

**Urban Agriculture & Food Systems  
Policy and Planning:  
Profiles of Five North American Cities**

Compiled by Mike Simpson  
For Prof. Nathan McClintock  
Toulan School of Urban Studies & Planning  
Portland State University  
June 2013

Portland • Seattle • Vancouver • Toronto • Montréal



<b>PORTLAND</b>	
<b>FOOD AND UA POLICY TIMELINE</b>	..... 4
<b>KEY POLICY DOCUMENTS</b>	..... 6
<b>SEATTLE</b>	
<b>FOOD AND UA POLICY TIMELINE</b>	..... 8
<b>KEY POLICY DOCUMENTS</b>	..... 10
<b>VANCOUVER</b>	
<b>FOOD AND UA POLICY TIMELINE</b>	..... 12
<b>KEY POLICY DOCUMENTS</b>	..... 14
<b>TORONTO</b>	
<b>FOOD AND UA POLICY TIMELINE</b>	..... 16
<b>KEY POLICY DOCUMENTS</b>	..... 18
<b>MONTRÉAL</b>	
<b>FOOD AND UA POLICY TIMELINE</b>	..... 20
<b>KEY POLICY DOCUMENTS</b>	..... 22
<b>COMMUNITY GARDENS - COMPARED</b>	..... 23
<b>COMMUNITY ORCHARDS - COMPARED</b>	..... 24
<b>URBAN FARMS - COMPARED</b>	..... 24
<b>ANIMAL HUSBANDRY - COMPARED</b>	..... 25
<b>BEEKEEPING - COMPARED</b>	..... 26
<b>SECONDARY LITERATURE AND REPORTS</b>	..... 27

# PORTLAND - FOOD & UA POLICY TIMELINE

*Portland has been acknowledged as a leader at protecting agricultural land since the 1970s when the State of Oregon required the city to develop a comprehensive land use plan and institute limits on urban expansion. However, when it comes to championing agriculture within the boundaries of the city, Portland has arguably been a late bloomer.*

*Still, despite its late start Portland has affirmed itself as an innovator in food policy and urban agriculture planning over the last decade and since the Food Policy Council was formed in 2002. In that time, Portland has rapidly increased the number of community gardens in the city, hired a Food Policy Manager, conducted North America's first urban agriculture land inventory, grappled seriously with food systems and urban agriculture in numerous plans including the Climate Action Plan, and relaxed its zoning code to encourage more agricultural activity in the city.*

**1973:**

Oregon Senate Bills 100 requires every city in the state to develop a comprehensive land use plan with the intention of regulating urban expansion and protecting agricultural lands.

**1975:**

Portland's Community Gardens Program is created by City Council ordinance.

**1994:**

Portland's Bureau of Environmental Services purchase Zenger Farm with the intension of preserving its wetlands. The following year the farm is leased out to be used as an agricultural education site.

**2002:**

Portland and Multnomah County create a joint Food Policy Council to provide ongoing advice and input to city and county staff on food-related issues.

**2004:**

Resolution calling for the creation of an urban agricultural inventory of all city-owned land that may be suitable for community gardens and other agricultural uses. Leads to the Diggable City project.

**2006:**

Portland City Council Resolution 36407 establishes a Peak Oil Task Force mandated to advise on how the city can mitigate the impacts of declining energy on numerous areas including food security. The Peak Oil Task Force releases a report addressing these questions the following year.

**2005:**

With the support of the City of Portland and Multnomah County, a massive grassroots effort raises \$1.4 million to save Tryon Farm from development and create a non-profit educational farm protected under land covenant.

**2005:**

The city contributes \$125,000 and partners with Portland State University to help establish the Learning Gardens Laboratory – an on the ground garden education site.

# PORTLAND - FOOD & UA POLICY TIMELINE

**2005:**

The *Diggable City* report – an inventory of city-owned property suitable for urban agriculture – is completed by Urban Planning graduate students from Portland State University.

**2007:**

*Urban Forest Action Plan* supports increased planting of food producing trees in appropriate locations.

**2008:**

The *Vision PDX* document summarizes two years of public consultations that heard 17,000 residents express opinions of the city they would like Portland to be by 2030. Findings show that Portlanders support ensuring access to multiple sources of fresh, local food for people of all incomes, and also the creation of more opportunities for residents to grow their own food in the city.

**2009:**

*Climate Action Plan* – The third climate plan adopted by Portland since 1993, but only the first to address matters of the food system as they relate to climate change.

**2009:**

The Board of County Commissioners for Multnomah County pass a resolution adopting the Food Policy Council's recommendation to create a food action plan.

**2009:**

City Council passes the *Better Together Garden Resolution* on Earth Day, calling for the creation of an annual vegetable garden at City Hall.

**2009:**

*Portland Fruit & Nut Tree Report* by the Portland/Multnomah Food Policy Council calls for the inclusion and promotion of fruit and nut trees as street trees, and also calls for the expansion of community orchards in the city.

**2009:**

'1000 Gardens Initiative' is undertaken by Portland Parks and Recreation to create 1,000 new community garden plots by 2012. This goal had already been set by the Climate Action Plan, and is one that Parks ultimately achieved successfully.

**2010:**

*Multnomah Food Action Plan* – Multnomah County creates a 15 year road map for achieving a 'sustainable food system' by 2025.

**2012:**

Food Policy Council is disbanded.

**2012:**

Council approves *The Portland Plan* (Resolution #36918, April 25th). As one of the Plan's 2035 objectives for achieving a "healthy, connected neighborhood", it seeks to ensure that 90% of Portlanders live within a ½ mile of a store or market that sells healthy, affordable food.

**2011:**

*Urban Food Zoning Code Update*.

# PORTLAND - KEY POLICY DOCUMENTS

---

## **2004 – Urban Agriculture Resolution (No. 36272)**

This resolution called upon the City of Portland to identify the criteria for suitable sites that have the potential to become community gardens or have other agricultural uses, and to then create an inventory of all City-owned property that fits this criteria.

## **2007 – Peak Oil Task Force Report**

City of Portland’s Peak Oil Task Force report concludes that declining availability of fossil fuels will decrease distance that food can travel from farm to plate. Consequently, the amount and variety of food available in Portland, and the cost of food, will rise and will disproportionately affect low-income households. The report recommends a series of action items that the City could take to mitigate these impacts on Portland’s food security. In summary, the City is encouraged to take a more active roll in the Portland ‘foodshed’ by preserving farmland, encouraging the expansion of local food production, and exploring ways to make more land (both public and private) available for growing food.

## **2009: Portland Climate Action Plan (BPS)**

This is the third climate action plan adopted by Portland since 1993, but only the first to address matters of the food system as they relate to climate change. Two pages of this 52 page plan are devoted to food and agriculture. The climate plan recognizes the substantial contribution of the agriculture industry to greenhouse gas emissions, and calls upon the City to reduce consumption of ‘carbon intensive foods’ (namely, red meat), and increase the consumption of local food by providing infrastructure and educational resources to growers.

## **2009: Portland Plan Background Report on Food Systems (BPS)**

This background report on the Portland Food System, written in preparation for the Portland Plan, describes itself as “the first attempt to characterize a wide range of food issues as part of the City’s comprehensive planning efforts.” The report provides an exhaustive recap of the issues and efforts related to food access and urban agriculture in Portland, while also looking to examples from other cities. It finds that although Portlanders are passionate about food, urban agriculture, and equity of access, demand for these amenities outstrips supply. The report thereby calls for expanded programming and integration of food access into all aspects of urban design.

## **2010: Multnomah Food Action Plan (Multnomah Co.)**

A fifteen year roadmap to achieving a ‘sustainable food system in Multnomah County’ by 2025. The plan identifies four focus areas – Local Food, Healthy Eating, Social Equity, and Economic Vitality – and sets a total of 16 goals in these areas. Goals 1-4 focus on issues related to urban agriculture, such as protecting farmland, increasing urban agriculture production, and supporting small-scale farms. Goals 5-8 emphasize educating people about healthy eating, and making healthy food choices accessible in every neighborhood. Goals 9-12 call on the County to ‘address the cause of hunger, food insecurity, and injustice’ through a variety of actions including strengthening food resources in neighborhoods, and strengthening community involvement processes. Finally, goals 13-16 focus on strengthening the local food economy through such actions as promoting institutional purchasing, and developing regional infrastructure to support producers.

