

NUTRIENTS
FOR LIFE  NUTRIMENTS
POUR LA VIE



EDUCATION: THE
NUTRIENTS FOR GROWING
A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

ANNUAL REPORT
2014



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OBJECTIVES

The objects of the Foundation are to advance **education** and to raise public awareness among Canadians concerning the **sustainable** use of **plant nutrients** based on current **scientific research** by:

1. adapting, developing and maintaining Canadian based educational **curriculum** and other materials for the benefit of **children** and youth and making this educational material available to **schools** and other organizations;
2. carrying out or supporting research to benefit **soil health** and quality and making the results of such **research** available to the interested public; and
3. acting as a resource centre of knowledge and current information regarding **fertilizer** use offering **educational tools**, on-line library materials, **research reports** and other **educational materials** for the benefit of the Canadian public, especially teachers, students and farmers.



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

NUTRIENTS FOR THE MIND

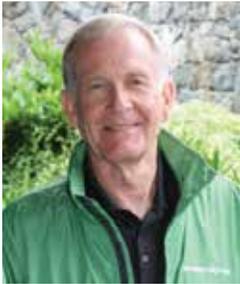
The relationship between plant nutrients and growing healthy food has become increasingly more important as the world population increases. We must effectively communicate to the public on how we are meeting the challenge of sustainably growing nutritious food through the use of plant nutrients.

Nutrients for Life programming focuses on the need for sharing our understanding on how nutrients increase the health and quality of our soil, improve production of nutritious foods and preserve green spaces.

The last six years have been instrumental in forming the clear objectives of the Nutrients for Life Foundation. It has been my pleasure to serve as President of Nutrients for Life since its formation. Nutrients for Life has worked diligently to build a nationally recognized brand and as it comes time for new leadership at Nutrients for Life, I would like to urge you to continue to support the good work that we have done. Nutrients for Life has developed strong programs and identified a clear path forward. I am confident that the staff in place will execute these programs.

Roger Larson

President, Nutrients for Life



LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

BRIDGING RELATIONSHIPS

From educators, community groups and scientists to farmers, agri-retailers and members of the fertilizer industry, our mission has been brought together by a diverse group of representatives. The Nutrients for Life Foundation has seen great success in the creation of sustainable partnerships with stakeholders across Canada. This year we have made significant developments with our partners, including:

- Building on our Memorandum of Understanding with the Canada Agriculture and Food Museum.
- In collaboration with Communities in Bloom, Nutrients for Life participated with Scott's Canada Ltd. Gro1000 garden opening event to strengthen our partnership with both organizations.
- The establishment of a Learning Garden national hub partnership with Green Manitoba.

Nutrients for Life Foundation is made up of a group of very passionate individuals who care deeply about educating students on the importance of nutrients and the science behind food production. By working with other organizations with like-minded goals of education, agriculture, gardening, soil science and agricultural sustainability we can better ensure the Foundation will reach its full potential.

For the past five years I have had the pleasure of being the Chair of this Foundation, I believe we have developed strong programs that are making an impact with today's youth and understanding of plant nutrients. Nutrients for Life will continue to strive under the leadership of Bob Adamson as the new Chair of the Board. We are well on our way to helping this generation of students realize the important role plant nutrients play in feeding a growing world.

Terry Baker

Chair, Nutrients for Life

LETTER FROM NUTRIENTS FOR LIFE STAFF

LET'S GROW TOGETHER



Dan Doyle
Executive Director



Catherine King
Director, Programs



Elizabeth Smith
Communications Specialist



Sydney Horton
Program and Events Coordinator



Monique MacDonald
Manager, Finances and Accounting

The United Nations predicts that the human population will increase by approximately 2.2 billion people over the next 30 years. The associated food-production challenge will be immense. The role of Nutrients for Life is to ensure that Canadians understand the role that plant nutrients play in feeding nine billion people.

So, what is it exactly that we should know about our food before it arrives the grocery store? To start, the role of healthy soil conditions for efficient plant growth; this is where Nutrients for Life Foundation programming aims to engage and educate students. Nutrients for Life programming gives students and teachers a complete understanding of the science behind how their food is grown.

