

## Feeding Futures – Nechako Lakes: June Update

Dear Parent/Guardian,

At this point in the 2025-2026 school year, it is time to look back and recognize how the school district food program grew.

Highlights for the year include:

- The **creativity and passion of each school meal worker** in the school district who puts a lot of energy into each meal served at each school in the district
- Collaborating with **more regional food producers** throughout the Nechako Lakes region, with plans to explore partnerships with more in the next school years



- Piloting a lunch program at David Hoy through **partnerships** with Anja's Motel and Meals and Suspenders in Fort St James

- Continuing to participate in the Fresh for Kids program, providing fresh fruits, vegetables and cheese or yogurt to snack programs throughout the district, thanks to a **donation from Adopt-A-School via the Sedin Family Foundation** (and yes, this is Hendrik and Daniel Sedin's foundation)

- Seeing and hearing **appreciation** for the food program from students, households and school staff



- Introducing **37 new food and body related books** to school libraries via an Imagine Grant from Northern Health

- **Partnering with School District 52 – Prince Rupert and Farm2School BC** to host the Connecting Food in the North Event which saw 70 regional food producers, distributors and Highway 16 food system partners, including public institutions gather in Smithers to consider how

the food system can be enhanced to increase regional product in school food programs



Kind regards,

Robyn Turner-Klopper, Dietitian

Food Programs Manager, School District 91 – Nechako Lakes

## In Focus – Looking to the 2026-2027 school year:

- A working group made up of regional food producers, Indigenous partners and public institutions from across Highway 16 are collaboratively discussing next steps to improve the regional food system and enhance regional food in the school food program. More to come in the fall!
- The farm at Fraser Lake Elementary-Secondary School is being built, with plans for the produce to be incorporated into the school district food program as available.
- Exploring food literacy collaborations to engage students in the food system and the school food program.
- The *National School Food Forum* provided information about programs and resources in other parts of the country. Now, school food coordinators and managers in BC are exploring how to bring these to the local school districts.



## Other items

To end the year and learn a bit more about the school district food program, here is a quiz. Answers are at the bottom of the next page.

1. Which of the following regional food producers have been suppliers for the *School District 91 – Nechako Lakes Feeding Futures* program this school year?
  - a. Copper T Ranch
  - b. Nancy Schlamp
  - c. Rafter 10 Ranch, Reimer Ranch, Speckled Sow
  - d. Felicity Farms and Borno Farms
  - e. Bakerrij Lobelle
  - f. Nechako Acres
  - g. All of the above
2. What new food item was voted on by the students and then introduced to schools as a snack item?
  - a. Apple chips (BC produced – Chiwis)
  - b. Kiwi chips (BC produced – Chiwis)
  - c. Both A and B
  - d. None of the above
3. About how many lunches were served to students throughout the school district this year?
  - a. 100,000 (About 560 meals per day)
  - b. 55,000 (About 305 meals per day)
  - c. 40,000 (About 225 meals per day)
  - d. 83,000 (About 460 meals per day)



### School Food & Local Food Word Search

Words to find:

SCHOOL, FOOD, LOCAL, FARM, VEGETABLE, FRUIT, DAIRY, GRAIN, PROTEIN, LUNCH, KITCHEN, GARDEN, HARVEST, COMMUNITY, HEALTHY



### Local School Food Programs Word Scramble 🌱

Directions: Unscramble each word related to local food and school food programs.

1. LACOL
2. RMAF
3. EVHARST
4. NAGDRE
5. MOCMUNTIY
6. TERSMFA
7. CROPDUCE
8. NCUHL
9. TSUFRI
10. BELTEGAVE
11. OSCLOH
12. TIONIRTUN
13. SMEAL
14. HEALTHY
15. KCIHTEN

Quiz answers: 1. G, 2. C, 3. a