# PORTLAND - KEY POLICY DOCUMENTS

---

## ***2011: Urban Food Zoning Code Update (BPS)***

Whereas zoning code typically deals with large-scale agricultural production and distribution, Portland's 2011 *Urban Food Zoning Code Update* is intended to address and facilitate neighborhood scale production and distribution that is more appropriate to the urban environment. Specifically, the code update deals with regulations permitting market gardens, community gardens, farmers markets, and CSAs and buying clubs. Amendments to the code allow market gardens and membership based distribution to be permitted in all zones. The update also places additional regulations on Community Gardens (hours of operation, and use of motorized equipment), and on Farmers Markets (addressing location, frequency, how many "non-farmer" vendors are allowed, etc.). The update does not address animal husbandry or bees.

# SEATTLE- FOOD & UA POLICY TIMELINE

*Seattle's P-Patch Community Garden Program is one of the oldest and most extensive in the United States. Since its humble origins in the mid-1970s when a student from the University of Washington started a garden in collaboration with a local school in order to teach children how to grow food, the P-Patch program has grown to 81 gardens across Seattle serving more than 6,000 people.*

*While much of Seattle's early efforts in support of urban agriculture focused on its P-Patch program, more recently the City has taken measures to expand urban agriculture into many other realms of urban life. For instance, the City declared 2010 the 'Year of Urban Agriculture' and then relaxed the zoning code to permit community gardens and urban farms in all zones, allow residents to sell their produce, and allow up to eight domestic fowl to be kept at every household.*

**1907:**

Pike Place Market is established.

**1973:**

The City of Seattle buys the Picardo Farm property and the following year authorizes a community gardening program to promote recreation and open space throughout the city which is united as the P-Patch Program.

**1974:**

P-Patch Program expands to 16 gardens.

**1978:**

Seattle Tilth and the Urban Agriculture Center in Wallingford are formed.

**1983:**

18 P-Patch garden sites, but vacancy rates of 30%.

**1992:**

Resolution 28610 declares the City of Seattle's commitment to 'support for the maintenance and long-term expansion of the P-Patch Community Gardening Program.'

**1999:**

The P-Patch Program includes 39 neighborhood sites, serving more than 1,400 families throughout Seattle. Sites range in size from 7 to 281 plots. Additionally, the P-Patch Program includes 11 "Cultivating Communities" gardens, operated in cooperation with the Friends of P-Patch and the Seattle Housing Authority (SHA). However, with demand growing, the waiting list for community garden plots reaches 60 households and takes up to three years to obtain a plot in the most centrally located neighborhoods.

**1995:**

King County creates an Agricultural Commission.

**1994:**

Seattle's first *Comprehensive Plan* is developed as a requirement of Washington State's Growth Management Act (1990). The plan sets a goal of ensuring one community garden for every 2,500 households in an 'urban village and urban center' (Land Use Element, E. Open Space Network, Goal 74, p.50). The comprehensive plan additionally requires neighborhoods to develop their own plans. At least twenty of 38 neighborhood plans that are subsequently submitted to the City include requests for community gardens.





# SEATTLE - KEY POLICY DOCUMENTS

---

## ***2004 – Comprehensive Plan – Ten Year Update***

The Seattle Comprehensive Plan is composed of six “Elements”. Although urban agriculture is not specifically mentioned, the Urban Village Element does call for the P-Patch community gardening program to be ‘among priorities for use of City surplus property.’ Additionally, the Human Development Element encourages public and private efforts that support vulnerable populations, and “strive to alleviate the impacts of poverty, low income and conditions that make people, especially children and older adults, vulnerable”.

## ***2008 – Local Food Action Initiative (Resolution 31019)***

This City Council resolution created a Local Food Initiative that would ‘establish goals, create a policy framework, and identify planning, analysis and actions for the purpose of strengthening Seattle’s food system sustainability and security.’ The resolution states that ‘The overall intent of this local food action initiative is to improve our local food system and in doing so, advance the City’s interrelated goals of race and social justice, environmental sustainability, economic development, public health and emergency preparedness.’ The resolution then goes on to outline goals of the initiative related to mitigating negative ecological effects, minimizing energy consumption and waste in the food system, stimulating demand for healthy foods especially in low income communities, increasing access to food for all residents, and enhancing emergency preparedness. It requests specific actions of eight different city offices that would contribute toward achieving these goals.

## ***2010: City Code Update (Council Bill 116907)***

Code changes in 2010 include: allowing community gardens and urban farms in all zones; allowing residents to sell their produce; allowing a 15 foot exception to height limits for rooftop greenhouses dedicated to food production; adding farmers markets to the definition of a “multipurpose retail sales” use; increasing the number of domestic fowl allowed on a lot from three to eight; and, allowing existing urban horse farms greater than ten acres to operate as a permitted use in single-family zones.

## ***2011 – Community Food Security Coalition Recommendations for Food Systems Policy in Seattle***

This report was commissioned by the Seattle Department of Neighborhoods and written by the Community Food Security Coalition. The report provides a useful overview of ‘existing food system activity’, and then proceeds to recommend 35 action items. This assessment consists of a series of eight reports covering all aspects of the regional food system. Urban Agriculture is addressed in the Food Production Report, in a chapter called “Going Beyond the P-Patch”. This chapter offers case studies of exemplary organizations practicing urban agriculture in North America, reviews how urban agriculture fits into the comprehensive plans of five cities in the Puget Sound region, and then offers a summary of different urban agriculture activities in the region.

# SEATTLE - KEY POLICY DOCUMENTS

---

## ***2011 – Central Puget Sound Food System Assessment***

This thorough assessment of the Puget Sound food system was compiled by Urban Design and Planning students from the University of Washington for the Regional Food Policy Council.

## ***2012 – Seattle’s Food Action Plan***

Seattle’s first official comprehensive food systems plan. This plan identifies four goals for achieving a healthy food system in Seattle: Healthy Food for All; Grow Local; Strengthen the Local Economy; and, Prevent Food Waste. It then offers 15 strategies to achieve these goals. The Grow Local strategies encourage Seattle to prioritize food production as a valued land use and to integrate urban agriculture as a priority into the city’s plans. The plan also calls for the city to develop and support programs to produce food on city-owned lands by continuing to support P-Patches and public orchards, but also by leasing public lands to non-profits and urban farmers to produce food. Finally, the Plan recommends finding ways to expand urban food production on privately owned land in the city by providing free education and fruit trees to property owners, and by exploring opportunities to expand rooftop production throughout the city.

# VANCOUVER - FOOD & UA POLICY TIMELINE

*Over the past decade, numerous plans that directly relate to the food system have been endorsed in the Vancouver region, including the Action Plan for Creating a Just and Sustainable Food System for the City of Vancouver (2003), The Vancouver Food Charter (2007), and Metro Vancouver's Regional Food System Strategy (2011). Most recently, the Vancouver Food Strategy (2013) has sought to integrate many of these policies under a single comprehensive planning strategy.*

*Vancouver has also passed numerous plans affirming its commitment to sustainability and Environmentalism in recent decades, and this language can be seen to have influenced the City's approach to food and urban agriculture policy. In 1996, the City adopted the Environmental Policy and Environmental Action Plan, assuring that environmental considerations be accounted for in all City decisions. More recently Vancouver's Greenest City Action Plan 2020 called on Vancouver to become a 'global leader in urban food systems'.*

**1978:**

City Farmer (a non-profit focused on UA issues) is established.

**1982:**

City Farmer establishes a research garden for public demonstrations of organic food production.

**1989:**

Vancouver School Board adopts guidelines supporting garden plots on their properties.

**1991:**

City Farmer partners with the City of Vancouver to open a compost education site.

**1995:**

Vancouver's First Farmer's Market opens (Trout Lake Market at Trout Lake Community Centre).

**1995:**

Park Board approves the *Park Board Community Garden Policy*.

**2003:**

Council approves the *Action Plan for Creating a Just and Sustainable Food System for the City of Vancouver* (proposed by the Food Policy Task Force) that calls for the creation of the Vancouver Food Policy Council – a multi-stakeholder committee to provide ideas and policy recommendations for how to improve the local food system (Dec. 9th). Also calls for the City to hire two full-time food policy staff.

