

# The Road to Inclusion in Sustenance Festival

## What is Sustenance Festival?



A partnership between the Vancouver Parks Board (VPB) and Sustenance Festival



An annual, 2-week event held to promote arts, food and culture

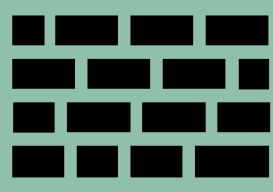
## What was the issue?<sup>1</sup>



Underrepresentation of minority groups in Sustenance Festival.



Vancouver food movement excludes parallel food systems.

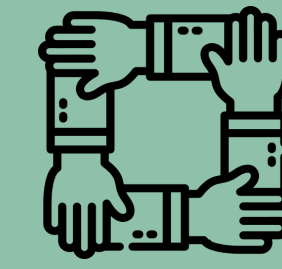


Barriers to participation

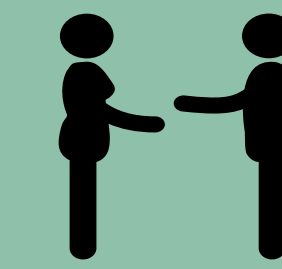


Social injustice

## Why does it matter?<sup>1, 2</sup>



Increases inclusivity in the food system



Creates a platform for meaningful cross-cultural bonds



Addressing social inequality in Vancouver



Improves inclusivity and accessibility to facilities and services provided by VPB

## What did they do to address the issue?<sup>1</sup>

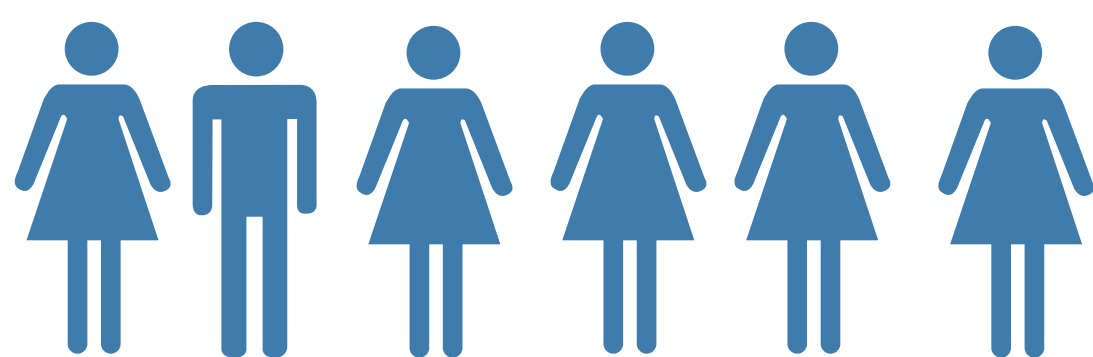


A year-long relationship building process from Dec 2016 - Dec 2017



Process-based approach

## Our group enters!

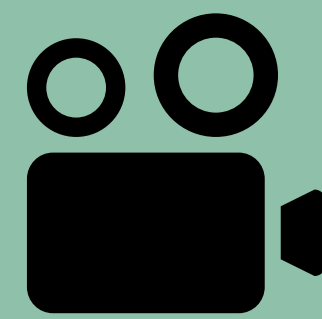


Documenting, through film, the research & relationship-building process employed by the VPB in determining the barriers to participation in the Sustenance Festival and the underrepresentation of people most affected by inequities.

## Our approach:



Organized 4 meetings with the VPB to plan video goals

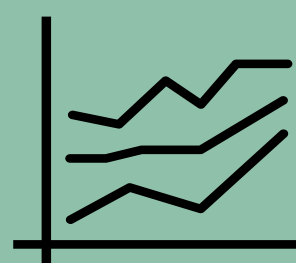


Conducted 5 interviews with the coordinators and researchers of the Sustenance Festival



Compiled interviews into a video.

## What we found:



"Process based approach allows us to be more responsive to what is needed in the community rather than rushing to put together a festival"



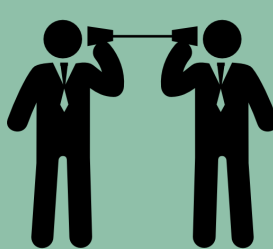
"It is important to do the work of inclusion within the broader food movement to bring many voices together and to hear from people not only about what their needs are but also what they have to contribute and their solutions"



We need to "use our power to leverage resources [such as funding] within institutional places to create more justice and inclusion"



Underrepresented community initiatives can be supported by Sustenance Festival & VPB through building strong relationships & consistently providing resources & facilitating new project collaborations



"To change the way we are doing things requires us in leading roles to quiet down our preconceived notions"

## Take home message:



We need to be continually critical of whose voice & work is being included or excluded within the food movement in Vancouver.



Evidence suggests that the Sustenance Festival can run for more than 2 weeks by providing resources to already existing initiatives & facilitating new project collaborations throughout the year.

Visit our blog for more information: <http://blogs.ubc.ca/sustenancefestival/>

### References:

1. Sustenance Festival. (2017). Retrieved 27 Nov 2017, from <http://sustenancefestival.ca/>
2. Park Board Strategic Framework. (2012). Vancouver.ca. Retrieved 27 Nov 2017, from <http://vancouver.ca/files/cov/park-board-strategic-plan-presentation-20120627.pdf>



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