



Community Garden Network Roundtable

June 2024



Land Honouring

CRFAIR and the Good Food Network promote healthy and sustainable food systems. This considers our relationships with each other, and the land and waters of this region. We endeavour to honour the land and its treaties by strengthening our relationship and responsibilities to them. We live and work on unceded Coast Salish Territories*

*specifically of the Lək̓ʷəŋən (Songhees) and Xwsepsum (Esquimalt) Nations here in the core area, the ƵSÁNEĆ Nations {ƵJOŁEŁP (Tsartlip), BOKÉĆEN (Pauquachin), SƆÁUTƵ,(Tsawout) ƵSIKEM (Tseycum)} out on the Saanich Peninsula and Gulf Islands, to the west Sc'ianew (Beecher Bay), T'Sou-ke, and Pacheedaht, and MÁLEXEŁ (Malahat) and Pune'laxutth' (Penelekut) Nations.



Community Garden Roundtable

- Introductions
- What is the Community Garden Network
- South Island Farm Hub/Flavour Trails
- Equity in Community Gardens
- Learning Topic and Next Meeting



Community Garden Roundtable

Introduction

- What is your name
- What community garden you are coming from
- What is your favourite thing to grow
- What is something you love about community gardens
- What is a take away you are hoping for from today

What is the Community Gardens Network?



Community Gardens Network

The Community Garden Network was established in January of 2024

CRFAIR supports organizing the network and roundtable as an initiative of the Good Food Network

What so far?



● First meeting- February 13th community Gardens Roundtable presentation by Michael Ip, roundtable discussion on challenges and supports for community gardens, interest expressed in starting a network

● Esquimalt Community Garden hold a field trip and meeting of the network April 30th

● Second meeting - June 24th Community Gardens Roundtable

Key issues identified?



Community gardens have challenges and opportunities:

- **Engaging volunteers**
- **establishing gardens**
- **administrative management**
- **compliance issues**
- **resource sharing**
- **collaborating on learning**
- **network building and relationships**