**2003:**

Council approves a motion calling for the creation of a 'just and sustainable food system' (June 8th) and establishes a *Food Policy Task Force* to help develop an action plan for achieving this.

**2002:**

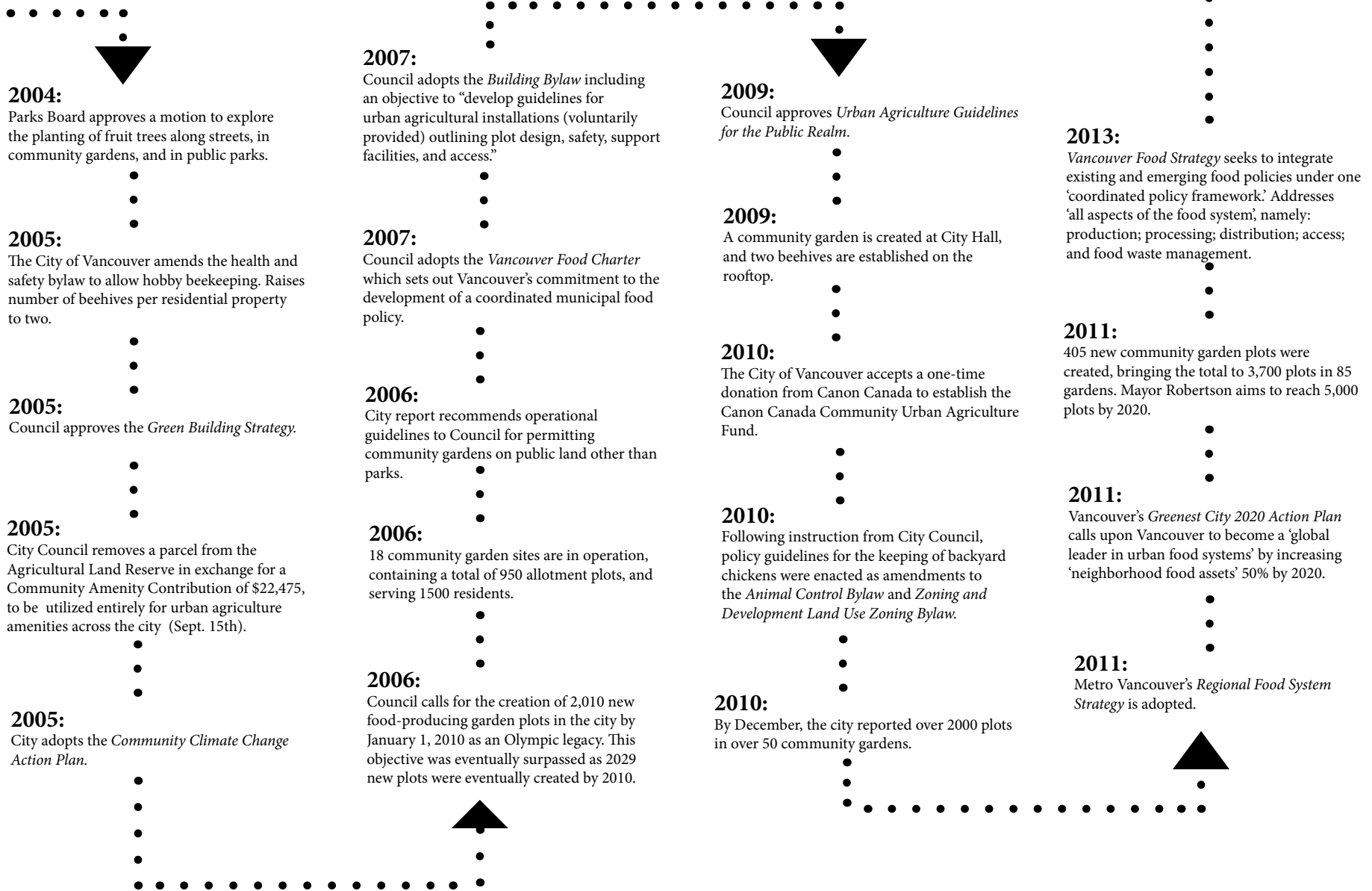
Council adopted a definition and principles for sustainability to guide the City's actions and operations.

**1996:**

City adopts the *Environment Policy and Environmental Action Plan*. Commits the City to ensuring environmental considerations are integrated into all City of Vancouver decisions respecting planning, growth, service delivery, finance, and operations.



# VANCOUVER - FOOD & UA POLICY TIMELINE



# VANCOUVER - KEY POLICY DOCUMENTS

---

## ***1995 – Park Board Community Garden Policy***

Vancouver Parks Board outlines the circumstances under which it will cooperate with non-profit groups to establish community gardens on public land operated by Parks (updated in 2005).

## ***2002 – Definition of a Sustainable Vancouver***

Adopted by Council April 2002 – “A sustainable Vancouver is a community that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. It is a place where people live, work, and prosper in a vibrant community of communities. In such a community sustainability is achieved through community participation and the reconciliation of short and long term economic, social, and ecological well-being.”

## ***2003 – Action Plan for Creating a Just and Sustainable Food System for the City of Vancouver***

Calls on the city to: establish a Food Policy Council; conduct a food system assessment; assess the feasibility of rooftop gardens; and, create more community gardens, farmer’s markets, and facilities for food processing and distribution for low-income residents. Also calls for the city to hire two full-time staff people to work on food-related issues.

## ***2006 – Guidelines for Community Gardens on Lands Other than Parks***

Establishes guidelines for broadening Vancouver’s community gardens beyond Parks lands.

## ***2007 – Vancouver Food Charter***

Reaffirms Vancouver’s commitment to a just and sustainable food systems, and establishes five principles to guide the coordination of Vancouver’s Food System: (1) Community Economic Development; (2) Ecological Health; (3) Social Justice; (4) Collaboration and Participation; and (5) Celebration.

## ***2009 – “Urban Agriculture Guidelines for the Private Realm”***

Recognizing an increase in re-zoning and development applications that voluntarily include urban agriculture provisions, the city set out a series of guidelines for the establishment of gardens on private lands such as multi-unit apartment complexes, restaurants, schools, and community centers. Includes design considerations such as the size of plots, siting, access, and garden infrastructure.

# VANCOUVER - KEY POLICY DOCUMENTS

---

## ***2011: Metro Vancouver's Regional Food System Strategy***

This plan is intended to comprehensively address the food system of the greater region of Metro Vancouver, including commercial urban food production (urban farming). While the plan covers a wide-range of aspects of that larger food system, the first of five goals laid out by this plan is to “Increase Capacity to Produce Food Close to Home”. Five specific strategies are offered to achieve this goal, including increasing agricultural production in urban areas, and investing in the new generation of farmers.

## ***2011: Greenest City Action Plan***

This plan, which aims for Vancouver to become the “Greenest City” in the world by 2020, sets ten goals toward achieving that objective. The tenth of these goals is for Vancouver to “become a global leader in urban food systems.” The plan sets a target for the city to increase ‘neighborhood food assets’ 50% by 2020. The plan estimates that in 2011, Vancouver had 3,340 ‘food assets’, including 3,260 community garden plots. The plan aims to increase the number of assets to 5,158 by 2020, including 5,000 community garden plots.

## ***2013 – Vancouver Food Strategy***

The impetus for the *Vancouver Food Strategy (VFS)* is to ‘integrate existing and emerging food policies under one coordinated policy framework’. The food strategy begins with the vision and principles of a just and sustainable food system as laid out in the Vancouver Food Charter. It proceeds to address ‘all aspects of the food system’, namely: production; processing; distribution; access; and food waste management. Urban agriculture is treated as an aspect of production. The *VFS* identifies 5 components of urban agriculture, and then sets specific goals for each: community gardening (including fruit trees); urban farming; hobby beekeeping; backyard hens; and edible landscaping. Goals include: increasing community gardens by 1/3; creating urban farming land use zoning and business licensing; enabling farm gate sales of eggs, honey, and produce; increasing the planting of fruit producing trees on parks lands as well as encouraging community stewardship of those trees.

