



MAR 15 2023
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February 16, 2023

Ward Stamer
Mayor, Barriere
Box 219
Barriere, BC V0E 1E0

Dear Mayor Ward Stamer 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 **Barriere**, we proudly partnered with **Yellowhead Community Services, Barriere, BC** 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 **\$3,558** with local farmers at the **Barriere Farmers Market**.

Over **20** lower-income residents from **Barriere** 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,

Heather O'Hara
Executive Director

Wylie Bystedt
President, Board of Directors

BC Association of Farmers' Markets

208 - 1089 West Broadway Vancouver, BC V6H 1E5
604 734 9797 bcfarmersmarket.org bcfarmersmarket@trillium.com