

# Indigenous Foodscapes @Vancouver Schools

is an initiative set forth by Farm to School BC, funded by the City of Vancouver. Farm to School BC aims to improve the health of **people, place, and planet** through projects that impact the food system.

The **Indigenous foodscapes project** works with 14 schools in Vancouver with the objective of bringing native plants and traditional food knowledge into the **minds, hearts, and bellies** of children and youth.

## Objective

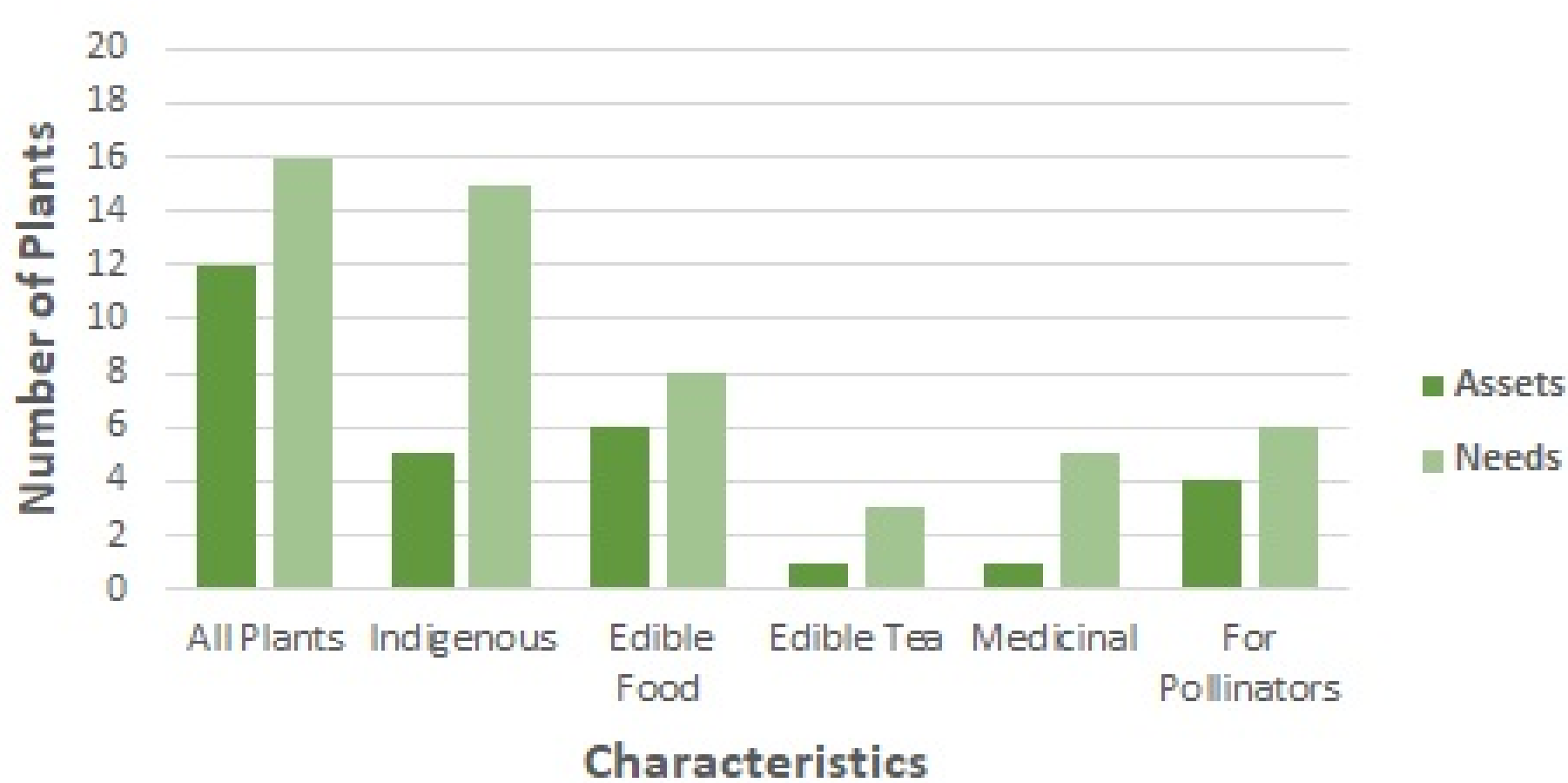
Our role was to document the Indigenous Foodscapes **assets and needs** of two schools and curate them into a report for **Farm2School**. The design of this study was influenced by the principles of Asset Based Community Development (Mathie et al., 2013)