# TORONTO - FOOD & UA POLICY TIMELINE

*In 1991, Toronto became the first city in North America - and one of the first city's in the world - to establish a Food Policy Council (FPC).*

*For over 20 years, Toronto's FPC has pushed City Council to take food seriously as an issue of social justice. In 1999, City Council formed a Hunger Action Committee, that led the Council to commit to addressing poverty and achieving food security in Toronto. In 2001, the Committee received the Council's endorsement of its Toronto Food Charter, which calls for every Toronto resident to have access to "an adequate supply of nutritious, affordable and culturally appropriate food."*

*Toronto has also endorsed the merits of urban agriculture as they related to its sustainability objectives. The City's Plan for Environmentally Sustainable Toronto (2000), and its climate change (2007) plan both express support urban agriculture.*

*Most recently, Toronto Public Health has completed a comprehensive food strategy for Toronto that addresses the food system holistically (2010).*

## Early 1900s:

Medical Officer of Health Dr. Charles Hastings "championed nutrition promotion, prenatal care, food safety and water treatment as central to the public health agenda, resulting in Toronto winning a reputation as the healthiest big city in the world in the 1920s" (*Cultivating Food Connections*, p8).

## 1970s:

Toronto's High Park allotment garden site is established. (Source: Cosgrove, 1994).

## 1984:

Michael Hough writes book *City Form and Natural Process*, in which he analyses the Toronto food system and calls for urban agriculture on rooftops and unused land beneath power lines.

## 1985:

FoodShare Toronto is founded. Their *Food Action Project* helped to create approximately 15 community gardening projects. The projects were sponsored by social housing agencies such as Metro Toronto Housing Authority. (Source: Cosgrove, 1994).

## 1988:

Michael Hough and Suzanne Barrett investigate UA in Toronto and find 14 community gardens (Source: Irene et al. p.39)

## 1993:

A survey finds 41 community gardens worked on by 2,000 community gardeners (Source: Irene et al. p.39).

## 1993:

Interdepartmental Working Group on Urban Food Production brings together the Departments of Housing, Planning and Development, City Property, Buildings and Inspection, Public Health, Parks and Recreation, and Public Works and the Environment to discuss how city policy can support increased urban food production. This working group's recommendation and report: *Supports for Urban Food Production: Creating a Garden City* are adopted by City Council.

## 1991:

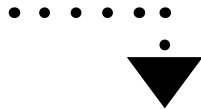
The *Declaration of Food and Nutrition* by the Food Policy Council.

## 1991:

The Toronto Food Policy Council is established as a subcommittee of the Toronto Board of Health to advise the City of Toronto on food policy issues. (Mendez and Mansfield). One of the world's first Food Policy Councils (under Mayor Art Eggleton).



# TORONTO - A FOOD & UA POLICY TIMELINE



**1997:**  
A survey finds 69 community gardens worked on by 3,600 community gardeners (Source: Irene et al. p.39).

**1997:**  
Community Gardens Coordinator position created in Parks Dept.

**1999:**  
Toronto Community Garden Network formed by a coalition of NGOs.

**1999:**  
Food and Hunger Action Committee formed by City Council (a committee comprised of City Councilors).

**1999:**  
Community Garden Action Plan is adopted by City Council - calls for a community garden in every Toronto Ward.

**2000:**  
Council approves the *Food and Hunger Action Committee Phase I Report*.



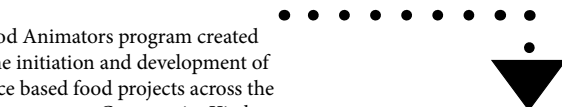
**2005:**  
Toronto's Food Animators program created to support the initiation and development of a best-practice based food projects across the four animation streams: Community Kitchens; Community Gardens; Fresh Food Markets; and Enhancing the Emergency Food.

**2004:**  
Parks and Recreation Department's Strategic Plan *Our Common Grounds* recognizes the division's important role in providing opportunities for community gardening and urban farming.

**2002:**  
Toronto's *Official Plan* expresses support for community and rooftop gardens as important elements for creating beautiful, healthy and active cities and for engaging diverse communities.

**2001:**  
*Food Charter* adopted by Toronto City Council.

**2000:**  
*Clean, Green and Healthy: A Plan for Environmentally Sustainable Toronto*.



**2006:**  
City supports Toronto District School Board research on market gardens.

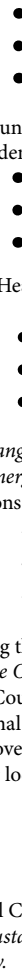
**2007:**  
Toronto Community Housing publishes a community gardening manual.

**2007:**  
Toronto Public Health report: *The State of Toronto's Food*.

**2007:**  
*The Climate Change, Clean Air and Sustainability Energy Action Plan* calls for reduced emissions by promoting local

**2009:**  
Through adopting the report *Identifying Urban Agriculture Opportunities in the City of Toronto*, City Council affirms its support for multi-divisional strategies and initiatives that achieve the overall goal of expanding opportunities for local food production in Toronto.

**2009:**  
Toronto Regional Conservation Authority introduces the *Sustainable Near-Urban Agriculture Policy*.



**2012:**  
*Grow TO* urban agriculture plan endorsed unanimously by Toronto City Council (November 27th, 2012).

**2012:**  
Toronto City Council and the surrounding municipalities endorsed the *Greater Golden Horseshoe Food and Farming Action Plan* to promote and coordinate the food and farming in the region.

**2010:**  
In May, Council approves the *Cultivating Food Connections* food strategy prepared by Toronto Public Health.

**2010:**  
Food strategy consultation and engagement process

**2009:**  
In May, Toronto becomes the first City in North America to require the construction of green roofs on new development. The Green Roof Bylaw applies to new residential, commercial and institutional development with a minimum Gross Floor Area of 2,000m<sup>2</sup>

**2009:**  
Youth take over the Toronto Food Policy Council's fall meeting at City Hall, declaring themselves to be a legitimate voice in food policy. This marks the origins of North America's first Youth Food Policy Council.



# TORONTO - KEY POLICY DOCUMENTS

---

## ***1991 – The Declaration of Food and Nutrition***

### ***1993 – Supports for Urban Food Production: Creating a Garden City***

18 recommendations adopted by City Council in December 1993 calling for city departments to help local groups establish community gardens. Parks and Recreation was to facilitate the process, but overlap with other departments was also identified. For instance, City Property could identify land ownership, Public Health could consult on soil-testing, and Public Works could advise on water connection. A community coalition called GROW T.O. was involved in the public outreach and assisted in the pilot implementation phase. (Source: Cosgrove, 1994).

### ***1999 – Community Garden Action Plan***

Aimed to create a community garden on park land in every ward of the city by the end of 2001. Resulted in an expansion from 50 community gardens in 1991 to 122 in 2001, although by this time more than half of the city's 44 wards still did not have a community garden.

### ***2000 – Food and Hunger Action Committee Phase I Report***

Written by the Food and Hunger Committee (composed of City Councilors) and adopted by City Council. Three main recommendations were included that commit the City to the principle of food security (adequate, safe, nutritious, affordable and appropriate food for all people) and to recognize the City's own role in supporting food security initiatives. More concretely, the recommendations provided a series of actions for the Food and Hunger Action Committee to move forward with Phase II of its work.

## ***2000 – Clean, Green and Healthy: A Plan for Environmentally Sustainable Toronto***

Written by the City of Toronto's Environmental Task Force to plan for a sustainable future in Toronto by considering the economic, environmental, and social implications together. The city's "Vision of a Sustainable Future" is laid out in Part Three and calls for Toronto to become "a world leader in sustainable urban living" and a "city that is renowned for the quality of life experienced by its residents" by 2025. Part of this vision includes an "increasing amount of food generated within the city's borders in allotments, yards and rooftop gardens" (p18). The document emphasizes 4 focus areas: Transportation, Energy, Economic Development, and Education. Local food production is specifically addressed in Part 6.4 on Green Economic Development. The plan emphasizes the benefits of reducing transportation and boosting the local economy, and calls for an expansion of community gardens and rooftop gardens, as well as creating farm incubator projects, local food clusters, and urban food production pilot projects. Other recommendations include siting greenhouses in locations close to landfills practicing methane recovery, and making compost available to food production projects and businesses.

### ***2001 – Food and Hunger Action Committee Phase II Report: The Growing Season***

This follow-up to the Food and Hunger Action Committee's Phase I Report identifies the barriers to making Toronto a 'food secure' city and recommends actions for getting there. It identifies a broad range of barriers related to poverty including inadequate availability of affordable housing and the child benefits allowance. Calls for many actions, including numerous related to expanding community gardens and stronger support for urban agriculture.