Educating future generations on the importance of soil quality and health is a priority as the demographic of the agriculture and farming sector is changing drastically as more and more Canadians live in urban settings and the knowledge of how the agriculture industry works shrinks. It is important that urban Canadians understand the science-based practices that allow farmers to grow safe and nutritious food. In the coming years, educated and knowledgeable employees will be in high demand to fill the significant gaps in skilled professionals. This year we have worked diligently to:

- Develop a national Learning Garden program. In 2014, Nutrients for Life partnered with Green Manitoba to develop a comprehensive science-based garden program.
- Continue to meet Canadian curriculum objectives through science-based learning lessons. This year Nutrients for Life launched a new website, which offers information for teachers with downloadable resources and videos.
- Expand our team of provincial Teacher Ambassadors to host strategic workshops and lessons focused on bringing educational science-based materials on plant nutrients and agriculture into the classroom.

It is more important now than ever before to focus education efforts on soil science and agricultural sustainability for the prosperity of future generations. By working with educators across Canada, we can ensure that our resources meet the needs of teachers and students. With *Nourishing the Planet in the 21st Century* curriculum for middle school and high school, Teacher Ambassador workshops and lessons, as well as interactive, hands-on experiential learning through Learning Gardens we can make a difference.

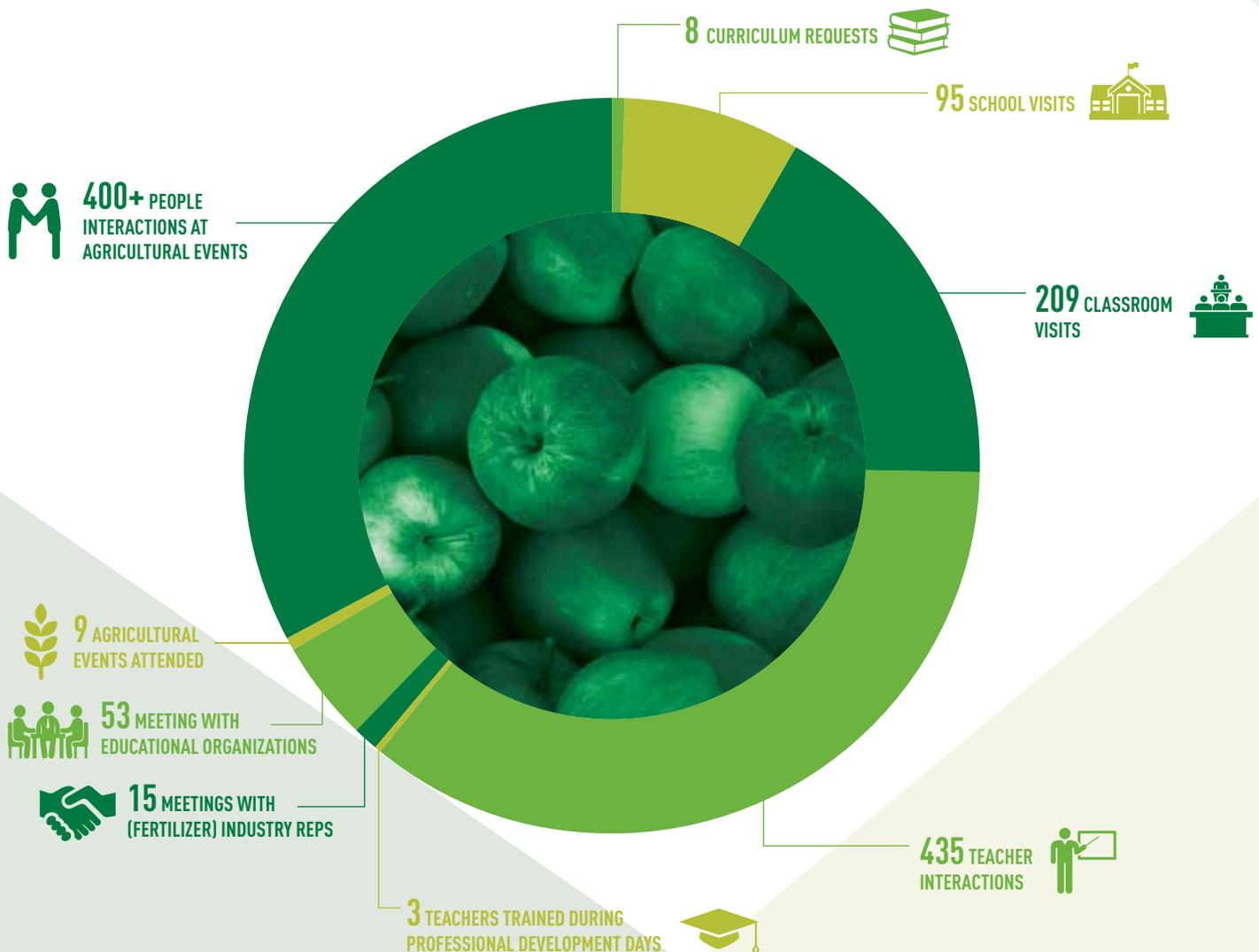
As individuals who currently work in the agriculture sector, we believe that there is no better industry to be working in. We look forward to our continued work with our partners as well as engaging current and future stakeholders and educators in the Nutrients for Life Foundation over the next year.

