

Vancouver Food Asset Map: Free and Low-Cost Meals

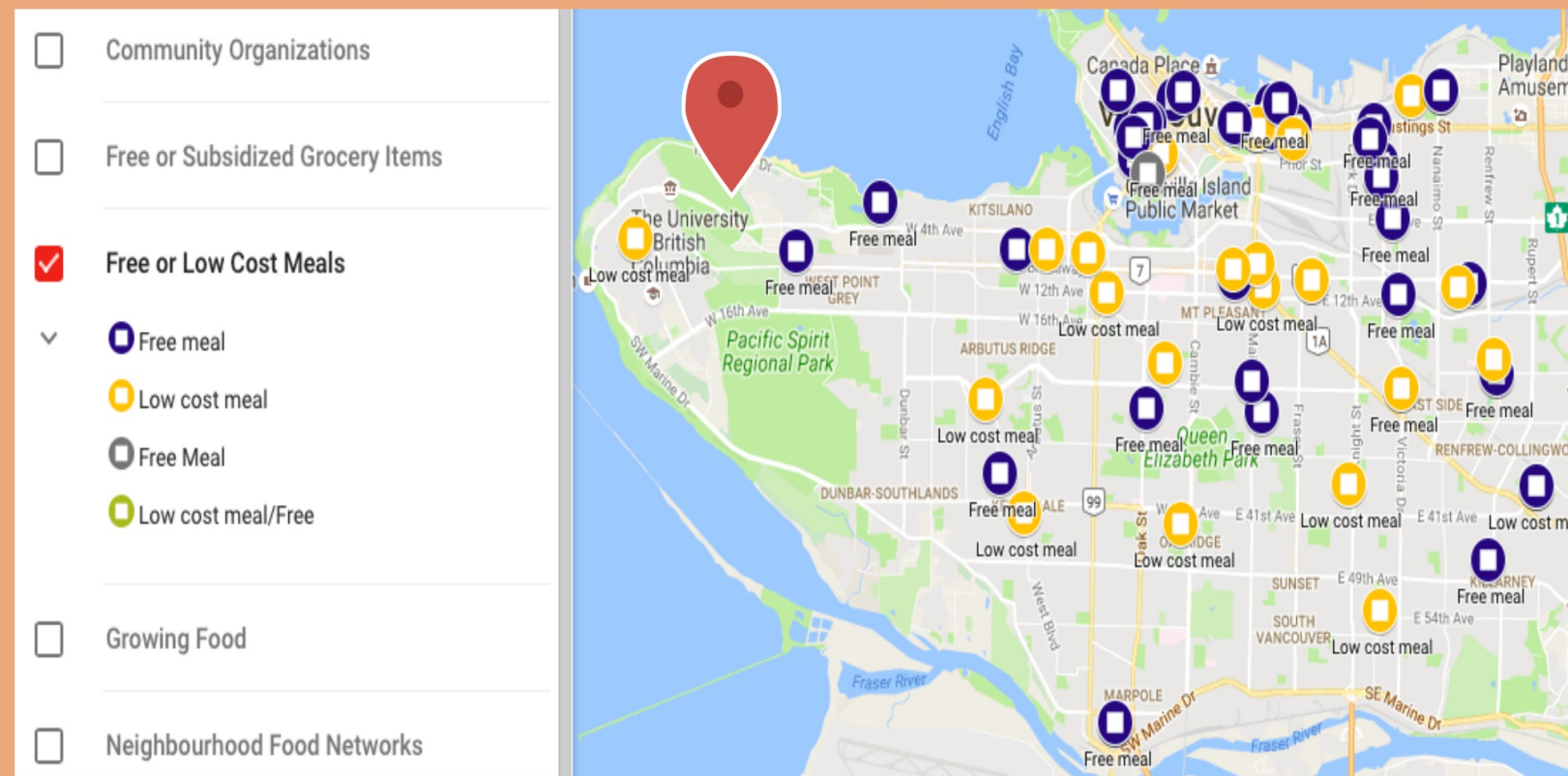
Objective: To improve a pre-existing map of food assets in Vancouver, and assess its efficacy.

