produce their own nutrient-rich soil conditioners, particularly in areas that are not presently serviced by the municipal organics pick-up program.

Potential Actions:		Target Term:
7.1	Collaborate with other organizations to develop information resources on compost topics, including:	Short
	a) <b>Backyard composting</b> in country residential areas, with best practices considered for wildlife management.	
	b) <b>Indoor vermicomposting</b> , to help residents add to the variety of nutrient-rich soil amendments produced locally, and provide management guidelines that discourage the release of invasive worms into local soil.	
	c) <b>Soil-mixing</b> , to help gardeners with using City compost effectively.	
7.2	Improve <b>access, distribution, and the purchasing process</b> for City produced compost by exploring service enhancements for hours of operation, sale locations, unit sizes, and zero waste packaging options.	Short
7.3	Provide information on regulations and considerations relating to <b>waste food recovery</b> for use as livestock feed.	Short
7.4	Explore value-added <b>product development</b> for City compost to meet a variety of gardening needs and applications.	Medium
7.5	Reduce the amount of <b>plastic and other debris</b> in City compost through awareness-building campaigns on what should, and should not, go into the organics collection stream.	Ongoing



### 3.8 System-wide

#### Goal 8: Provide system-wide support to advance all food system actions.

System-wide tools can be used to bridge the goals and actions of food system components in efficient, centralized, and coordinated ways. The following actions are envisioned to occur during the 10-year implementation phase of this document, but could be integrated longer term into the City's planning and decision-making processes.

Potential Actions:	Target Term:
8.1 Investigate the feasibility of an <b>agri-industrial neighbourhood</b> with land use provisions for indoor agriculture, food and beverage processing, and other associated activities.	Short
8.2 Assess options for developing a <b>Wildlife Attractant Bylaw</b> to provide a consistent regulatory framework for the management of attractants generated by food and agriculture, along with other attractant sources (e.g. garbage, meat smokers, and bird feeders).	Medium
8.3 Create and manage an online <b>local food information hub</b> on the City website, to provide a centralized resource for local food and urban agriculture information.	Ongoing
8.4 Apply a <b>food system lens</b> to City planning and infrastructure renewal processes, to provide residents with reasonable access to food retailers and opportunities to participate in food production.	Ongoing
8.5 Monitor <b>food insecurity statistics</b> collected through the <i>Household Food Security Survey Module</i> of Statistics Canada's <i>Community Health Survey</i> for Yukon, as a nationally comparable sustainability indicator.	Ongoing
8.6 Continue to participate in Yukon-wide <b>emergency preparedness planning</b> in anticipation of potential food supply disruptions (e.g. highway closures due to washouts and wildfire).	Ongoing
8.7 Investigate opportunities to use agricultural <b>fire and fuel breaks</b> as part of wildfire mitigation planning.	Ongoing
8.8 Continue to participate in regular meetings of the <b>Food Network Yukon</b> , to stay connected and informed on food projects and activities led by other organizations.	Ongoing
8.9 Continue to promote the City's <b>Environmental Grant</b> to support partners and projects related to all food system components, and consider changing the name of this grant to better reflect the 3 pillars of sustainability (environmental, economic, and social).	Ongoing





## 4.0 Implementation

The LFUAS is a starting point for the City in a dialogue that should continue to build on the momentum generated through the study's engagement process. It provides a guiding tool designed to help inform the City's contribution to enhancing the local food system. The City is committed to leveraging resources, working collaboratively with partners, and supporting food and agriculture activities that make sense for the northern, urban context of Whitehorse.

### 4.1 What Happens Next?

Implementation can begin with the action items in Section 3 identified for the *short-term*. These actions are either of higher priority than *medium-term* actions or are relatively easy to implement. Actions marked as *ongoing* can also begin right away, or continue if already initiated, and should occur until the LFUAS is next reviewed and revised. The pace of implementation may need to be adjusted to balance with the City's competing priorities for staff and financial resources.

In many cases, actions can be integrated into the existing work plans of City departments and involve themes that are presently being worked on in related ways. Some actions can be added to the scope of future planning and infrastructure processes. Others may require capital budget allocations by City Council, particularly to contract specialized skills (e.g. soil and geo-technical analysis). The LFUAS does not propose any major infrastructure projects at this time, though feasibility assessments for some actions may lead to future proposals.