TEACHER AMBASSADORS

The Nutrients for Life Foundation's Teacher Ambassador Program promotes stronger relationships with the education community by providing resources for educating youth on the importance of plant nutrients and agriculture. Working with educators and other non-governmental organizations, Teacher Ambassadors provide a vital source of science-based education materials to teachers and their students.

Bringing educational science-based materials on plant nutrients and agriculture to classrooms in Canada.

TEACHER AMBASSADOR OUTREACH 2014



TEACHER AMBASSADORS MAKE A DIFFERENCE AT SCHOOLS, AND IN THE COMMUNITY BY:

- Adapting, developing and maintaining Canadian based educational curriculum and other materials for the benefit of children and youth and making this educational material available to schools and other organizations
- Demonstrate the benefit of soil health and ensure quality resources are available to the public
- Acting as a resource centre of knowledge and current information regarding fertilizer use, offering free educational tools, on-line library materials, research reports and other educational materials for the benefit of the Canadian public, especially teachers, students and farmers.

ACROSS THE MAP

As the Teacher Ambassador Program grew and developed throughout the 2013/2014 year, Nutrients for Life had an active presence in five provinces across Canada: Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, and New Brunswick.



RAY COCHRANE [VIRDEN, MANITOBA]

Community involvement is important to Nutrients for Life. Being an active, engaged and influential member of the educational community and agricultural industry allows Teacher Ambassadors to communicate Nutrients for Life's message. This year, Ray Cochrane articulated the importance of teaching students about soil science, plant nutrients, and understanding where their food comes from.

Ray Cochrane accomplished exceptional community outreach and involvement on behalf of Nutrients for Life. He is involved with various agricultural and educational community activities and ensures Nutrients for Life has a presence and a voice amongst key leaders and stakeholders in the industry. Through these various conferences and agricultural events, such as the Science Teachers' Association of Manitoba, South Western Alberta Teachers' Conference, the Wetland Centre of Excellence Day, Ag Awareness Day, Assiniboine River Basin Workshop and PCS Nutrients for Life Days, Ray delivered the Nutrients for Life Foundation message.

Ray's main focus this year was on the Virden Collegiate Learning Garden Project, which was developed and implemented by Virden Collegiate Institute and Virden Junior High. Ray's involvement was vital in the planning, preparation and building of the garden.

"Nutrients for Life provides me with the opportunity to assist teachers and their students to gain an insight into the areas of agriculture and environment."



KENT LAWARNE [PILOT MOUND, MANITOBA]

A Learning Garden at your school helps students to explore and experience the science behind food production. Kent Lewarne is very proud to be a part of the Learning Garden resource development team. Working together with Green Manitoba, Kent assisted in the development of the criteria of what qualifies as a Nutrients for Life Learning Garden. This document is instrumental in guiding the implementation of Learning Gardens throughout Canada.