LFS 350:
Group 12

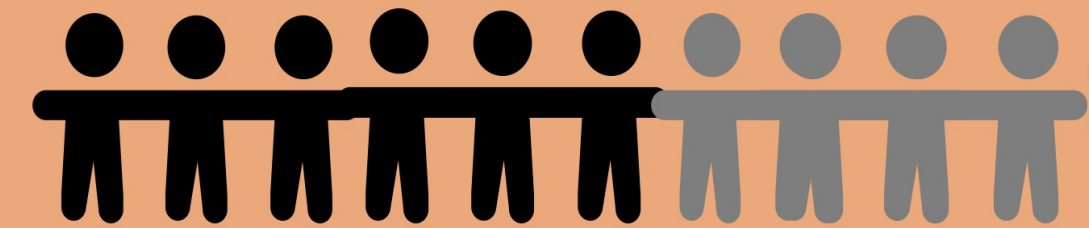
Vancouver Coastal Health

"Committed to supporting healthy lives in healthy communities..."

VCH Public Health Dietitians + UBC students partnering to address:



Food assets: resources, facilities, and spaces in the community that support the local food system [1].



Our contribution: 96% of food assets updated & 8 new assets added, 3 on UBC campus

Overall Goal:
Improve Food Security

Why?

39% of Canadian students have experienced food insecurity [3].

"Food security exists when all people, at all times, have physical, social and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food which meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life" [2]

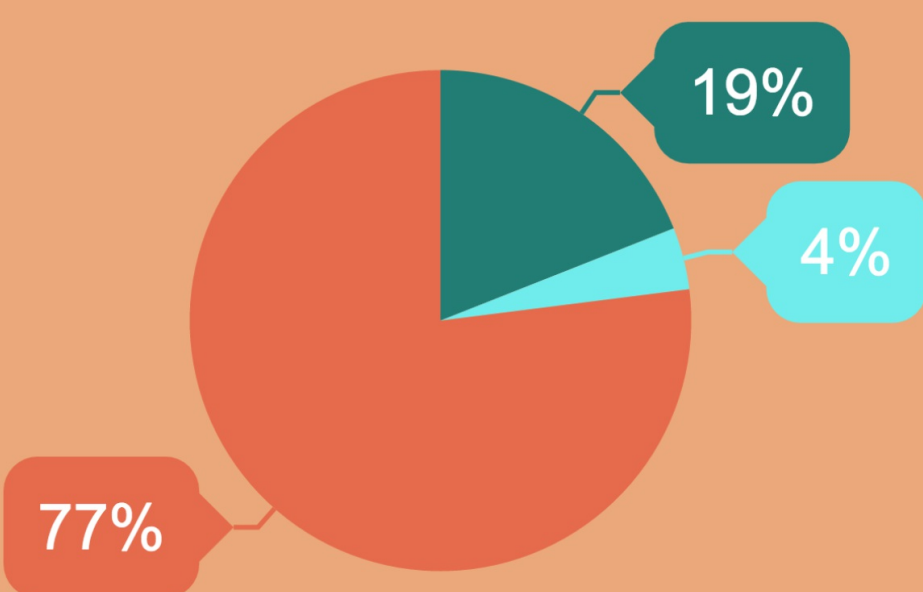
How?



