

FreshRoots Vision¹

- Involve students in the growing and preparing of food through the pilot program, LunchLAB
- Incorporate community, joy, education, inclusivity, and empowerment among participating students
- Improve community food security - the availability of healthy, sustainable, and appropriate food for all members⁴ - among Vancouver school students

Our Project Goals

- Research existing meal programs in and outside of Canada
- Evaluate these programs using indicators outlined in current research
- Provide FreshRoots with details of researched programs so that they can best implement future meal programs in Canada

What We Found:

Among Canadian students, **1 in 6** come from a food insecure household³



Canada is the **ONLY** G7 nation without a universal school meal program²

Existing Meal Programs:

	Location	Universal?	All Students Eligible?	Meal Served?	Labour Source?	Government Funding?*	Nutrition Regulation?
INTER-NATIONAL	France	✓	✓	Lunch	Chef	✓	✓
	Japan	✓	✓	Lunch	Chef	✓	✓
	New Zealand	✗	✗	Breakfast	Volunteer	✓	✗
CANADA	Yukon	✗	✓	Lunch	Volunteer	✓	✗
	Nova Scotia	✗	✓	Breakfast	Volunteer	✓	✓
	New West	✗	✓	Lunch	Chef	✗	✓

* = Government funding is only partial

So What?

From the research, it's evident that a successful universal school meal program in Canada should include:



A chef on staff



At least partial government funding



EVERY student regardless of household income

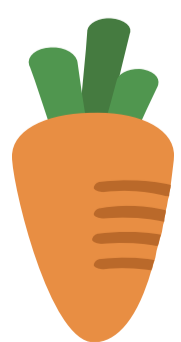


Clear nutrition regulations and guidelines

Now What?

Be an advocate!

Continue to pursue and support the establishment of a universal school meal programs in any way you can while Canada waits for full government funding.



1. Our Vision (n.d.). Retrieved November 20, 2019, from Fresh Roots website: <https://freshroots.ca/about/our-vision>
 2. Unicef Canada. (2019, May 7). Unicef Canada supports calls for a national school food program [Press Release]. Retrieved from <https://www.unicef.ca/en/press-release/unicef-canada-supports-calls-national-school-food-program>
 3. Tarasuk, V., Mitchell, A., & Dachner, N. (2014). Household food insecurity in Canada, 2012. Toronto: Research to identify policy options to reduce food insecurity (PROOF). Retrieved from <https://proof.utoronto.ca/>
 4. Dietitians of Canada. (2007). Community food security: Position of dietitians of Canada. Retrieved from <https://www.dietitians.ca/Downloads/Public/cfs-position-paper.aspx>
 5. Smith, T. (2018). Feeding Our Future: Options for expanding school meal programs in BC. (Published masters thesis). Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, Canada.