Nellie McClung Collegiate in Manitou, Manitoba is one of five schools which received a three-year Learning Garden grant from Nutrients for Life. Kent worked closely with the teachers, students and community to successfully implement the Learning Garden based on the guidelines, to show students the science behind food production first-hand. Kent described the pride you could see in the students who had been involved. Students proudly hosted over 75 community guests, local sponsors, corporate visitors and school division personnel at the greenhouse in celebration of its grand opening.



With his experience as a Teacher Ambassador, Kent has been acting as a mentor for many of the new Teacher Ambassadors who have joined the team over this past year. With Kent's support and advice the new Teacher Ambassadors were able to make a greater impact on their communities and the school system this year.

“Teacher Ambassadors are the link between teachers, students with the wealth of valuable soil science and nutrient resources that Nutrients for Life has to offer. I believe that the Nutrients for Life is aligning itself nicely to be a key resource for the next generation of learners!”

BARBARA HACKING [STRATFORD, ONTARIO]

The Nutrients for Life Foundation is an advocate of educating students about the living world around us. Barbara Hacking's creative adaptations of Nutrient for Life lesson plans to help foster understanding on plant nutrients were always met with great enthusiasm and participation.



This year, Barbara worked with kindergarten and middle school, including special education classrooms and gifted students classes, to interpret Nutrients for Life programming and curriculum resources. She successfully adapted lesson plans on soil science and food products to ensure she reached these varying audiences with interactive activities to create dynamic discussions about plants, nutrients and healthy eating.



Barbara brought Nutrients for Life's unique message to urban communities across Ontario as a solution to bridging the knowledge gap between this region and Canada's deeply rooted agriculture industry.

“As a newly retired primary teacher, I was drawn to the guiding principles behind the Nutrients for Life program. Students in our modern world often have lost the connection between the food they eat and where it comes from and Nutrients for Life helps bridge that gap.”



MATTHEW LINSELL [OTTAWA, ONTARIO]

Nutrients for Life supports Canada’s school-curriculum needs with science-based content of the highest quality.

As a Teacher Ambassador in Ottawa, Ontario – Matthew Linsdell had an interesting experience sharing this knowledge of plant nutrients with students in an urban setting. Unlike rural areas of Canada where farming is prominent, students in Ottawa are not exposed to agriculture in the same way. This challenge is one which Matthew stepped up to with eagerness to help connect the dots on the science behind food production.



Matthew worked with various schools in the region to implement interactive activities with students in the classroom, and hands-on learning in the raised garden beds he built on the schools grounds. He developed a way to bring rural gardens into the urban setting. The students would plant seeds, add nutrients and watch them grow, thus creating dynamic discussions about what plants need to grow and to create a visual learning plan.



Matthew had the opportunity to work with the Canada Agriculture and Food Museum in Ottawa, working primarily on the hydroponics system he implemented and on the Learning Lab projects. This was an amazing space to connect with the thousands of student, teachers, and families that visited the museum this past year. Likewise, Matthew had the opportunity to attend and teach lessons at the GRO1000 garden opening in Hamilton.

“I want to be a part of informing the next generation so they can make informed decisions about our future. We must learn to live in harmony with our environment and each other.”



SYRENA OSWALD [CALGARY, ALBERTA]

It is important to help students to see first-hand how modern agriculture, gardening, plant growth, and nutrition work as a part of the global food supply chain.

New to Nutrients for Life in 2013, Syrena Oswald took a thoughtful approach. Her thorough knowledge on varying aspects of Nourishing the Planet in the 21st Century curriculum and the Learning Garden program prior to entering the public domain gave her an edge as a knowledgeable resource to teachers in Calgary, Alberta. This approach paid off for Syrena, as she delivered a comprehensive understanding of Nutrients for Life and began to network and reach out to key stakeholders in her region.

“I have a lot of enthusiasm and passion for learning and realized a position like this needs a self-motivated individual who believes in the Nutrients for Life vision.”

As a Teacher Ambassador in a largely agricultural area, Syrena established meaningful relationships within the educational community, agricultural industry, and cultivated a keen interest amongst non-traditional audience groups.