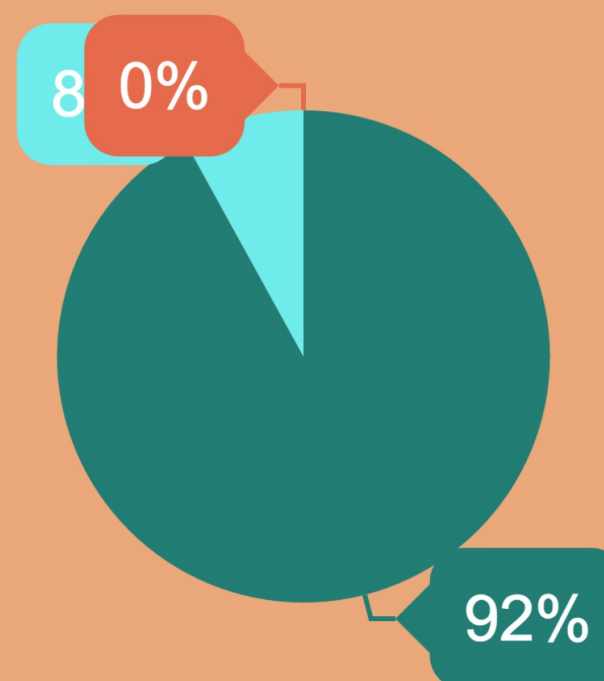
VFAM User Feedback: Survey Responses

(n=48)

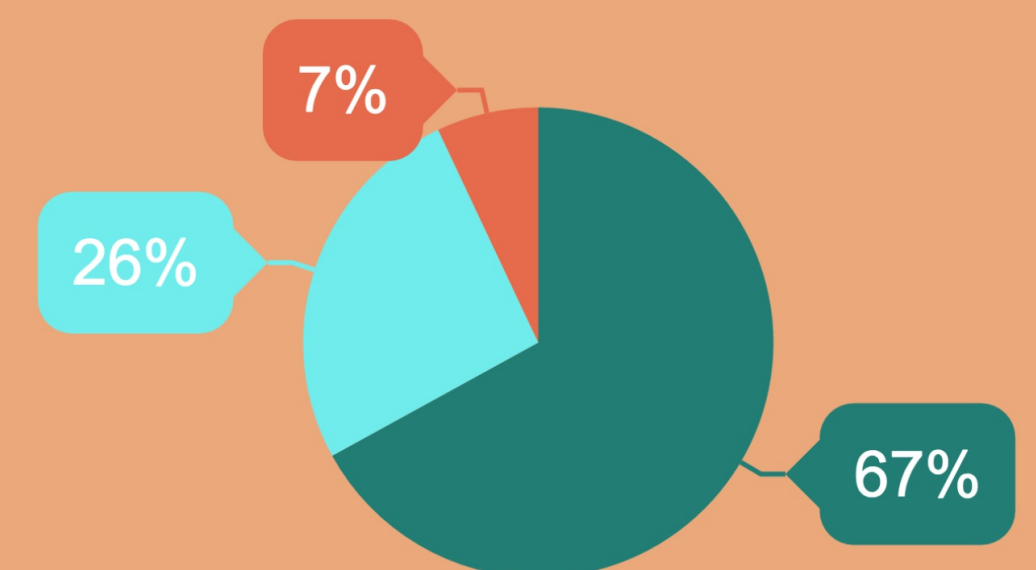
Did you know how to find food assets before?



Was the food asset map easy to use?



Will you use the food asset map in the future?



Yes (19%) Not Sure (4%) No (77%)

Yes (92%) Not Sure (8%) No (0%)

Yes (67%) Not Sure (26%) No (7%)

NEXT STEPS

- Continue to identify and update food assets across the city
- Educate students/others about the existence of the map
- Develop an offline version of map with rating system
- Expand assets available at UBC (respond to students' request for more low-cost grocery stores and subsidized produce)

Acknowledgments:

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LFS 350 Project blog link: <https://blogs.ubc.ca/xmarksthemeal/>

References:

- [1] City of Vancouver, (2014). Social indicators and trends 2014: Feeding ourselves well. Retrieved from: <http://vancouver.ca/files/cov/factsheet3-feeding-ourselves-well.PDF>
- [2] FAO (2015). Food security: Concepts and measurement. Retrieved November 25, 2016, from <http://www.fao.org/docrep/005/y4671e/y4671e06.htm>
- [3] Meal Exchange (2016). Hungry for knowledge: Assessing the prevalence of student food insecurity on five Canadian campuses. Retrieved from: <http://www.mealexchange.com/hungryforknowledgereport.html>