# TORONTO - KEY POLICY DOCUMENTS

---

## ***2001 – Toronto Food Charter***

This document was worked on by the Food and Hunger Action Committee as well as Toronto’s Food Policy Council, and endorsed by Toronto City Council. It refers to the 1976 UN Covenant on Social, Economic and Cultural Rights, of which Canada was a signatory, and which asserts the “fundamental right of everyone to be free from hunger.” The Toronto Food Charter calls for every Toronto resident to have access to “an adequate supply of nutritious, affordable and culturally appropriate food.” Further, it notes the contribution that food security makes to health, economic prosperity, culture, and community. The Charter commits the City of Toronto to partner with and support organizations and businesses in order to achieve these objectives, and to advocate for policies including support for community gardens and the protection agricultural lands. The document then goes on to reassert Toronto City Council’s objective of becoming a food secure city, and lists ten reasons for that commitment, including: the improvement of the health of the overall population; support for the next generation; savings on medical costs; support for the economy and job creation; positive environmental impacts; and, building stronger neighborhoods.

## ***2002 – Toronto’s Official Plan***

Focus on managing the future growth of the city “grounded in the principles of diversity and opportunity, beauty, connectivity, and leadership and stewardship.” The plan stresses the contribution of community gardens to creating beautiful and livable mixed-use neighborhoods.

## ***2007 – Climate Change, Clean Air and Sustainability Energy Action Plan***

Adopted by Council in July 2007, recommendation (5d) calls for the establishment of an “Enviro-Food Working Group to develop and implement actions to promote local food production, review City procurement policies, increase community gardens and identify ways to remove barriers to the expansion of local markets that sell locally produced food.”

## ***2008 – “Identifying Urban Agriculture Opportunities in the City of Toronto”***

City Council adopts recommendations for numerous City Divisions to work to “expand opportunities for local food production and other urban agricultural activities in the City of Toronto.”

## ***2010 – “What We Heard”***

Results of the public input process that informed the Toronto Food Strategy (Cultivating Food Connection).

## ***2010 – Cultivating Food Connection***

Toronto’s comprehensive food strategy compiled by Toronto Public Health and endorsed by City Council. Tries to tie together all aspects of the food system and all the City of Toronto’s connections to that food system. Strong emphasis placed on the theme of health. Identifies six action areas – Creating ‘Food Friendly Neighbourhoods’; the ‘New Green Economy’; Eliminating Hunger in Toronto; Connect City and Countryside; Promoting Food Skills and Information; and Creating Inter-governmental Food Policies.

## ***2012 – Grow TO: An Urban Agriculture Action Plan for Toronto***

Over 30 UA organizations and City Divisions were involved in developing this action plan. Identifies and recommends over 54 action items to scale up UA, including: making changes to zoning code and policy that currently pose barriers to UA; indexing the available growing space in the city and facilitating connections between potential growers and land owners; assisting with the promotion of urban agriculture; offering expertise and resources to growers; supporting demonstration projects and develop partnerships with UA groups working at a neighborhood level; and providing mentorship and educational opportunities as well as farmer-to-farmer knowledge exchange. These are just a sample among many other innovative ideas that are proposed.

# MONTRÉAL - FOOD & UA POLICY TIMELINE

*With over 95 community gardens serving 12,000 gardeners each year, Montréal is unquestionably home to one of the most thriving urban agriculture cultures in North America. In addition to the city's official community gardens that are administered by local neighborhoods, there are 75 collective gardens in the city that are generally operated by community groups and serve a specific constituency. A Léger Marketing survey recently confirmed that over half of Montréalers grow food.*

*Despite the abundance of activity on the ground, urban agriculture is remarkably absent in the city's policy and planning document. Few of Montreal's planning documents even mention community gardening or urban agriculture.*

*This may be changing. In 2011, community groups collected over 29,000 signatures demanding that the city instigate a public consultation into urban agriculture. That same year, the Plan Métropolitain d'Aménagement et de Développement went further than any plan before it in calling on local governments to support urban agriculture.*

**1936:**  
Lasalle community garden – Montréal's oldest – is established.

**1966:**  
The keeping of farm animals in the city is prohibited.

**1974:**  
After a fire burned down a house in the Ville Marie neighborhood, residents planted a garden in the space. One year later, this garden became the city's first official community garden.

**1975:**  
Community Garden Program is started by the City of Montréal.

**1989:**  
Community Garden Program is transferred to department of Service des Sports, Loisirs, et Développement Social.

**1985:**  
The City of Montréal undertakes a review of the Community Garden Program, resulting in new policies for the creation and operation of the gardens such as the requirement that all gardens use organic methods. The program is placed under the management of the The Department of Recreation and Community Development and each garden is assigned a 'horticultural animators'.

**1981:**  
The number of community gardens in the city reaches 43.

# MONTRÉAL - FOOD & UA POLICY TIMELINE



**1995:**  
Montréal's Écoquartier program is established, which creates neighborhood-based organizations that are mandated to provide solutions to environmental problems. Many of the neighborhood Écoquartiers begin supporting urban agriculture and community gardening projects.



**1996:**  
The number of community gardens in the city reaches 72.



**1997:**  
Montréal's first collective garden – le Jardin Cantaloup – is established in the Cote des Neiges/NDG neighborhood by Action Communiterre and Dépôt alimentaire NDG.



**2005:**  
The Montréal *Master Plan* make no formal recognition of the benefits of UA, while mentioning community gardens only in passing and failing to make links to community health, the environment, or the city's heritage. (Julia Lebedeva, 2008, p.68-70).



**2002:**  
Management of Community Gardens is passed to the neighborhoods. .



**2001:**  
The number of community gardens in the city reaches 76.



**2006:**  
The Regroupement des jardins collectifs du Québec (RJCCQ) is created as a network and support for the organizations that run collective gardens in Montréal.



**2010:**  
The Mayor of Montréal signs the *Déclaration de la Collectivité de l'île de Montréal en Faveur de la Biodiversité et du Verdissement*, which calls for the "development of urban agriculture in different forms".



**2010:**  
Montréal's *Plan de Développement Durable de la Collectivité Montréalaise* calls on the city to develop innovative new urban agriculture programs (Action 15).



**2013:**  
Draft of the *Montréal Development Plan* makes reference to the importance of urban agriculture in two respects: first, regarding its contribution to improving food security; and secondly, for its contribution to 'greening' the neighborhoods.



**2012:**  
Montréal's Office de Consultation Publique de Montréal release their *State of Urban Agriculture in Montréal Consultation Report*



**2011:**  
*Le Plan Métropolitain d'Aménagement et de Développement* adopted by the Communauté Métropolitaine de Montréal supports more agricultural activity in the region and calls for support from all local governments.



# MONTRÉAL - KEY POLICY DOCUMENTS

---

## **2010 – Strategic Plan for Sustainable Development**

Three actions from this plan relate indirectly to urban agriculture: Action 15, which calls upon the city to contribute to the ‘greening’ of the city and the reduction of the urban heat island effect; Action 31, which commits the city to valuing biodiversity; and Action 32, which directs the city to take advantage of the benefits provided by green infrastructure including possibilities for urban agriculture. Action 13 additionally calls for the development of sustainable neighborhoods with green space.

## **2011 – Plan Métropolitain d’Aménagement et de Développement**

This plan for the regional development of metropolitan Montréal affirms the value of urban agriculture and calls upon other local governments to recognize urban agriculture in their planning tools: “Sur le territoire du Grand Montréal, on observe diverses initiatives d’agriculture urbaine, que ce soit des pratiques plus individuelles dans les milieux urbain et périurbain (cours arrières, balcons, toits, etc.) ou collectivement (jardins communautaires, jardins collectifs). L’agriculture urbaine offre divers potentiels tant au niveau du développement social et éducatif, de la lutte pour la sécurité alimentaire que du verdissement des quartiers. Une première charte citoyenne montréalaise portant sur l’agriculture urbaine et réalisée par une démarche de participation citoyenne a aussi vu le jour en 2011. Cette charte vise l’intégration et la reconnaissance de l’agriculture urbaine dans les politiques municipales, provinciales et nationales. Considérant l’importance grandissante de l’agriculture urbaine et son potentiel à contribuer à l’amélioration de la qualité des milieux de vie, la Communauté invite les MRC et les Agglomérations à reconnaître l’agriculture urbaine dans leurs outils de planification.” (p87)

## **2011 – Bilan de l’implication de quatre municipalités en agriculture urbaine: Montréal, Seattle, Vancouver, Toronto**

In preparation for Montréal’s public consultation on Urban Agriculture, this report compiled by the non-profit research group Alternatives compares UA policy and planning in Montréal to those of Seattle, Vancouver and Toronto. It argues that despite the long history and strong culture of growing food that exceeds any other North American City in terms of numbers, the City of Montréal does not strongly advocate or support these efforts. Reference to UA in Montréal planning and policy is largely absent in comparison to other cities. When mention of the urban agriculture does occur in Montréal’s official planning and policy, it tends to be little more than a brief and passing reference rather than a serious engagement or commitment.

