

Nazko Food Systems Transformation and Improvement Project

Nazko Territory, North-Central Interior of BC



Nazko First Nation



Who We Are

Nazko First Nation, part of the Southern Carrier group, focuses on community unity and economic growth. Through cultural values and consultation, Nazko aims to diversify beyond forestry, develop resource-based businesses, and create sustainable employment, stability, and a prosperous, safe, and holistic future for its members.



Project Overview

The Nazko Food Systems Transformation Project enhances community food security by organizing and maintaining communal assets. Key activities included creating an Asset Management Plan, maintenance manuals, and user agreements while providing training on equipment use, safety, cultivation, and harvesting. The project consolidates resources, ensures proper usage, and builds community capacity for sustainable food practices.

Key Highlights

This project strengthened local food security by helping us to organize and improve the use of shared resources like our greenhouses, kitchen, smokehouse, and medicinal garden. Through training, workshops, manuals, and agreements, over 45 community members learned how to safely and confidently use these assets for growing, preparing and preserving food. The project also helped to reduce food waste and build valuable partnerships.



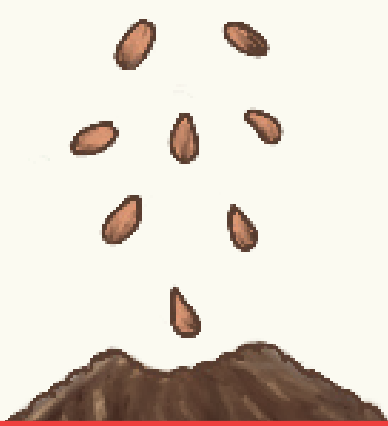
Stories of Impact

This project benefited approximately 100 members of Nazko First Nation, especially those who live on reserve and may not have easy access to grocery stores due to our remote location. By giving people the skills and tools to grow and prepare their own food, we are helping families become more self-reliant and connected to traditional food practices.

Next Steps

The project's completion marks a shift to sustaining its benefits. We will use the Asset Management Plan and User Agreements to maintain equipment, ensure proper use, and provide fair access. Continuing workshops, creating a seasonal food activity calendar, involving youth, and exploring new funding will strengthen skills, access, and community engagement, supporting a healthier, more resilient food system for Nazko's future.

Stages of Food Systems Transformation



Seeding

- Create spaces and opportunities for communities to gather
- Build skills, competencies and leadership
- Engage in critical reflection



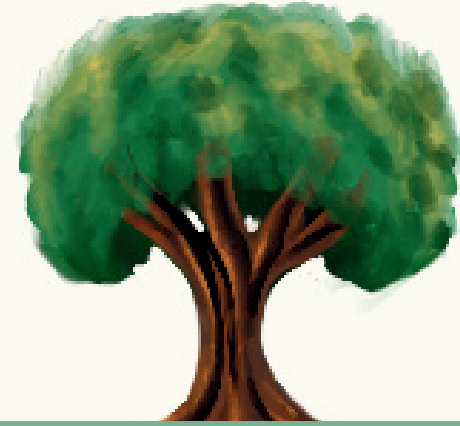
Germinating

- Strengthen networks and coalition building
- Foster equitable relationships and collaboration
- Create processes for accountability and transparency



Rooting

- Facilitate mutual knowledge and resources sharing
- Stimulate co-creation of knowledge
- Leverage community leaders and assets



Growing

- Engage in transformative collective action projects
- Engage in transdisciplinary action research
- Strengthen social movements

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Acknowledgements

This project was supported through a Rapid Stimulus Grant.