Stakeholder and partner support in this region reaffirms the strong link between the importance of agriculture education and Nutrients for Life programming. Through Syrena’s outreach, Nutrients for Life has successfully cultivated community support, setting the foundation for future promotion across the province.



“It is essential for people to know where their food comes from and what it takes to produce it. I am excited to spread this knowledge to students and teachers.”

TAMARA SEALY [MONCTON, NEW BRUNSWICK]

Agricultural curriculum at schools is top of mind for New Brunswick farmers and industry members. Tamara Sealy has been following Nutrients for Life for a number of years and was excited to bring the curriculum and programming to the Maritimes. She believes this is an excellent time for Nutrients for Life to be implementing their curriculum within the Maritime region. With a background in agriculture, Tamara understands the importance communicating the message of Nutrients for Life in a province with such close ties with food production. By attending various conferences, farmer meetings and industry summits across the region, she has made valuable connections and partnerships promoting Nutrients for Life programming available in the area.

Tamara continues to cultivate important relationships across the maritime region within the agriculture, education, and political industry’s. Some of these significant connections include the Eel Ground First Nations Community Garden; The PEI Agriculture Sector council; New Brunswick Food Security Action Network; and the New Brunswick Elsipogtog Reserve.

Tamara is eager to get out into her community and local schools to find synergies to educate students on the importance agriculture in society, and why it is important to understand plant nutrition and food security. Tamara wants to ensure farmers and industry leaders understand Nutrients for Life is here to help them and to promote the vital role agriculture plays.

“Coming from an agricultural background, I feel that the majority of the population do not understand how their foods are produced. Agriculture is exciting!”

IVANKA SIOLOWSKY [SASKATOON, SASKATCHEWAN]

Provinces across Canada boast vast variances in soil. Ivanka Siolowsky focused her lessons on the the nutrients required in the soil to grow crops, and how the potash found in their backyard is a part of an important food production system worldwide. This regional connection helped students to relate to the lessons in Nourishing the Planet in the 21st Century curriculum, as well as the nourishment of the world around them.

By using examples specific to the Saskatchewan region, Ivanka creates a meaningful impact on students when teaching Nutrients for Life lessons. Many students discussed personal experiences or connections with the fertilizer industry in their community, reinforcing the message of the relevancy of the agriculture industry, and programming like Nutrients for Life.

LEARNING GARDENS

BACKGROUND

In 2014 Nutrients for Life partnered with Green Manitoba to pilot the Nutrients for Life Learning Garden program to promote understanding in Canadian schools about modern agriculture, gardening, plant growth and nutrition, the role of nutrients in food production, and health and sustainability. Green Manitoba manages the Canadian program on behalf of Nutrients for Life and provides support to schools that are successful in receiving funding from Nutrients for Life to establish gardens at their schools.

Nutrients for Life Learning Gardens use *Nourishing the Planet in the 21st Century* curriculum and activities to provide students with authentic, first-hand learning experiences about the role of plant nutrients in food production. Learning Gardens set a foundation of knowledge regarding plant growth and agriculture systems, helping them to be informed and responsible decision-makers through experiencing food production first-hand. Students also develop an understanding on how current scientific agricultural practices are helping feed people locally, nationally and globally.

GUIDE FOR EDUCATORS

The *Nutrients for Life Learning Gardens: A Guide for Educators in Canada* helps teachers to establish a Nutrients for Life Learning Garden at their school as a resource to teach students about soil science, the role of nutrients in plant growth, and the larger issues of agricultural sustainability. The Guide provides direction on how to build a Learning Garden on the school grounds, sample lesson plans on soil sampling, comparative studies, weed and pest identification, and a catalogue of equipment requirements.

The teaching tool provides a framework which allows teachers to engage students on topics such as food security and modern agricultural practices through hands-on, participatory learning. Gardens are used as a learning apparatus that cross all school disciplines. These include: science, mathematics, language arts, social sciences, humanities and arts.

