

From: Judy Stafford <judy@cowichangreencommunity.org>
Sent: Wednesday, September 27, 2023 4:23 PM
To: Tricia Mayea <tricia.mayea@northcowichan.ca>
Subject: Letter of Support Request

Hi Tricia,

We are requesting a letter of support from North Cowichan for a grant application we are submitting in partnership with Vancouver Island University to help support the Food Hub project located at 2431 Beverly Street.

The REDIP Forest Industry Transition fund is an ideal match to complete the COVID-disrupted construction of the *Cowichan Valley Full-Scale Food Processing and Innovation Centre (Cowichan Food Hub)* in the Municipality of North Cowichan. The completion of the Cowichan Food Hub will increase agri-food production, processing, and marketing opportunities in North Cowichan, will build capacity and resiliency in a range of sectors, and will strengthen the economy throughout the Cowichan Valley region.

The Municipality of North Cowichan has been a partner in the Cowichan Food Hub project since the onset in 2015 and throughout the years up to and including, when the Ministry of Agriculture and Food provided funding to establish the Cowichan Food Hub as one in the new BC Food Hub Network. Funding was provided for the Cowichan Green Community and its partners to develop a HACCP (Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point) Ready commercial teaching kitchen, food processing and testing facilities, and aggregation/ packaging space for local food producers and processors. North Cowichan has supported this project with \$82,000 to help support the contractor and permitting fees.

We are applying to REDIP to help finalize the construction of the warehouse and kitchen.

Please let me know if you require any additional information.

Thank you.

Judy Stafford

Executive Director

Cowichan Green Community



[250-748-8506](tel:250-748-8506)



cowichangreencommunity.org



360 Duncan St., Duncan, BC, V9L 3W4