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Inspiration. Innovation. **IMPACT.**

We're excited to share the following updates about the 2019 National Farm to School Conference:

What do we mean when we say that this will be a different kind of conference?

This conference has set out to create a space for rich dialogues and strengthening collaboration. In addition to presentations from our featured speakers in plenaries, panels and oral sessions, our agenda will enable many opportunities for conversation. We look forward to working with you to strengthen our collective Farm to School efforts.

At the conference you can expect:

- Networking opportunities
- Connecting among regions
- Farm to School demonstrations
- A marketplace of tools and resources
- Facilitated dialogues
- Collective brainstorming
- Interactive workshops

Become a Conference Exhibitor

We are still looking for potential conference exhibitors to join us in May! The conference exhibition room will be open to delegates during the entire duration of the conference and will be a key gathering space during networking breaks. This is an amazing opportunity to network with leading professionals in the healthy and local school-food movement. If you are involved in school health, local food systems, farming, outdoor education, school gardens, school lunch programs, then this conference is a must.

For more information please contact: communications@farmtoschoolbc.ca

NEW Program Updates



Eco-literacy: Educating our children for a sustainable world

Speaking as a farmer, father, student, and teacher, Michael Ableman takes us on a journey through fields and farms, classrooms and kitchens exploring a deeper soulful nourishment based on local, biological, interpersonal, and ecological relationships. Michael's stories go beyond concepts, abstractions, or prescriptions, into real life lessons and inspirations that come from a life on the land lived with open eyes and an open heart.

"Michael Ableman has a finely honed sensibility.... he gardens society, grows well-being, weeds out despair, and sows hope."
Paul Hawken.



Campus Good Food Challenge

The Good Food Challenge uses the power of youth and students to create campus food systems that are sustainable, socially just, humane and healthy. This session will be presented by Meal Exchange staff, who will explore the main components of the of the "Health and Wellness Pillar" and share highlights from a student case study from the University of Victoria.



FIELD TRIP HIGHLIGHT: Integrated Sustainable Food Systems for Students – Cowichan Valley

This trip will provide an opportunity to visit the incredibly unique and innovative O.U.R. (One United Resource) ECOVILLAGE, a sustainable learning centre and demonstration site which focuses on researching and modelling ways that are rooted in social, cultural, spiritual, economic and ecological well-being through applied permaculture and integrated systems. The field trip will touch on topics such as farming in the face of climate change, cob construction, green technology and sustainable animal husbandry. Learn how this project is using digital story capturing and has schools super excited to be part of new ways of learning 'eat, learn, live' sustainably together!

"I learned of the systems in operation on the land and noticed that the zones of the garden are planned in a way that encourages inter-species connection, as outdoor kitchens and living spaces are woven throughout. It was good to find out that relationship and connection to the local First Nations is maintained." -Jessica Slattery, Learner

F2S Inspirational Video Feature



Looking to get your F2S creative juices flowing? In each of these updates we're featuring inspiring videos of Farm to School activity happening across Canada. Check out this week's video from [South Shore School Food Project](#), viewable via the conference [homepage](#).

Do have a video you'd like to share? Send us an [email](#) with a link for a chance to have it appear as one of our feature videos!

*That's all for now! We look forward to seeing you at the 2019 National Farm to School Conference, as we **INSPIRE**, **INNOVATE** and organize for **IMPACT** to close the distance between farm and fork and bring more healthy, local, sustainable food to the minds and plates of students!*



Farm to School: Canada Digs In! is a multi-sectoral chronic disease prevention initiative lead by Farm to Cafeteria Canada in partnership with the Social Planning and Research Council of British Columbia, the Public Health Agency of Canada, Whole Kids Foundation, Meal Exchange, Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada, Food First Newfoundland, New Brunswick Department of Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries, Equiterre, Sustain Ontario and the Public Health Association of British Columbia.

Do you have a story to share for the next edition of our newsletter?
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