RECIPIENT SCHOOLS

A Nutrients for Life Learning Garden provides opportunities to design and construct the garden, plant the seeds, nurture the plants, add nutrients and water as required, and eventually address post-emergent issues related to pests and weeds.



A Nutrients for Life Learning Garden is a vital learning environment which will get students outdoors and engaging in physical activities, learning about nutrition, health and food security, building environmental awareness and stewardship skills, and fostering collaboration, teamwork and leadership in the community.

In 2014, eleven Manitoba schools received financial support to establish gardens. Of the eleven schools, five participated in the Learning Garden School Support Program. Six schools received Nutrients for Life School Garden grants and received a one-time grant to initiate gardening or enhance existing garden based activities, including Brock Corydon, Gimli High School, Sisler High School, St. John's-Ravenscourt, RB Russell Vocational School and Kelburn Farms.

Each school received initial funding upon signing the Contribution Agreement with the remaining amount to be provided in three equal installments over a three-year period based on satisfactory progress. Schools have also explored or received additional support, both in cash or kind, from businesses and private individuals and are making plans for Teacher Ambassador workshops.

Highlights from the participating schools:

- **Viriden Collegiate Institute:** The Learning Garden was developed on a piece of land donated for educational purposes. Two teachers from the school, as well as, representatives from Upper Assiniboine River Conservation District and Nutrients for Life Teacher Ambassador Ray Cochrane, worked with 40 biology students to plan and design the Viriden Learning Garden. In the summer of 2014, K-6 science students took part in critter-dipping and macro-invertebrate identification. Land Management Water Conservation students collected baseline soil information and plotted the garden using GPS units. Other activities planned for the summer included building a rain garden, planting trees for carbon sequestration, as part of Caring for Our Watershed project, and planting the first crop and experiential learning.
- **Ashern Central School:** The school completed its greenhouse over the winter break and invited middle and senior year students to join the gardening club in spring. The students planted a variety of vegetables and plants that were later moved to the greenhouse by end of April. The students were extremely active, even making signs and putting them around school and town to invite the community to its official opening of the greenhouse and the first Plant Sale on May 30, 2014. The next phase in the development of the greenhouse will involve the construction of shelves and benches for the greenhouse, landscaping, composting, workshop with Nutrients for Life, and more planting, growing and learning. Ashern Central School is also partnering with Tire Stewardship Manitoba to incorporate tire products within the Nutrients for Life Learning Garden.



 LEARNING GARDEN SCHOOLS

 SCHOOLS THAT RECEIVED \$500 GRANT

- **Nellie McClung Collegiate in Manitou:** The school developed an outdoor garden which included raised beds, flower beds, nursery and a greenhouse. 130 students have participated in activities related to the project or visited the garden area. Six teachers and ten community members are also involved in planning and setting up the greenhouse. The school developed communication materials for the community, sponsors, and the media. The program was officially launched on May 15, 2014. A harvest celebration is planned for the Fall of 2014.
- **Sisler High School:** Students in kindergarten to grade nine were engaged in the edging and preparation of the ground for tilling and adding compost to the soil. The team used tire gardening and planted seeds in grass clippings and fallen leaves as an experiment.
- **The Gimli High School:** The Learning Garden is in its second year of production. Previously the school identified the site, constructed raised beds and planted a variety of seeds. Building on the success of last year, the students worked with the cafeteria to plan what types of produce to grow over the summer months. Grade eleven students are overseeing the compost, maintenance and budget of the garden.



FORGING PARTNERSHIPS

Nutrients for Life partnered with Green Manitoba, who has worked with a network of partners including government, industry, NGO, and foundations to create synergies and do more together as a collective than on one's own.

PARTNERSHIP WITH TIRE STEWARDSHIP MANITOBA

Green Manitoba forged a partnership with Tire Stewardship Manitoba (stewardship organization responsible for managing tire collection and processing in Manitoba) to provide matching funds of up to \$20,000 to recipient schools if schools use tire products in their learning garden, such as pathways (pour), rubber mats, raised garden molding, crumb, etc.

