

## CIN Report for July August 6, 2021



No confirmation yet on the criteria for Community Grants.

Submitted **CIN Annual Report for 2020-2021** to ESIC on June 26<sup>th</sup> to qualify for contract renewal on July 15<sup>th</sup>. Payment has been delayed however, due to staff vacations. We have since received confirmation that payment on the 4<sup>th</sup> and final installment has been approved.

ESIC is planning a **face-to-face meeting** that will take place on September 21, 22 and 23 at the Crown Plaza in Fredericton. Day 1 is a network information sharing event. Day 2 involves training on governance. Day 3 will be a review network contracts, the regional plan, the work plan and the Report Card.

### CIN Initiatives: Key Updates

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Submitted Q1 project report and financial update to Community Food Centers Canada on July 29<sup>th</sup>.

Expanded education program to include more recipes and links to Greener Village resources. Consulted with Diabetes NB about referring RX coupon participants to their Live Well program for free health advice.

Completed an in house customer survey for feedback. The survey has just closed and a review of feedback will commence next week. With a decrease in the volume of orders over the summer months, we hope to learn if there are actions that can be taken to maintain the number of orders. At the same time, we continue to sign up new members, most who come to the market based on a referral from an existing customer.

Obtained equipment from Computers for Schools to support the Produce Manager and RX Administrator's work.



Work is underway with Food for All NB on planning the remaining two facilitated sessions planned for the end of August and early October associated with the **Who's Who in the School Food Zoo** project.

The end result will be to identify the network of partners involved in supporting the provision of school food programs in NB and create a map of these stakeholders so as to facilitate future collaboration.

Working with the **National Coalition for Healthy School Food** on a grant to commence action on building a provincial chapter of the Coalition. Terms of the agreement involve having the work undertaken by Food For All NB.

Partnering with the **Young Canadians Roundtable on Health** to recruit participants for a survey of youth in NB on school food programs. Survey participants to be recruited from NS, NB and BC and results presented to the Advisory Council on a National Food Policy.

### **Regional Transportation Plan:**

Involved in weekly working sessions and project update meetings with the Silvermark project team.

To date have confirmed project goals and objectives, data sources and targeted stakeholders list.

Silvermark has identified 3 potential operating models for consideration when starting-up of a volunteer drive operation, met with Stephane LeClair to learn about possible provincial government funding sources, and commenced discussions with targeted stakeholders.

Note: Some delays have been experienced due to problems with availability of some key contacts. All other project goals have been met on schedule.

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### **Community Projects**

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**Regional Resiliency Team:** Announcements expected soon on priorities identified by the province.

**Fredericton Local Immigration Project:** Continued development on the design for focus group sessions planned for this September aimed at identifying the barriers to economic success experienced by newcomers to Fredericton. Meetings continue to be held on a bi-weekly basis.

**Bulk Food Procurement Pilot Project:** Working with Greener Village, Anglophone School District West and Jobs unlimited on a pilot project to launch in September. A selection of 4-5 schools will purchase food at bulk discount prices for breakfast programs through Greener Village. The intent is to access the merits of this procurement option in terms of cost savings and reduction in administration time for volunteers. Work has been completed on defining items for order forms, processes for ordering, and the recruitment of schools.

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### **Other**

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**Tamarack Institute, July 15 :** Hosted a networking event for Atlantic Canada-based *Communities Ending Poverty* members and partners advocating for or interested in Basic Income, to explore with other organizers in the region about the political and community support for Basic Income in Atlantic Canada. Followed up with a discussion with Wil Robertson, member of the Basic Income Canada Youth Network on ways to collaborate on local action. Further action on educating the public TBD.

**Report:** Ability NB and the **New Brunswick Association for Community Living (NBACL)** recently worked with Tacit Elements to study the *Economic Contribution of the Community Sector in New Brunswick* (May 2021). The community sector in NB is truly an economic driver.

Here are some highlights of their report based on data from 2019:

- 4,418 non-profit and 2,592 registered charities (collectively known as the Community Sector) in NB with activities in Household, Business, and Government associated services were responsible for:
  - 55,000 employment positions (15% of NB labour force)
  - \$979 million in annual economic value of volunteering
  - \$3.7 billion in annual GDP contributions
- Business non-profit organizations employed 3,000 people
- Government non-profit organizations employed 39,000 people
- Non-profit organizations serving households employed 13,000

Far more women are employed within the Community Sector than are men, yet women earn a lower average hourly wage:

- 4437 men, 11,601 women
- Men earned \$22.62 per hour, women \$17.27

The economic value of volunteering is highest in the 1) culture & recreation 2) education & research and 3) social services sectors:

- Culture & recreation \$266,000,000
- Education & research \$191,000,000
- Social services \$178,000,000

And the sector's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) contributions are impressive. Non-profit organizations (excluding government and business non-profits) contributed \$425,000,000. The most GDP contributions by sector were:

- Culture & recreation \$135,000,000
- Social services \$118,000,000

**Conclusion:** It is past time to change the conversation about the non-profit sector in NB. Each organization is an employer, an investor, a beneficiary of economically-valuable volunteering activity, a coordinator of financial transactions, a distributor of products and services, and more. There is value in the services just as there is value in the acts of providing these services—and this is something that has long been overlooked.

Please see the link to the study report **HERE**.

Please contact Haley Flaro at [haley.flaro@abilitynb.ca](mailto:haley.flaro@abilitynb.ca) for more information.

## **Workshops, Training, Networks**

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Tamarack: Designing for What's Next

National Coalition for Healthy School Foods, Steering Committee meetings

Community Coordinators, Monthly Breakfast Club

UBC Food Security Network webinar: Tackling Food Insecurity with our School Food Systems

Interviewed by Masters Research Student on Role of Community Based Agriculture in addressing food insecurity