CRFAIR and the Good Food Network

Good Food Network Community Map

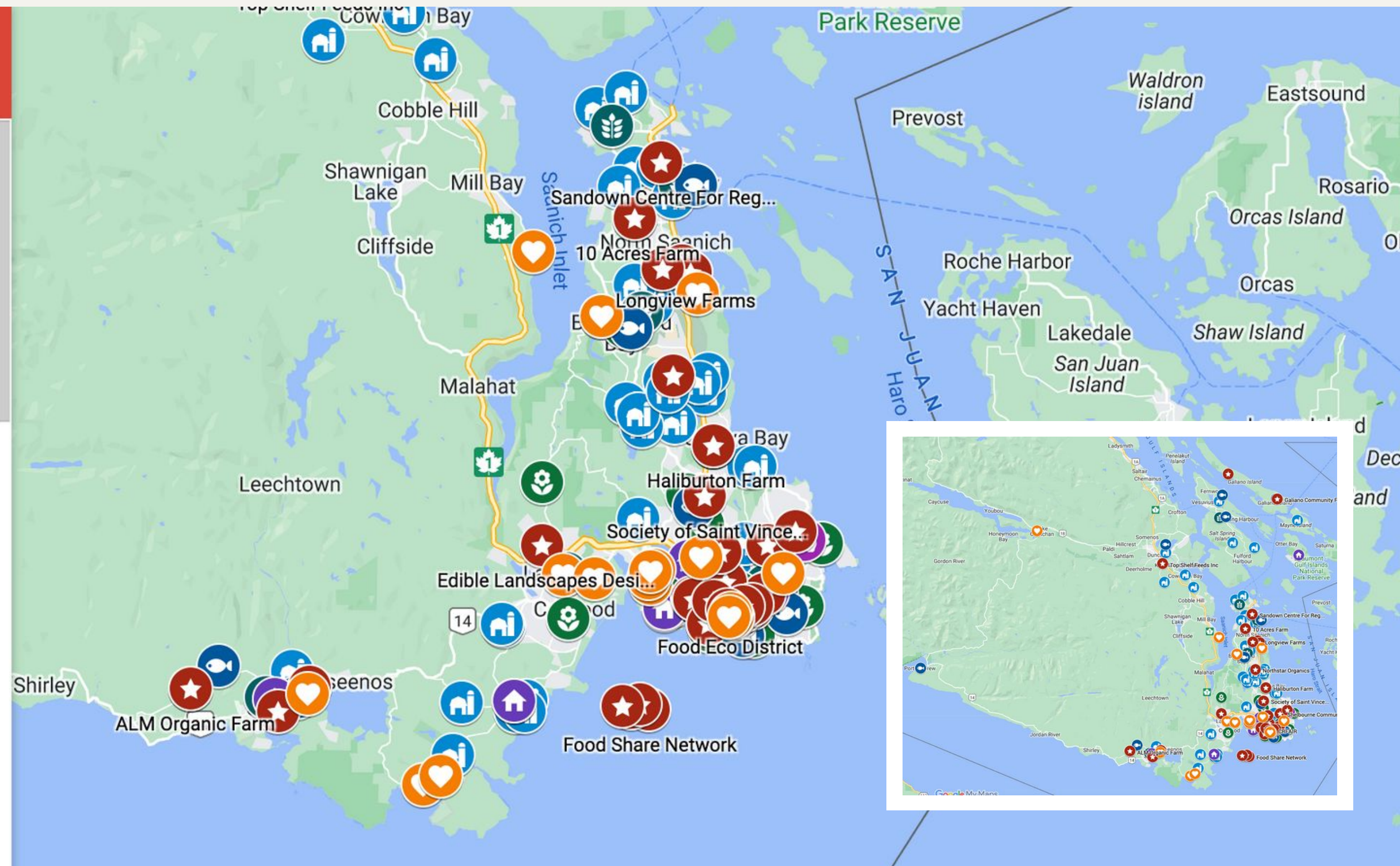
The Good Food Network

This map provides an overview of all the organizations, groups, and initiatives that make up the Good Food Network

105 views
Published 7 days ago

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- Farms and Agriculture**
 - 10 Acres Farm
 - A&S Microgreens
 - Agua Dulce Farm
 - Alderley Grange
 - ... 60 more
- Farmers Markets**



Farms and Agriculture

- 10 Acres Farm
- A&S Microgreens
- Agua Dulce Farm
- Alderley Grange

... 60 more

Farmers Markets

- Esquimalt Farmers Market
- James Bay Market
- Moss Street Market
- Metchosin Farmers' Market

... 7 more

Community Gardens

- Fernwood Community Garden
- Banfield Commons Community Garden
- Gorge Park Community Garden
- Esquimalt Community Garden

... 18 more

Food Literacy / Education

- Compost Education Centre
- Food Eco District
- Edward Milne Community School
- LifeCycles Project Society

Food Access Points

- Victoria Community Fridge
- Our Place Society
- Mustard Seed Street Church & Food Bank
- Shelbourne Community Kitchen
- UVSS Food Bank and Free Store
- Victoria Rainbow Kitchen Society
- South Island FarmHub

Seafood Access and Education

- South Island FarmHub
- The Fish Store - Seafood Restaurant
- Satellite Fish Co Ltd
- Finest At Sea Seafood Market and Food Truck

... 11 more

Neighbourhood Houses

- Metchosin Community House
- Saanich Neighbourhood Place
- Esquimalt Neighbourhood House Society
- Fernwood Neighbourhood Resource Group
- Oaklands Neighbourhood House
- SGI Neighbourhood House
- Sooke Neighbourhood House (Sooke Family

Network Organizations

- All items

Indigenous Community Resources

- Songhees Wellness Centre
- Victoria Native Friendship Centre
- Aboriginal Coalition to End Homelessness S
- Aboriginal Gathering Place - Na'Tsa'Maht

... 16 more

Community Garden Equity Toolkit



Assessment and Reflection



Community outreach and engagement



Ongoing Management and Support



Enhance accessibility



Equity and inclusion Initiatives



Inclusive governance and decision making

Equity Toolkit

- [Checklist for Integrating Equity in Existing Community Gardens](#)



Economic Opportunities

Case Study

South Island Farm Hub

Subsidized over \$305,000 worth of fresh, local food for over 15,000 people through their Farmbucks campaign

115 food producers and processors selling through South Island FarmHub

Over \$1,279,000 in cumulative sales that goes right back to supporting local producers



South Island Farm Hub Suppliers

This map provides an overview of all the farmers, fishers, and food producers that sell with the South Island FarmHub.