The following collective initiatives to update City plans and bylaws can capture priority action items, and can provide a kick-start on implementation:

- > **Official Community Plan update**, to revise policy directives relating to the Agriculture land use designation and explore expanding the designation to additional areas within Whitehorse.
- > **Zoning Bylaw update**, to respond to trends and interests in small-scale and indoor agriculture activities that offer growing methods well suited for Whitehorse's cold climate and urban context.
- > **Animal Control Bylaw update**, to improve regulations on hen keeping and coop development, expand allowances for beekeeping, and set limits for livestock kept in country residential areas.
- > **Business License Bylaw (and associated fees) update**, to better reflect the short-term and seasonal nature of market and mobile food vending.

Federal and territorial funding sources are available to support projects that focus on local food and agriculture, along with related themes such as economic and community development. Opportunities include the *Canada-Yukon Agricultural Partnership* and the federal *Local Food Infrastructure Fund* that accompanied the 2019 release of Canada's national food policy. The City is positioned to provide financial support to partners through its municipal Environmental Grant for projects identified in the LFUAS, or new project ideas that can contribute towards achieving LFUAS goals.

## 4.2 Tracking Progress

Tracking progress will be an important part of implementing the LFUAS' 67 potential actions. While some of the progress will be difficult to measure (e.g. increased community awareness and strengthened relationships), the metrics identified below can help with monitoring tangible achievement. Some involve pulling information from systems already in place (e.g. City permitting and licensing). Others will require establishing new points of contact or will need to be carried out by other organizations and associations. Baseline data will be needed to mark starting points for future comparison.

- ↑ Land designated Agriculture in the *Official Community Plan*
- ↑ Development permits and business licenses issued for food and agriculture activities
- ↑ Local food products, and percentage of grocery store shelf space occupied by local food
- ↑ Hen coop permits issued
- ↑ Honey bee hive permits issued
- ↑ Households growing and harvesting a portion of their own food
- ↑ Public and private community gardens, and number of plots available
- ↑ Public and private food and agriculture demonstration projects
- ↑ Kitchen space available for rent and programming
- ↑ Food skills classes offered by the City and other organizations and businesses
- ↑ Organics cart pick-up program participants, and volume of organics collected
- ↑ Cubic yards of City compost produced and sold
- ↑ Fresh produce donated to nutrition support programs
- ↑ City grants awarded for food and agriculture projects
- ↓ Food entering the waste stream
- ↓ Packaging and serving containers sent to the landfill
- ↓ Human-wildlife conflicts
- ↓ Food insecure households





## 5.0 Appendix and References

# Appendix

City Tools, Assets, and Activities that Connect to Food and Agriculture

## **Plans (5):**

*Official Community Plan (2010)*  
*Regional Parks Plan (2014)*  
*Whitehorse Sustainability Plan (2015)*  
*Community Economic Development Strategy (2015)*  
*Chadburn Lake Park Management Plan (2017)*

## **Bylaws (11):**

Zoning Bylaw (12-20)  
Animal Control Bylaw (01-01)  
Maintenance Bylaw (17-09)  
Fees and Charges Bylaw (14-36)  
Business License Bylaw (17-24)  
Parks and Open Spaces Bylaw (15-20)  
Waste Management Bylaw (18-05)  
Sewer and Storm Utility Bylaw (13-56)  
Building and Plumbing Bylaw (99-50)  
Firearms Bylaw (06-17)  
Water Utility Bylaw (13-57)

## **Policies (5):**

Lease, Encroachment, and Property Use Policy (2013)  
Parks Maintenance Policy (2015)  
Festivals and Special Event Grant Policy (2016)  
Environmental Grant Policy (2017)  
Breast Feeding in City Facilities (2019)

## **Grants (2):**

Environmental Grant  
Festivals and Special Event Grant

## **Programs and Events (4):**

Food for Fines  
Mobile Food Vendor Sites  
Street Eats Festival  
Active Living Programs

## **Facilities (5):**

Kitchens (Frank Slim Building, Takhini Arena, Mount McIntyre Recreation Centre)  
Commercial food concessions (Frank Slim Building, Takhini Arena, and Canada Games Centre)  
Compost production facility

## **Services and Products (6):**

Permitting for public and private lands  
Lease management  
Trail and park maintenance  
Facility rentals and maintenance  
Organics waste collection  
Compost production and sale



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