Winnipeg Harvest, Emterra International, Tire Stewardship Manitoba and Reliable Tire have developed a Nutrients for Life Learning Garden on the Winnipeg Harvest site for use as a tire product demonstration Learning Garden site for Teacher Ambassadors to conduct teacher professional development workshops with educators in Manitoba.

PEI LIGHT GARDEN PROJECT

Nutrients for Life sponsored the hugely successful **Light Garden Project in Prince Edward Island**. The first installment of sponsorship permitted the development of five two-tier light gardens for classes across the province to borrow. These light gardens were in 11 classrooms, across schools from East to West. There is currently a waiting list of 40 classes for the light gardens. Many of the teachers who had them last year have put their names back on the waiting list to receive them again. Most of the seeds do sprout and grow fast, which the teachers and students enjoy. Every day the light garden looks different.

Supplied with each light garden is a *Learning Garden Activity Guide* with curriculum for Kindergarten to grade 12. Depending on the grade, seeds included with the Light Garden are cucumbers, tomatoes, Marigolds, lettuce, and beans. All soil, starter kits and timers are also included.

“We have really enjoyed having the light garden in our classroom. The children have learned how to plant and care for seeds. They have been observing their growth and making lots of comparisons.”

PEI Teacher

PARTNERSHIPS



CANADA AGRICULTURE
AND FOOD MUSEUM

CANADA AGRICULTURE AND FOOD MUSEUM

In November 2012 Nutrients for Life and the Canada Agriculture and Food Museum signed a Memorandum of Understanding that formalized a partnership for the development and distribution of educational materials to the Canadian public in general, on matters of agriculture, gardening, soil science and agricultural sustainability.

Over 170,000 visitors come to the Museum annually – this is a perfect opportunity to teach visitors about the 13 essential nutrients that are found in soil, and the three most important to soil health and food production – Nitrogen (N), Phosphorus (P) and Potassium (K). The museum gets a large amount of school groups, and this has been a wonderful way to expose teachers to what a learning garden could look like at their school.

This partnership included a development of a hydroponic and living wall lab for educational programs in the Museum learning labs – another way to educate youth on the importance of plant nutrients in the soils. Nutrients for Life's Teacher Ambassador Matthew implemented a hydroponic system for a "Green Wall" Learning Lab. The museum also has a conventional garden space outdoors, which implemented space for similar learning experiences in spring 2014. Together, we have started building the foundation for educating youth on how to feed a population of nine billion by 2050 and the innovative processes that modern agriculture is undertaking to make sure enough food will be produced for this population.

SCOTTS CANADA LTD.

Nutrients for Life developed a partnership with Scotts Canada Ltd. to incorporate Nutrients for Life curriculum into the GRO1000 program. The GRO1000 stakeholder group includes, Scotts Canada, Plant a Row - Grow a Grow, and Communities in Bloom. As part of the partnership agreement Nutrients for Life will work incorporate science-based activities at the GRO1000 garden opening event and will provide additional activities for teachers and community leaders to use as part of afterschool programming.

Nutrients for Life Teacher Ambassador's attended the GRO1000 Hamilton Garden Opening. The Teacher Ambassadors taught NPK: Growing Food the Right Way, a 1-hour interactive lesson plan presented to 8 classes of elementary school students and their teachers. Each student left with their own planted pot to take home and watch grow during the summer, along with take-home educational information from Nutrients for Life.

This collaborative project brought together students, teachers, the community, and corporate partners to create a beautiful and sustainable teaching and learning garden.



800

ATTENDEES

550 STUDENTS

**25 TEACHERS AND
SCHOOL STAFF**

**15 CITY OF
HAMILTON STAFF**

**60 LOCAL
VOLUNTEERS**

**150-200
CITIZENS**

WHO ATTENDED EVENING ACTIVITIES
AFTER THE EVENT

10 Scotts STAFF

**5 COMMUNITIES IN
BLOOM AND GROW
A ROW PEOPLE**



CANADIAN FEED THE CHILDREN

Since 2012 Nutrients for Life has worked with Canadian Feed the Children to develop and expand learning gardens. The learning gardens give beneficiary communities increasing knowledge about proper nutrition, which develop skills; provide environmental enhancements; and inspire a sense of community belonging and pride. Students have gained a better sense of how food is grown which has laid the groundwork for discussions about nutrition, health and illness, food security and environmental issues.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM CANADIAN FEED THE CHILDREN GARDENS:

