

CIN Report to GFSI and CIN Advisory Committee

Activities for September 2021



ESIC Contract

GFSI has signed a new contract with ESIC covering the period from Oct 1, 2021 until March 31, 2023.

CIN Regional Plan

The next deliverable for the CIN is to present to ESIC a Regional Plan that advances poverty reduction priorities determined to be within our sphere of influence, by November 30th, including the following:

- Make investments through a new social innovation fund to increase the capacity and sustainability of social enterprises in NB
- Improve access to mental health and addictions services and reduce wait times
- Develop and implement regional transportation plans to increase accessibility, affordability, and availability of transportation services
- Work with partners to provide inclusive opportunities for sport, recreation, and leisure activities for low income NB'ers
- Support children and youth by ensuring there are school programs in all NB schools

Community Engagement strategy for Regional Plan development will include the following activities:

1. Participate in the Open Space Forum even called Housing and Economic and Social Inclusion, hosted by River Stone Recovery Center and GFSI. Breath of possible topics for discussion will include many of the priorities outlined above with 50+ participants expected. Tentative dates for the meeting is set for Oct. 19th, with a back-up date of Nov. 2.
2. Continue work underway with Silvermark on developing plans for a volunteer drive network operation in Fredericton, Oromocto, and New Maryland.
3. Conduct small group discussions and individual interviews in order to identify community priorities and projects related to the ESIC priorities.
4. Meet with the CIN Advisory Committee for guidance, input and approval of the final plan to be submitted to ESIC.

Training

ESIC offered rudimentary training in governance practices and financial oversight for board members. Training sessions were recorded and will be made available. As well, ESIC held a meeting for all CIN coordinators and board members to review ESIC's expectations for deliverables including the Regional Plans and work plans, as well as offering a review of the new CIN contracts.

Carry Over Funding for Community Projects

GFSI board recently approved the following allocations of unspent funds arising from the CIN contract.

- \$500: **L Arche Fredericton**: social inclusion project/arts programming for upwards of 10 clients
- \$500: **Greener Village Greenhouse** project: food security/to purchase soil amendments for communal gardens that supply fresh produce in food boxes
- \$500: **Community Food Smart Adaptation**: food security project/ to replenish stocks of bags for packing required due to COVID health protocols
- \$500: **Bulk Food Procurement Project for Schools**: school food programs/ cover costs for supplies incurred by Greener Village associated with the launch of the pilot project
- \$500: **Basic Income Collaboration**: income support initiative/ cover costs associated with initiative to create a NB Chapter of Basic Income Canada and to promote education and citizen engagement.

Effective with the new contract, all future allocations of the carry-over administration funds must be approved by ESIC. Have requested details on guidelines for administration going forward.

CIN Initiatives: Key Updates



Launching next round of the RX coupon program starting in September. 40 candidates will be recruited to receive credits ranging from \$150 to \$375 depending on family size, for the purchase of produce at the market. Agencies including Under One Sky, Greener Village, Public Health diabetes clinic, and Heart and Stroke Foundation will offer candidate referrals. As well, we are accepting referrals from individuals. Candidates are then interviewed to access their suitability along 4 criteria: existence of a diet related health condition such as diabetes, cardio-vascular, etc., incidence of food insecurity in the last year, ability to visit the market at least 2 times a month, and agreement to complete 3 surveys.

Managed the complete market operations for one week to replace Maddie, our Produce Manager who was away on training. Glad she is back!



Received inquiries from a community developer with Horizon Health working on Campobello Island. Discussions are now underway with Fresh Choice on possibilities for coordinating deliveries and packing, as a first step.



Involved in planning for the last round of meetings for the **Who's Who in the School Food Zoo** project. The event was canceled due to the increase in reports of incidents of COVID in schools. A new date will

be set when it is determined that schools, and those agencies that support school food programs, are best able to participate.

The Liberal Party platform included a pledge of \$1 billion in funding for a National School program, to be awarded over 5 years. **This funding pledge is a breakthrough development.** Currently working with the National Coalition for Healthy School Food Steering Committee on crafting letters to be sent to advocate for inclusion of this pledge in the mandate letters to Ministers and moving attention on this file to the Minister of Health, from that of Agriculture.

Received first portion of the \$10K grant from the Coalition to Nourishing Minds NB to work on development of a NB Chapter of the Coalition. Working on completion of MOU with Food For All NB to undertake the organizing work. Reached out to the BC Chapter of the Coalition for guidance and reference documents to assist efforts in NB.

Still no word on allocation plans for the \$1M dollars for school food programs made by GNB.

Regional Transportation Plan:

Great progress on the Silvermark project which is nearing completion. Milestones still to be achieved include:

- presentations to Age Friendly Committees in Fredericton, Oromocto and New Maryland to invite them to identify a Lead Volunteer, and to recruit and onboard 8 volunteer drivers as a prerequisite for launching the service in their community this fall (Presentations to occur between Oct 18th -25th)
- presentation to Rural Urban Rides board of directors, to explore division of responsibilities and governance options necessary for an expansion of their service into the Fredericton region. (Their board is voting on the decision to begin discussions with GFSI on service expansion on Oct. 14th)
- Presentation to the Regional Service Commission 11 to appeal for funding support, following the lead of other RSC's and municipalities in the province. (TBD. Looking at early November)

Silvermark has been asked to provide the full project report to the CIN Advisory Committee in early Nov.

Community Projects

Regional Resiliency Team: Meeting held to identify new project leads for the Fredericton Region, in advance of the province allocating \$50k for recommended projects that advance resiliency locally.

Food For All NB Conference: Loud About Food: Participating on the planning committee for the upcoming provincial conference (virtual), advocating for presentations from GNB on their analysis of the climate crisis impacts in NB related to our food systems and delivery networks.

Fredericton Local Immigration Project: Consultations with new immigrants completed. Review of feedback will be undertaken at the next meeting on Oct. 18th with a goal of identifying next steps for the project team to consider.

Bulk Food Procurement Pilot Project: Square ordering platform has been designed to accept orders from schools. Waiting to confirm prices and delivery dates, with a view to starting up the program by

Oct 15th. Priestman St is now able to join the pilot group, as they received a cheque from President's Choice for their program and not PC credit cards as expected.

Volunteer Fredericton: Had a booth at the STU Cares Volunteer Recruitment Fair on Sept 13th. Opportunity to network with staff from other non-profit organizations, resulting in follow up meetings to discuss local initiatives.

Other

Tamarack Institute: Meeting of Atlantic agencies supporting Basic Income was convened by Tamarack on Sept 9th for the following presentations:

- The Basic Income That We Want - Mandy Kay-Raining Bird, Nova Scotia
 - Small group discussions
- An Atlantic Canada with One Voice – Darlene O’Leary & Sister Marion Sheridan
 - Small group brainstorms

Recording can be accessed [here](#), password **9uKS=3#k**. Next group meeting is Oct 14th.

New publication released by Tamarack: [The End of Poverty](#): Eight Pathways That Are Ending Poverty in Canada

211.nb: Invited Daniela Fernandez, 211 NB Director of Community Engagement, to present information on back end data tracking on 211 at the Community Non-Profit Breakfast event in October.

Workshops, Training, Networks

ESIC, CIN and Volunteer Drive Operations Managers monthly calls

National Coalition for Healthy School Food Steering Committee, monthly meeting

Community Developers Breakfast Meeting at the Gathering Place, Sept. 15th

Open Farm Day, Hayes Farm Volunteer Sept 19th

National Day for Truth and Reconciliation: attended Flag Raising at City Hall