## **2012 – État de L’agriculture Urbane de Montréal Rapport de Consultation Publique**

This study is the outcome of a public consultation process that was headed by the Office de Consultation Publique after citizens successfully executed their Right of Initiative to instigate a public consultation in 2011 as outlined in the Montreal Charter of Rights and Responsibilities. The Right of Initiative process requires citizens to gather 15,000 names on a petition within 90 days. Numerous community-based organizations collaborated to successfully collect over 29,000 signatures. The subsequent report offers a thorough summary of existing practices, conditions, and regulations of urban agriculture in Montréal. It then summarizes many of the themes that emerged during the public consultation process, and concludes with a series of observations and suggestion of ways that the City could play a stronger role in supporting urban agriculture and further integrate UA into its planning, policy and design.

# COMMUNITY GARDENS - COMPARED

---

## PORTLAND

The office of Parks and Recreation oversee 47 gardens comprising over 1,300 plots, and servicing over 3,000 people. Each garden has a volunteer garden manager who provides garden leadership and works with program staff to provide maintenance, facilitate plot assignment and turnover, and support the gardeners.

## SEATTLE

The City of Seattle Department of Neighborhoods, oversees 81 P-Patches distributed throughout the city composing 2650 plots, and serving 6100 gardeners. Community gardeners grow food on 13.5 acres of the land. All P-Patch Community Gardens are open to the public to enjoy. Gardeners contributed over 28,000 hours in 2012 (equivalent to 13 full time workers) and supply fresh produce to Seattle food banks and feeding programs. In 2012 alone, P-Patch gardeners donated 26,248 pounds (the equivalent of 52,496 servings of fresh produce with a value of over \$55,000). Still, there are over 1,000 people on the waiting list for plots (as of December 2012) and waiting times remains between 3 months and 4 years. Annual turnover across whole program averages 22%. Garden fees range from \$37 to \$73 per plot depending on size. In 2010, 70% of gardeners were low income, 27% were people of color, 46% live in apartments, 73% had no gardening space where they live.

## VANCOUVER

As of January 2013, Vancouver had 97 community gardens and a total of 3900 community garden plots. All official community gardens are managed by non-profit organizations and have a local coordinator who oversees the garden's management.

## TORONTO

54 Official community gardens as of 2012.

## MONTREAL

As of 2011, there were 95 community gardens and 8,200 plots serving 12,000 gardeners each year, in 17 of 19 Montréal neighborhoods (only Pierrefonds-Roxboro and L'isle St. Bizard-Sainte Geneviève had no community gardens). It is claimed that this constitutes half of the community gardens in Canada. Since 2002, community gardens have been managed by the neighborhoods. Plots tend to be 3m x 6m. There are 6 'horticultural animators' in the city, whose job it is to provide programming and support for the gardens. Each community garden that is part of the City of Montréal's network must form a committee with a minimum of three representative elected by the gardeners. There are rules regulating the use of the plots that all gardeners must abide by. For instance: a minimum of three different vegetables must be grown; no one vegetable may take up more than 25% of the plot; flower, herbs and berries cannot take up more than 25% of the plot combined.

Additionally, there are 75 collective gardens in Montréal (*jardins collectifs*), of which only 5 are managed by the City. These gardens are often managed by community groups such as schools or renters associations. These gardens sometimes serve specific populations (i.e. the elderly, or immigrants), and are can be located either in the ground or on rooftops or in containers.

# COMMUNITY ORCHARDS - COMPARED

---

- PORTLAND** Three community orchards maintained on public land by Portland Fruit Tree Project.
- SEATTLE** “There are more than 37 orchards and fruit gardens, small and large, on City of Seattle-owned land, from which volunteers harvested over 1,500 pounds of fruit in 2011” (Seattle Food Action Plan, p.22).
- VANCOUVER** As of 2011, there were 3 urban orchard in the city of Vancouver (*Greenest City Action Plan*, p66).
- TORONTO** N/A
- MONTRÉAL** N/A

# URBAN FARMS - COMPARED

---

- PORTLAND** A Market Garden Inventory of Portland from 2012 conducted by BPS counted a total of 66 acres of land under cultivation for commercial purposes.
- SEATTLE** Urban Farms in Seattle include Alley Cat Acres, Seattle Tilth, Amaranth, Goat Hill Giving Garden, and Magic Bean.
- VANCOUVER** As of 2011, there were 28 urban farms in the Metro Vancouver region, and 17 within the City of Vancouver.
- TORONTO** N/A
- MONTRÉAL** According to the *État de l'Agriculture Urbaine de Montréal* report, the lack of space and zoning restrictions have largely deterred commercial farming in the city, although commercial agriculture is far more present in the periurban regions of Montréal. Much of this periurban farmland is found in the West Island and has been protected by a “permanent agricultural zone” designation that constitutes 4% of Montréal’s total landmass. The report does mention the rooftop gardens of Lufa Farm that cover about 2,900 sq. meters of space. In order to help make Lufa viable and to encourage other initiatives like it, the City of Montréal created a tax break for rooftop greenhouses. The report also mentions the Serres du Dos Blanc in the Saint Laurent neighborhood as another notable commercial agriculture project.



# ANIMAL HUSBANDRY - COMPARED

---

## PORTLAND

No permit needed for three or fewer 'specified' animals including chickens, ducks, doves, pigeons, pygmy goats or rabbits, in any combination thereof. For more than three, a permit is required. Permit is also required for keeping turkeys, geese, doves, pigeons, peacocks, cows, horses, burros, sheep, or llamas. Permit requires notification of all property owners and residents within 150 feet of your property lines. Roosters and Pigs are not allowed (unless the pig is a Vietnamese Miniature Pot-Bellied Pig with shoulder height 18 inches or less and weighs no more than 95 lbs.)

## SEATTLE

The keeping of animals for sale or for the sale of their products is prohibited by Seattle code. Up to three small animals are allowed (cats, dogs, rabbits, goats, etc.), accessory to each dwelling unit or business establishment. On lots of 20,000 sq. ft. or more, up to four small animals are allowed. One additional small animal is permitted for each 5,000 sq. ft. of lot area in excess of 20,000 sq. ft. In no case is more than one miniature potbelly pig allowed. Miniature potbelly pigs may be no greater than 22 inches in height at the shoulder or more than 150 pounds. Goats may be kept if they are Miniature, Dwarf or Pygmy. Goats must be dehorned, and male goats must be neutered. Up to eight domestic fowl may be kept on any lot in addition to the small animals allowed. On lots greater than 10,000 sq. ft. that include either a community garden or an urban farm, one additional fowl is permitted for every 1,000 sq. ft. of lot area over 10,000 sq. ft. in community garden or urban farm use. Roosters are not permitted. Structures housing domestic fowl must be located at least 10 feet away from any residential structure on an adjacent lot. Cows, horses, sheep and other similar farm animals are permitted only on lots at least 20,000 sq. ft. On these lots, one farm animal for every 10,000 sq. ft. of lot area is permitted. Farm animals and structures housing them must be 50 feet from any other lot in a residential zone.

## VANCOUVER

Amendments to the Animal Control Bylaw and Zoning and Development Land Use and Zoning bylaw in 2010 permit backyard hens to be kept so long as they are registered with the city. Maximum of 4 hens. Duck or other livestock are not permitted. No setback required.

## TORONTO

Keeping farm animals is currently illegal in Toronto. Keeping chickens has been illegal since a bylaw was passed prohibiting the practice in 1987. In 2012 the City's Licensing and Standards Committee voted 5-0 against a motion to conduct a study to investigate overturning the ban.