## Method

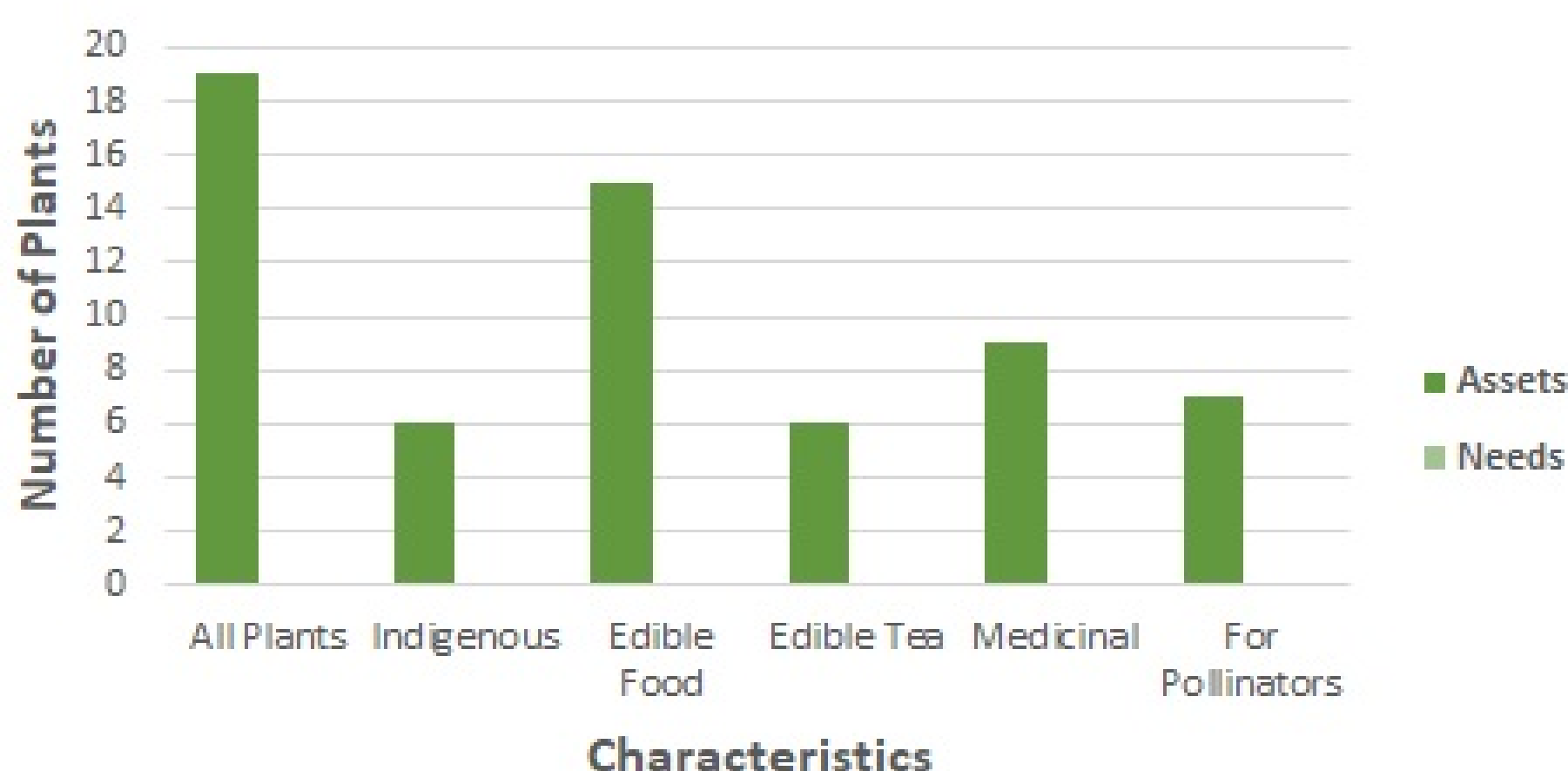
1. **Visited Queen Mary and Xpey' Elementary**
  - Walking tours with **plant expert Lori Snyder and school's stakeholders**
  - Documented the Indigenous Foodscapes **assets and needs** of the school gardens via audio, notes, and pictures.
2. **Transcribed the audio**
3. **Integrated all of the collected information into a comprehensive written report and a map**

## Findings

Queen Mary Plant Assets and Needs



Xpey' Plant Assets and Needs



## Discussion

Both schools were different demographically and geographically, thus, they had different Assets and Needs.

Queen Mary is larger, both in size infrastructure, and population than X'pey'. However, X'pey has a larger Indigenous student population.

Queen Mary requires more Indigenous plants than they already currently have, which aligns with the goals and objectives of this project.

## Implication

Queen Mary requires more financial and labor investment than X'pey, but each school's Indigenous foodscape will be unique. If these two Vancouver schools successfully carry out the F2S Indigenous Foodscapes project, then the students will increase their awareness of Indigenous cultures, health & nutrition, and environmental issues.

### References:

Gambling, S. (2017). Farm to School Vancouver: Indigenous Foodscapes. Vancouver School Board Powerpoint on January 22, 2018.  
Mathie, A., & Cunningham, G. (2003). From clients to citizens: Asset-based Community Development as a strategy for community-driven development. *Development in Practice*, 13(5), 474-486

For more information please visit our Blog site: <https://blogs.ubc.ca/indigenousfoodscapes2018/>