

Food Security in our Neighbourhood
2020/21
A Proposal for Action by the Hunt Club Community Association
Grow Food, Not Grass
“Get Growing”

Motion: The HCCA Board approve the formation of a “Get Growing Working Group”, a one year pilot project with accompanying budget to improve food security in the Hunt Club Community.

At the November and December 2019 HCCA meeting it was agreed HCCA would pursue the issues of the environment/climate change and food security. In light of the pandemic and the now magnified issue of food security, the following for deliberation and decision at the May 4, 2020 HCCA Board meeting: as long as there is a co-chair of Food Security and volunteers who wish to serve on this project.

The plan is designed to increase food security for residents of our community through improving understanding and awareness of the need, providing support, educational resources, building capacity, supporting volunteerism, utilizing local knowledge and access all in relation to food security and nutritious food. This initiative, if approved, hinges on having a minimum of 4 active volunteers (ideally 6 people) who are able to contribute their time and talents, particularly in the next 6 weeks and then on a lesser time schedule, to Oct/Nov of 2020.

Plan, Initiatives, Budget

1. The Plan:

- Establish the working group-who is interested? We need you!
 - Co-chairs
 - Awareness/media/promotion (portal on website, banner, twitter, Facebook, door to door posters, link with neighbourly groups)
 - Community garden champion
 - Link with city councillor/city/hydro etc. to open up space
 - Capacity builder (e.g. list of local gardeners who can provide advice to other gardeners).

2. Initiatives: (a start)

- Engage with councillor Brockington-options, creative use of public space to grow food
- Link with RPCA
- Link with SEOHC to find synergies, perhaps hold regular donation opportunities (i.e. if people have extra food they can bring it to X on day Y between hours Z.
- Link with Just Food Ottawa
- Link with HCRP Roundtable/Food Security Committee (via Lynette)

- Encourage plant a row, donate a row
- Local experienced gardeners could volunteer to provide advice to those who are just starting out.
- Link with CAFES-what's going on elsewhere, what can we learn, where can we work together
- Purchase seeds to giveaway through planned, safe (physical distance) events throughout the neighbourhood
- Offer virtual seminars/info sessions/links to Just Food offerings on gardening-publicize through social media
- Evaluation: Keep record of initiatives/gardeners/do surveys/to measure the outcome/results of the pilot

Budget:

Total: \$500

Seeds: \$450 to be given to gardeners in Hunt Club (a variety of vegetables, greens, people are asked, if able, to donate part of what they grow from the seeds -we can provide suggestions-could be a local drop off point, could be the food bank etc.).

Posters/Printing \$20

Supplies for distribution e.g. hand sanitizer \$30

Request \$250 from HCCA , \$250 from Councillor Brockington (a response to this request is pending).