



COMMUNITY FOOD LEADER CERTIFICATE PROGRAM



May 2018 - December 2018
CAPE BRETON | CUMBERLAND COUNTY | HALIFAX
communityfoodleader.com

**THIS IS A FREE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
CERTIFICATE PROGRAM HOSTED BY THE OUR
FOOD PROJECT OF THE ECOLOGY ACTION CENTRE**

The Our Food Project of the Ecology Action Centre has been working with partners to build what we call 'positive food environments' – the physical and social spaces that make it easier to grow, sell, and eat good food. We are eager to share the knowledge, tools, and approaches that we learned over the years through the Community Food Leader Certificate Program – to enable communities to keep the food movement growing in their area.

Community Food Leader Certificate Program

The Community Food Leader Certificate Program is intended for community-based organizations that work at a local level to directly impact the lives of individuals experiencing food insecurity. Over eight months, The Our Food Project will support leadership development and collaboration among organization and community leaders who want to implement or expand food initiatives in their communities. Food initiatives include an array of activities that help to shape local food systems such as: community gardens, cooking skills programs, local food markets, and more. Graduates will become part of a regional network of food leaders, working to build food literacy, leadership skills, and food initiatives that improve food security in their community.

What past participants have to say about the Community Food Leader Program:

"[Community Food Leaders] was one of the best training opportunities I've had in my career as a Community Librarian... I've made so many valuable partnerships and connections."

"The Community Food Leader Program has provided me with time, space, and support to develop my ideas and has added considerably to the toolkit at my disposal... My plans for farm-based food education programming now seem more real, more achievable and less "maybe one day..."

"Being a chef, meatcutter, and farmer, I've always had a passion for food. However, being able to sit and share ideas with such like-minded people definitely fuelled my drive to be better at what I do when it comes to food."

The Community Food Leader Certificate Program is for community-based organizations. We offer:



Monthly **training sessions** in your region



Coaching to help you reach food project goals



Connection to a community of practice and resources

To get the most out of this program, the Community Food Leader Certificate Program is for individuals who can attend monthly trainings and work on their own food projects in between. The amount of time to dedicate between trainings will be informed by specific organizational food goals.

Graduates will receive a Community Food Leader Certificate.



PROGRAM ELEMENTS

- 1 MONTHLY TRAINING SESSIONS:** There will be one half or full day training each month in participating regions. Trainings will focus on key concepts that support meaningful and sustainable community food initiatives, while connecting with others in your region. A detailed curriculum will be made available at the start of the program.

PROGRAM TOPICS INCLUDE:

Food Systems

How does food connect in our lives & work?

Facilitation

What approaches can we use when working with groups?

Evaluation

How can we measure success?

Fundraising

How do we fund our work?

Communication

How can we talk about, and engage people in, our initiatives?

Civic Engagement

How can we engage communities and partners for positive change?

Food skills training

Informed by regional needs (e.g., gardening, cooking, food preservation)

- 2 FOOD PROJECT COACHING:** We'll connect with each organization between trainings to help them reach their project milestones.

- 3 NETWORKING:** As a Community Food Leader participant, you'll be connected to leaders across the region through webinars, newsletters, and other avenues where regional and provincial highlights will be shared. You'll continue to be connected with and have access to resources beyond the program duration.

Applications Due: April 20, 2018

Please visit communityfoodleader.com for the program application and more details.

Questions? Contact us!

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