



**February 16, 2023**

Everett Baker  
Mayor, City of Grand Forks  
Box 220  
GrandFork, BC V0H 1H0



Dear Mayor Everett Baker and Council,

We are writing to share a great story from your community with wonderful outcomes:

- People in your community accessed fresh, healthy local food from local farmers.
- Local farmers saw greater economic activity - strengthening their sustainability.

Each year, with funding from the Province of British Columbia, the BC Association of Farmers Markets delivers the BC Farmers' Market Nutrition Coupon Program across the province. In 2022, through an increase in funding we expanded the number of seniors and elders in the program and increased the weekly coupon allocation per family from \$21 to \$27.

### **In Your Community**

In **Grand Forks**, we proudly partnered with **Boundary Community Food Bank and Boundary Family Services - Baby's Best Chance (Canada Prenatal Nutrition Program)** who provided lower-income pregnant persons, families, and seniors with coupons to purchase fresh fruits, vegetables, cheese, eggs, nuts, fish, meat, herbs and honey directly from farmers at your local farmers' market.

And with these coupons they redeemed **\$67,692** with local farmers at the **Grand Forks Farmers Market**.

Over **174** lower-income residents from **Grand Forks** ate and enjoyed more local, fresh foods, learned about healthy eating, and felt connected to their community. At the same time, your local food system was strengthened with farmers in your community who benefited from this additional income to sustain their farms.

### **Our Request To You**

If you agree the BC Farmers' Market Nutrition Coupon Program is a valuable program, we kindly ask you to send a thank you letter to the Minister of Health, Adrien Dix. Your encouragement and feedback means a lot and can strengthen support for ongoing funding for the BC Farmers' Market Nutrition Coupon Program.



We are ready to dig in and work with your community again in 2023!

With gratitude,

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, likely belonging to Heather O'Hara.

Heather O'Hara  
Executive Director

A handwritten signature in black ink, likely belonging to Wylie Bystedt.

Wylie Bystedt  
President, Board of Directors