

Dear Comox Valley Farming Community,

February 2020

RE: Building school & community relationships

School District 71-Comox Valley is excited to reach out to our farming community to provide a closer connection to our land, local food, and build relationships with the people who care for and grow it. **We are asking if any of our Comox Valley Farmers would be open to sharing their agricultural experience with students from School District 71** by offering onsite field trips, in class visits/presentations, or hands on volunteer/service work opportunities.

We are currently **developing a data base to share** with our district teachers through the SD71 **EOL-Environmental & Outdoor Learning**, website. We are seeking connections to farmers who want to share the exciting innovations of 21st century farming as well as reflecting on age old practise that are still in place. We respect that farming is your priority and would like to respect those duties do come first.

Please let us know if you are interested in sharing your farming expertise with School District 71 students. To make sure this relationship is a good fit for all parties please fill in the below information so we can match and communicate the needs of the farmers and attending classes.

| |
|--|
| Farm name : _____ Contact name: _____ E-mail _____ Phone: _____ Address: _____ Nearest affiliated school(s): _____ |
| When and how are the bet ways to get a hold of you? _____ How much notice is best for your planning (<i>ex. min 30 days</i>): _____ |
| What experiences are you interested in offering? Onsite class field trips <input type="checkbox"/> School visit/presentation <input type="checkbox"/> Volunteer/work opportunities <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Best field trip month(s) (please circle all that apply): Sept. Oct. Nov. Dec. Jan. Feb Mar Apr. May Jun. Best school visit/presentation month(s): Sept. Oct. Nov. Dec. Jan. Feb Mar Apr. May Jun. Best Volunteer/work experience month(s): Sept. Oct. Nov. Dec. Jan. Feb Mar Apr. May Jun. |

What age/grade are you comfortable sharing with (circle all that apply):

Grades K-3
(ages 5-9)

Grades 4-7
(ages 9-12)

Grades 8-10
(ages 12-16)

Grades 11-12
(ages 16-18)

Have you had a **class visit** your farm in the past?

Yes

No

Have you been a **guest presenter** in a class before?

Yes

No

Have you had **student volunteers/work experience** in the past?

Yes

No

Please describe what you would be sharing for **school visits/presentations** (if applicable):

Please describe what you would be sharing for **on site class field trips** (if applicable):

Please describe what you could offer for **volunteer opportunities/work experience** (if applicable):

If classes wanted to help give back, do you have **any projects** fit for a class (approx. 25) could help with?
Please list:

Food Distribution

Within School District 71 there are many different programs that could utilize access to local products for their varying in school food programs (cafeteria, salad bars, breakfast clubs, fundraiser, events etc). These programs would try to utilize locally produced foods first, between the months of September – June.

Do you currently distribute food to a School District 71-Comox Valley food program? Yes No

If yes, which one: _____

Would your farming enterprise be interested in being part of the school foods distribution data base?

Yes No

Thank you for your time and openness to share your farming experience with students of the Comox Valley. We hope this will help foster deeper connections to our land, healthy local food, and community.

Please send all forms back to: Serina.Allison@sd71.bc.ca

Sincerely,

Serina Allison

EOL-Environmental & Outdoor Learning District Teacher

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Website: <http://learn71.ca/environmental-outdoor-learning-eol/>