Food security and nutrition in First Nations communities is intricately tied to Aboriginal history, culture and relationship to the land, and so the school garden is integrated into the curriculum alongside tradition. The Elsipogtog garden in New Brunswick, was built in the form of a medicine wheel to reinforce the traditional Mi'kmaq teachings around the passage of the sun and the seasons. On Aboriginal Day, June 21, the garden was blessed by Elders who – along with Elsipogtog's alternative school and summer program team, children, youth and parents – tend it during the summer months.

Students at Eel Ground First Nation School in New Brunswick, were included at all stages of garden development. Students provided input into general planning, garden preparation and seed selection. Students learned about soil fertility, plant life cycle, garden management, plant spacing, growing and harvesting. Leadership skills were also promoted by the selection of students to plant flowers and oversee the garden. Each class started their seeds in the classroom.

Grade seven and eight students at The First Nation School of Toronto, have become school leaders and mentors in developing classroom gardens, as a complement to the school's greenhouse. Every classroom now has a garden where students plant seeds under the supervision of older students and teachers. By bringing the gardens into the classroom, more students have access to hands-on learning and the challenge of limited space in the greenhouse has been eliminated. The school has an on-site garden educator who works closely with each class and links garden learnings to the curriculum.

“Students are sharing with their parents and caregivers the healthy eating messages they are receiving at school and asking them to purchase some of the healthy foods they are having there.”

Patricia Murphy, a registered dietitian at Elsipogtog First Nation

RESOURCES



Download now at nutrientsforlife.ca! Nutrients for Life has developed resources and teaching materials to help supplement classroom learning, including the interactive apple activity which puts current arable land into perspective for students.



Watch now @N4LCanada! Nutrients for Life has developed videos to complement the Nourishing our Planet in the 21st Century learning lessons to help students focus on the science of plant biology and how it is related to food production.



Live now at nutrientsforlife.ca! Our newly developed website raises the profile of Nutrients for Life programming across Canada, and simplifies the process for teachers who are looking to engage students on the topics of soil science, food production and sustainability.

FUNDRAISING



NUTRIENTS FOR LIFE FOUNDATION'S 7TH ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

AUGUST 19, 2014, THE MARSHES GOLF COURSES IN OTTAWA, ON

Delegates of the Canadian Fertilizer Institute Annual Conference once again raised funds for the Nutrients for Life Foundation, which has brought science-based education to the classroom, while raising awareness among Canadians concerning the sustainable use of plant nutrients. Thanks to participation of 96 golfers this year, the 7th Annual Nutrients for Life Foundation Golf Tournament donated \$14,000 to the Nutrients for Life Foundation to continue its important programming across Canada.

THANK YOU

Nutrients for Life would like to thank the Board of Directors for their time, expertise and support over the last year.

Terry Baker (Chairman), Franklin Land and Cattle Co.

Doug Beever (Vice-Chair), Agrium Inc.

Robert (Bob) Adamson (Secretary), Pembina Trails School District

Troy Bolt, Viterra

Raymond Carriere, Communities in Bloom

Patrick Kennedy, CF Industries

Jill Fairbrother, FPI Communications

John Heard, Manitoba Agriculture. Food and Rural Initiatives

Bill Johnson, Potash Corporation of Saskatchewan

Hugh Loomans, Sylvite Sales Inc.

Roger Larson (President), Nutrients for Life

In 2008, the Canadian Fertilizer Institute (www.cfi.ca) founded the Nutrients for Life Foundation Canada. Today, it is a registered Canadian charitable organization made up of educators, community groups, scientists and representatives from the agricultural sector, including farmers, agri-retailers and members of the fertilizer industry. Together we produce and distribute educational materials on soil science and agricultural sustainability. Our goal is to help Canadians better understand how nutrients increase the health and quality of our soil, improve production of nutritious foods and preserve green spaces.



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