

Early Identification and Implementation of a Promising or Emerging Practices and/or Approaches

Building a Child & Family Centred Community Food Coalition (Alberni Valley Community School - \$10,000)

The Alberni Valley Community School has focused on addressing food security in the Alberni Valley for the past 3 years. They have developed successful community kitchens focused on children aged 3 to 5 and 8 to 10 and look to broaden their horizons and develop a new initiative focused on children aged 6-8. Continuing with the approach of 'children as teachers' they will reach children early helping to create change and promote community food security and develop life-long skills. They will also commence a process to encourage the collaboration of up to six groups currently working on food security and identify partnerships and opportunities to working together.

Hillside-Quadra Food Security – Urban Food Production (Blanshard Community Centre - \$4,000)

The Blanshard Community Centre has been operating since 1977 and is focused on nurturing community well being. In the past they have engaged their community in addressing community food security through addressing emergency food needs to the development of a food security action plan for the future. This year they will explore the innovative practice of balcony food gardening through workshops, implementing a demonstration balcony food garden and developing a how-to manual.

Pocket Market Network Expansion and Enhancement (Food Roots Distributors Co-op - \$6,000)

Food Roots Distributors Co-op has championed the promising practice of "pocket markets bringing local food to areas that do not generally have access to fresh healthy produce. They are looking to bring their innovative pocket market concept to more communities, providing access to locally grown foods to new areas that otherwise would not have this great opportunity. They will also look to liaise with community members and farmers alike to increase diversity and capacity of locally grown foods.