

*If you want to build a ship, don't drum up people together to collect wood and don't assign them tasks and work, but rather teach them to long for the endless immensity of the sea.
~Antoine de Saint-Exupery*

Who Came: Mary, Phyllis, Karen, Melanie, Louise, Rachelle, Ron, Brian, Wayne
Regrets: Diane, Debbie, Bev, Jackie, Dena

We had three individuals, 2 from Agriculture and 1 from public health, join us for this day. We therefore spent some time sharing what our group was and what we have been doing.

Purpose statement.

As a core team, we will become:

Cultivators of a thriving local food system

A cultivator creates fertile land for planting...

- Creates the conditions for people to solve their own problems
- Names what is out there and new initiatives as they arise
- Connects initiatives, people and ideas
- Nourishes relationships between all the parts
- Makes visible what's going on, what we are learning and tells the story of local food

Information Bites and Sharing

- As of August 1st, 2011 the Farmer's Market in Bridgewater will be moving to the Exhibition grounds
- There is a Food Forum in September of 2011
- Our local Food Costers, Jackie, Dena and Karen will be working with Shelley Moran around the food costing results
- A community garden has been planted in Queens County through the partnership of many organizations. The produce from the garden will be used in a community kitchen in the fall. Two schools in Queens were also considering a community garden. Brian provided the following update;
 - Additionally, you had asked about schools participating in our \$500 school garden program. That list can be found here:
<http://www.gov.ns.ca/agri/agaware/index.shtml> under school garden project. There are many other resources available at that link as well.

We then went into a discussion about community kitchens.

We found there were 3 ways to define a community kitchen

- A place where food is cooked for the community
- A place where people could come to learn new skills in cooking
- A place where farmer's could bring their produce, have it prepared and ready to sell.

Brian provided the following update in relation to this discussion

- Also the subject of Community Kitchens in Vermont came up at the meeting. I had mentioned that Stephen Kerr, the Executive Director of the Kings RDA, has significant knowledge concerning agriculture in Vermont (past State Secretary of Agriculture!), and would make for an interesting guest at some point in the future. Kings RDA contact info can be found here: <http://www.kingsrda.ca/CED/staff.aspx?id=4>. Ron and I both work closely with Stephen and can help coordinate a meeting and scheduling if necessary.

We discovered there is a lot of opportunity for us to support our local food system

At our next meeting we will;

- Share Updates
- Continue to look at the opportunities
- Look at our workplan - What is next? How are we doing?

Next Meeting will be set up through a Meeting Wizard - Please watch your email for the request.