

FARM TO SCHOOL: CANADA DIGS IN! Community Economic Development Impacts

5 provinces 86 K-12 schools Grants of up to \$10,000



farm to school salad bar programs...

...where students ate local and healthy food, participated in hands-on food literacy activities, and connected with local food providers, growers, chefs, knowledge keepers, public health professionals and many other community partners.

Between 2016-2020:

91% of grantee schools recognized themselves as leaders among other institutions in the procurement of healthy, sustainable, local foods

87% of schools increased the amount of local food they procured and provided to students

72% of schools had developed a local food procurement contract with at least one local producer



 Students are so excited about salad days and participate enthusiastically...
Even our local farmers are excited to be involved, and they tell their farm customers about it.

K – 8 SCHOOL

The more I dove into avenues of acquiring local foods, the more surprised I became at how close we were to so many things grown or raised. SECONDARY SCHOOL TEACHER

Students participated in farm visits and visits with fishers and foragers to learn about their local food system, to traditional food practices. Local growers came to schools to demonstrate and share their skills and knowledge.

Farm to school supports student wellbeing and community connectedness.

Farm to School: Canada Digs In! is a pan-Canadian multi-sectoral chronic disease prevention initiative.

