

Lax'ip Gardens and Indigenous Foodscapes Community Garden

Kispiox, Gitksan Territory



Who We Are

The Kispiox Band, a First Nations community in British Columbia’s Kispiox Valley, supports members through health, education, cultural, and economic programs. Emphasizing food security, the Band runs community gardens, greenhouses, and traditional food education, fostering sustainability, self-sufficiency, and cultural preservation while promoting holistic community well-being and resilience.



Project Overview

Our project created a culturally grounded community garden on underused land, enhancing food security and sustainability for our Northern BC First Nations band. Grant funding enabled us to hire a Project Coordinator to lead planning, community engagement, soil analysis, and Indigenous agricultural knowledge integration, ensuring the garden provides fresh produce, education, and cultural connection.

Key Highlights

The Lax'ip project strengthened community food security and cultural connection by expanding greenhouses, growing a community garden, and hosting workshops on gardening, composting, and food preservation. Youth and elders collaborated in planting, harvesting, and preparing traditional foods, renewing interest in local harvesting while fostering resilience, wellness, and self-sufficiency.



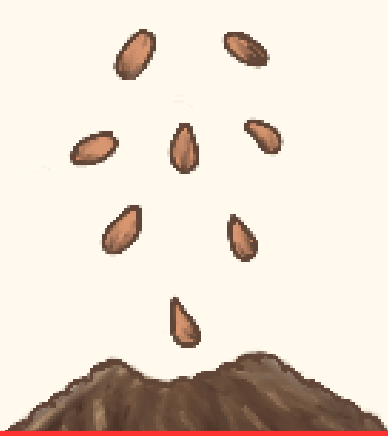
Stories of Impact

Our community had an amazing time going out on the land for huckleberry picking. Many members don’t have transportation, so being able to go together was so special. The kids also loved learning to plant and harvest potatoes. These activities brought joy, connection, and hands-on learning to everyone involved.

Next Steps

We will try to access funds through different grants to continue to support hiring a full time gardener and are hopeful that we can be successful. If so, we will continue expanding on the 2nd greenhouse and would continue to involve the community on teaching what food sovereignty is all about.

Stages of Food Systems Transformation



Seeding

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



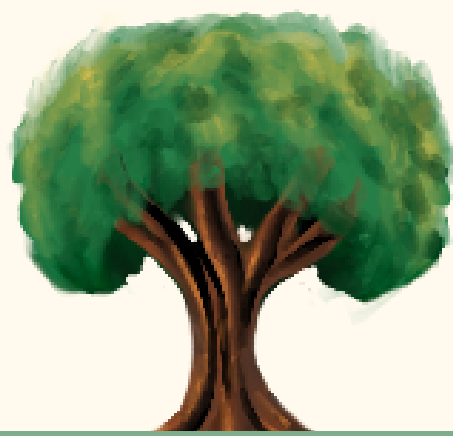
Germinating

- 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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