## MONTREAL

The keeping of farm animals in the city has been prohibited since 1966. The neighborhood of Rosemont – La Petite Patrie recently modified its rules to allow poultry to be kept for educational purposes on the property of a community organization. Keeping animals is authorized in the Parks of Montréal.

# BEEKEEPING - COMPARED

---

## **PORTLAND**

For 4 hives or less, a petition must be signed showing approval of all neighbors within 150 feet of the hive or proposed hives. Hives must be kept a minimum of 15 feet away from “any public walkway, street or road, or any public building, park or recreation area, or any residential dwelling” (excluding the owner’s dwelling). Hives that are less than 150 feet from any streets, parks, houses, etc. must be “protected by a six foot hedgerow, partition, fence or similar enclosure.” More than 5 hives require registration by the Oregon Department of Agriculture.

## **SEATTLE**

Bees are allowed outright when registered with the State Department of Agriculture. No more than four hives are allowed on lots less than 10,000 sq. ft. Hives may not be located within 25 feet of any lot line, except when hives are 8 feet or more above or below the grade immediately adjacent to the lot on which they are located.

## **VANCOUVER**

In 2005, the Health By-law was amended to allow 2 hives on residential lots of 10,000sqft or less, and 4 hives on lots larger than that. Hives are restricted to backyards, require a 25ft set back, and must be at least 8ft high.

## **TORONTO**

The Ontario Bee Act specifies that hives must be kept at a distance of 30m from property lines. All beekeepers must be registered with the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs.

## **MONTREAL**

Hives are not regulated by the City of Montréal, but rather by the Province of Québec. Hives are permissible and many institutions in the city keep bees on their rooftops and in their gardens, including at the Palais des Congrès, Fairmont Hotel, at the Ministry of Agriculture, and the university campuses of McGill, UdeM, and UQAM.

# SECONDARY LITERATURE AND REPORTS

## MONTRÉAL

Alternatives. "Bilan de l'implication de quatre municipalités en agriculture urbaine: Montréal, Seattle, Vancouver, Toronto", 2011.

**In preparation for the Public Consultation on Urban Agriculture, this report compiled by Alternatives compares UA policy and planning in Montreal to those of Seattle, Vancouver and Toronto. It argues that reference to UA in Montréal planning and policy is largely absent, and when it does appear it's relatively brief and usually in passing.**

Bhatt, V. and R. Kongshaug. "Making the Edible Landscape: A Study of Urban Agriculture in Montreal", *Minimum Cost Housing Group McGill University*, 87, 2005.

Beauchesne, Audric and Christopher Bryant. 'Agriculture and Innovation in the Urban Fringe: The Case of Organic Farming in Quebec, Canada', Department of Geography, Université de Montréal, 1998.

Beaudin M. 2012. Urban agriculture takes root in Montreal. In: The Gazette [Internet]. [cited 2012 June 1]. Avail. from: <http://www.montrealgazette.com/health/Urban+agriculture+takes+root+Montreal/6400616/story.html>

Boulainne, Manon. "Agriculture Urbaine, Rapports sociaux et citoyenneté: le cas du jardinage biologique communautaire au Québec et au Mexique", *Cahiers du CRISES*, 1999.

Boulainne, Manon. "L'AU au sein des jardins collectives québécois: Empowerment des femmes ou 'domestication de l'espace public'?" *Anthropologie et Sociétés* 25(1), 2001: 63-80.

Bouvier-Dalton, Nathalie. "La dynamique sociale entourant les jardins communautaires: l'individu, le groupe et le jardin: le cas Montréal". (Montreal: Doctoral Thesis UQAM, 2001)

Bouvier-Dalton, Nathalie and Sénécal, G. "Les jardins communautaire de Montréal: Un espace social ambigu" *Loisir et Société* 24(2), 2001: 507-29.

Cosgrove, Sean. "Une Histoire de Deux Villes", (Toronto Food Policy Council, Cities Feeding People Series, Report 11, 1994).

Dalton Bouvieur, N. "La dynamique sociale entourant les jardins communautaires: l'individu, le groupe et le jardin: le cas de Montréal" (Montreal: Doctoral Thesis, UQAM, 2001).

Duchemin, E., F. Wegmuller, and A.M. Legault. "Urban Agriculture: Multi-Dimensional Tools for Social Development in Poor Neighbourhoods", *Field Actions Science Report*, 1 (2008): 43-52.

- Offers a brief history community gardens in Montreal
- Examines the City of Montreal's Community Gardening Program and 6 collective gardens run by community organizations.
- Argues that taken, as a whole, these diverse projects amount to a set of "multi-dimensional tools" that contribute to the social development (food security, a sense of belonging, and education) of disadvantaged populations.

Flores, Lourdes. "Progress Towards Sustainability in Urban Planning: San Francisco and Montreal", *International Research*, 4, 2009: 69-76.

- A comparative look at the progress that Montreal and San Francisco are making in achieving the sustainability objects that these cities have set out in their urban plans.
- Does not directly address UA.

\*\*\* Lebedeva, J. "Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation through Urban Agriculture: A Montréal Case Study" (Montreal: McGill School of Urban Planning, 2008). \*\*\*

**An excellent review of urban agriculture policy in Montreal as well as numerous other North American cities including Toronto, Vancouver, and Seattle. Argues that despite the long history of urban agriculture and the innovative practices of residents and community groups, Montreal's policy and planning largely ignores or undervalues UA and fails to offer it adequate support.**

Nolasco da Silva, Chandal. "The Urban Agricultural Movement in Canada: A Comparative Analysis of Montréal and Vancouver", Department of Geography and Environmental Studies, Carleton University, Ottawa.

Massé, Bruno, Myriam Beaudry. "Les jardins collectifs et l'agriculture urbaine, formes de renouvellement de la solidarité." (Collectif d'études sur les pratiques solidaires, Alliance de recherche universités-communautés en économie sociale, 2008). Available Online at: <http://www.aruc-es.uqam.ca/Portals/0/cahiers/C-01-2008.pdf>

Reyburn, Stefan. "Evaluation de la contribution de l'AU communautaire montréalaise à l'amélioration du cadre de vie" (Montreal: Doctoral Thesis, UQAM, 2006).

Reyburn, Stefan. "La cadre de vie et les jardins potagers communautaires à Montréal", *VertigO – La revue en science de l'environnement sur le Web*, 3(2), 2002: 27-35.

Reyburn, Stefan and Gilles Sénécal. "Le développement de l'agriculture urbaine communautaire à Montréal: de la formation d'un discours à l'émergence de nouvelles pratiques communautaires", *Environnements*, 32(2), 2004: 1-26.

- Examines the approaches taken by 10 community-based groups in Montreal that each manage community gardens
- Discursive analysis of the stated objectives of these groups, considering how they accord with the UN narrative on sustainable development.
- Concludes that when these community-based projects accept public financing they become managed from "on high", and that this limits their ability to achieve their initial objectives.

Wegmuller, Fabien, and Eric Duchemin. "Multifonctionnalité de l'agriculture urbaine à Montréal: Étude des discours sur la base du programme des jardins communautaires", (Innovation and Sustainable Development in Agriculture and Food, Montpellier France, 2010).

- Through a series of interviews, considers the congruence between the stated objective of UA in Montreal's official texts with the actual experience and discourse of those who participate in community gardens.
- Finds that the officially stated UA functions of providing education, connection with nature, and a leisure activity correspond strongly with the functions of UA stated by the users.
- The functions of social interaction, food security, and health show some correspondence between official texts and the users.
- The functions of Environment and economy demonstrate a weak congruence.
- Also shows how the stated goals of users are dependent on the community – for instance, whether they are elderly, immigrants, or from a low-income neighborhood.