714 views

Last edit was on March 12

Add layer Share Preview

SIFH Suppliers

Individual styles

South Island FarmHub

A&S Microgreens

Agua Dulce Farm

ALM Organic Farm

Avalon Dairy

Berryman Brothers

Boughneath Farm

Camas Farm

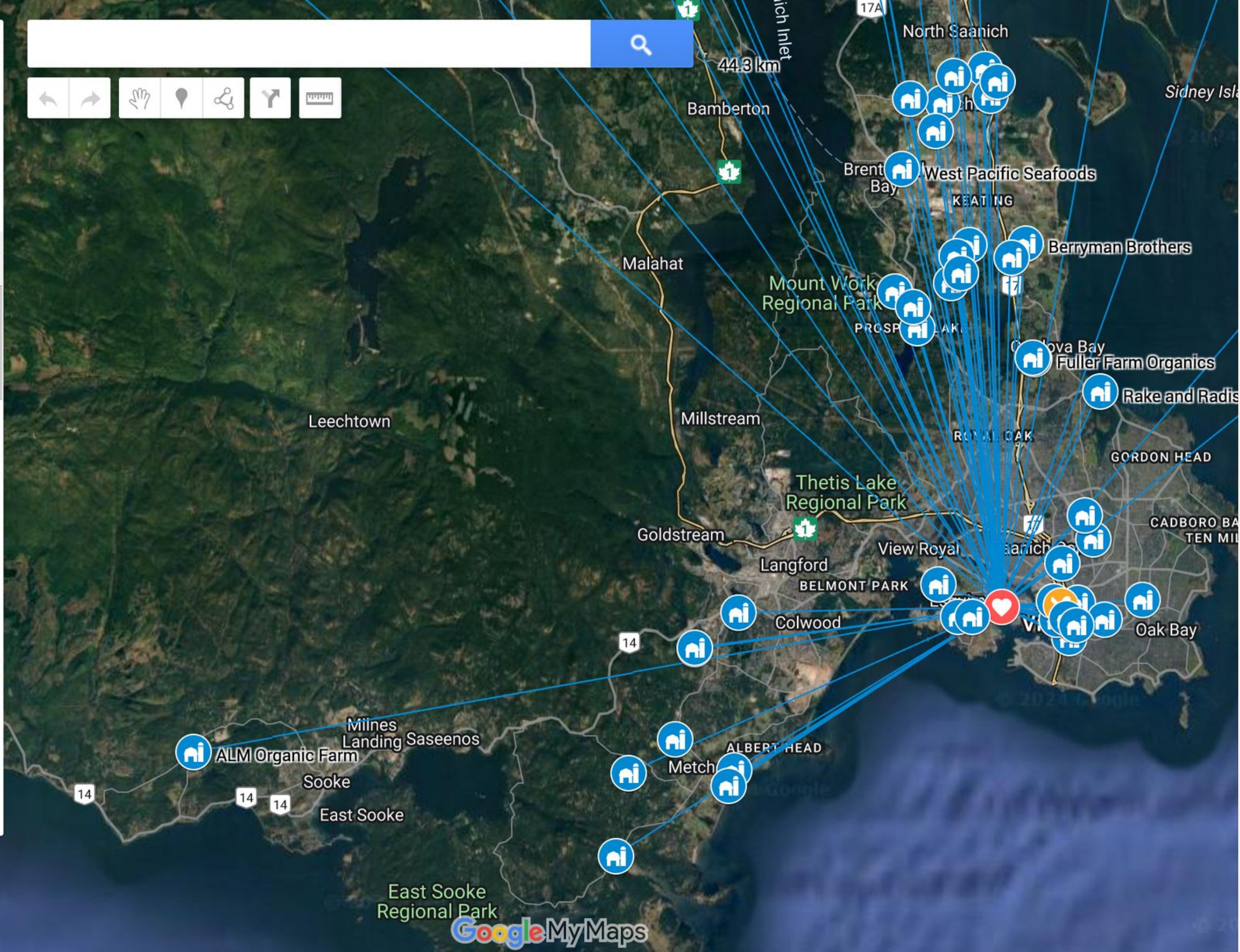
Captain Pete Seafood

City's Edge Farm

Conscious Crackers

Cowichan Station Creamery ...

Cultured Kombucha



Collaboration Opportunities

Case Study

Flavour Trails

Over 1500 residents took part in the 2023

Flavour Trails festival

Local businesses reported a roughly 30% increase in sales during the festival

Over 500 attendees for the community celebration at Sandown Centre for Regenerative Agriculture



DESTINATION GREATER
VICTORIA

Next Steps?

- Network list
- Network listserv or other medium
- Adding Community Garden updates to existing newsletter? highlight gardens or learning activities?
- Summer tour and Roundtable in the fall?



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