## PORTLAND, OR

Community Food Concepts. "Foodability: Visioning for Healthful Food Access in Portland", MURP Workshop Project for City of Portland BPS, 2009. Available at: [http://multnomahfood.org/files/PDFs/Foodability\\_Report.pdf](http://multnomahfood.org/files/PDFs/Foodability_Report.pdf)

# SECONDARY LITERATURE AND REPORTS

Hess, David. "Case Studies of Community Gardens and Urban Agriculture: Portland, OR", Portland State University, 2005. Available at: <http://multnomahfood.org/files/PDFs/Case%20Studies%20of%20Community%20Gardens%20in%20PDX.pdf>

Margheim, Joy. "The Geography of Eating Well: Food Access in the Metroscope." *Metroscope* (Winter, 2007). Available at: [http://www.pdx.edu/sites/www.pdx.edu/ims/files/ims\\_mscope07atlas.pdf](http://www.pdx.edu/sites/www.pdx.edu/ims/files/ims_mscope07atlas.pdf)

## SEATTLE

Acting Food Policy Council Seattle-King County, "Strategic Planning Framework", May 2009. Available at: [http://kitsapfoodchain.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/11/AFPC\\_Strategic-Framework\\_051209\\_FINAL.pdf](http://kitsapfoodchain.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/11/AFPC_Strategic-Framework_051209_FINAL.pdf)

Horst, Megan. Growing Green: An Inventory of Public Lands Suitable for Community Gardening in Seattle, Washington", University of Washington, College of Architecture and Urban Planning, 2008. Available at: [http://www.seattle.gov/neighborhoods/ppatch/pubs/mhorst\\_growinggreen.pdf](http://www.seattle.gov/neighborhoods/ppatch/pubs/mhorst_growinggreen.pdf)

Leah Erickson, Kyle Griggs, Matt Maria & Hester Serebrin. "Urban Agriculture in Seattle: Policy and Barriers", 2009. Available at: <http://www.seattle.gov/neighborhoods/ppatch/pubs/Urban%20Agriculture%20in%20Seattle%20olicy%20and%20Barriers.pdf>

Puget Sound Regional Council. "Integrating Food Policy in Comprehensive Planning: Strategies and Resources for the City of Seattle a Contract Project for the City of Seattle", August 2012.

University of Washington Department of Urban Design and Planning Graduate Students, "Central Puget Sound Food System Assessment", 2011. Available at: <http://courses.washington.edu/studio67/psrfood/>

## TORONTO

Baker, L. E. "Tending Cultural Landscapes and Food Citizenship in Toronto's Community Gardens", *Geographical Review*, 94, 2004: 305-325.

Bobyns, J. "Reconstruction of Urban Space: Urban Agriculture Initiatives in Toronto and Kampala", *Undercurrent*, 1, 2004: 36-47.

Bole, Theresa. "City Sees Boom in Urban Gardening", *Toronto Star*, May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2001. Available at: [http://www.thestar.com/news/gta/2011/05/22/city\\_sees\\_boom\\_in\\_urban\\_gardening.html](http://www.thestar.com/news/gta/2011/05/22/city_sees_boom_in_urban_gardening.html)

Cosgrove, Sean. "Une Histoire de Deux Villes Comparing Canadian Community Gardening Programs in Montreal and Toronto", Toronto Food Policy Council, Cities Feeding People Series Report 11, 1994.

Friedman, Harriet. "Scaling up Ontario: Bringing public institutions and food service corporations into the project for a local, sustainable food system", *Agriculture and Human Values*, 2007.

Irvine, S. Community gardens and sustainable land use planning: A Case-Study of the Alex Wilson Community Garden. *Local Environment*. February 4(1), 1999:33

MacNair, Emily "Seeds of Success: Growing Health Communities Through Community Gardening", The Polis Project for Ecological Governance (Victoria BC, 2002). Available at: <http://www.polisproject.org/PDFs/seeds%20of%20success.pdf>

**A very useful multi-city comparison of community gardening history and policy – Toronto, Montreal, Seattle, Portland, New York, Chicago, Waterloo ON, Inuvik, and Saskatoon.**

McRae, Rod and Fiona Loudon. "Federal Regulation of Local and Sustainable Food Claims in Canada: A Case Study of Local Food Plus", 2010.

Metcalf Foundation. "Scaling Up Urban Agriculture in Toronto", 2011. Available at: <http://metcalffoundation.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/05/scaling-urban-agriculture.pdf>

Nasr, Joseph, Rod MacRae & James Kuhns. "[Scaling up Urban Agriculture in Toronto: Building the Infrastructure](http://metcalffoundation.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/05/scaling-urban-agriculture.pdf)". Metcalf Food Solutions, 2010. Available at: <http://metcalffoundation.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/05/scaling-urban-agriculture.pdf>

**Excellent and comprehensive account of current UA policies, barriers, and proposed solutions ranging from current details about zoning, regulations and taxes to needed UA infrastructure. Focus on vegetables only – not animal husbandry, etc.**

Wakefield, Sarah, Fiona Yeudall, Carolin Taron, Jennifer Reynolds, and Ana Skinner *Growing Urban Health: Community Gardening in South-East Toronto*. Health Promotion International, 22(2), 2007: 92-101.

Welsh, Jennifer & Rod MacRae. Food Citizenship and Community Food Security: Lessons from Toronto, Canada, *Canadian Journal of Development Studies*, 19:4, 1998: 237-255.

**History of the Toronto Food Policy Council and development of their approaches to food policy by using the frameworks of 'food citizenship' and 'food security'.**

Wilford, Ron. "Urban Agriculture in Toronto: Planning, Policy and Practice Challenges and Solutions". Research Report, 2011. Available at: <http://cultivatetoronto.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/12/Research-Report-by-Ron-Wilford.pdf>

**This brief report based on a series of interviews with key players in Toronto food policy identifies barriers and potential solutions to "scaling up" urban agriculture in Toronto. Did not find it very useful.**

## VANCOUVER

Barbolet, H. "Vancouver Food System Assessment. Forum of Research Connections (FORC) research group". Joint project of The Western Economic Diversification Canada, Department of Social Planning of City of Vancouver, SFU's Centre for Sustainable Community Development, and the Environmental Youth Alliance, 2005.

Bars, Robert. "Sustainable Production in the City of Vancouver: An Analytical and Strategy Framework for Planners and Decision Makers" (UBC, 1999). Online at: <http://cityfarmer.org/barrsUAvanc.html>

Bentley, S. "Community Garden Background Paper". Prepared for the Social Planning Department, City of Vancouver, 2005.

City of Vancouver, "City of Vancouver By-laws, Policies, Guidelines and Decisions Related to the Food System – Draft." Prepared by the Social Planning Department, 2004.

Clark, Joanna, Wes Regan, Chris Thoreau. "Vancouver Urban Farming Forum 2011 Summary Report", March 2012.

da Silva, Chandal Nolasco. "The Urban Agricultural Movement in Canada: A Comparative Analysis of Montréal and Vancouver" (Honours Essay, Carleton University, 2009) Available at: <http://www.cityfarmer.info/2009/12/01/the-urban-agricultural-movement-in-canada-a-comparative-analysis-of-montreal-and-vancouver/>

# SECONDARY LITERATURE AND REPORTS

---

Gibb, Natalie and Hannah Wittman. "Parallel Alternatives: Chinese-Canadian Farmers and the Metro Vancouver Local Food Movement, Local Environment", *The International Journal of Justice and Sustainability*, 2012.

Kaethler, Terra Murphy. "Growing Space: The Potential for Urban Agriculture in the City of Vancouver", School of Community and Regional Planning, University of British Columbia, 2006. Available at: <http://ocpm.qc.ca/sites/default/files/pdf/P58/5e4.pdf>

Mendes, W. "Creating a 'Just and Sustainable Food System' in the City of Vancouver: The Role of Governance, Partnership and Policy-Making", PhD Dissertation, Simon Fraser University, 2006. Available at: [http://vancouver.ca/commsvcs/socialplanning/initiatives/foodpolicy/tools/pdf/mendes\\_thesis.pdf](http://vancouver.ca/commsvcs/socialplanning/initiatives/foodpolicy/tools/pdf/mendes_thesis.pdf)

Mendes, W. and Shannon Bradley. 'Creating a Just and Sustainable Food'. *SPARC BC News*, (Summer 2005).

Mendes, W., Kevin Balmer, Terra Kaethler, and Amanda Rhoads. "Using Land Inventories to Plan for Urban Agriculture", *Journal of the American Planning Association* (74, 4: 2008).

Seto, Darlene. "Diversity and Engagement in Alternative Food Practice: Community Gardens in Vancouver, BC", MA Thesis, UBC, 2011.

Stolhandske, Sharla. 'Urban Farming in Vancouver', MA Thesis, McGill University, 2001.

Yarbrough, Gary. "The Current and Potential Influence of Urban Agriculture on Local Food Systems", Unpublished Report, 2012.