

UNITED for food security

Food Security Team

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Project Coordinator's



United Way
British Columbia

Working with communities in
BC's North, Interior, Lower Mainland,
Central & Northern Vancouver Island



Land Acknowledgement



At United Way BC, we dedicate ourselves to fostering understanding, respect, and an acknowledgment of the rich histories of the lands and waterways we traverse. Our mission guides us across vast and diverse territories, each with its unique tapestry of languages, governance systems, traditions, and cultural heritage. The relationship with these lands and waterways has been stewarded by Indigenous communities since time immemorial, long before the establishment of contemporary boundaries, and we humbly recognize that many of these territories remain unceded.

Today, we are joining you on the territories of the Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish), sə́lilwə́taʔt (Tsleil-Waututh) and xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam) Nations.



Agenda:

- Food Security Team at UWBC
- Regional Community Hubs
- Food Link/Data Hub
- Guest Speaker – Sharon Dong from CityReach
- Questions

A photograph of two women in a lush garden. One woman, wearing a red hoodie with a '90 1930-2020' logo, is smiling and looking towards the other woman. The second woman, wearing a denim jacket and gloves, is holding a wooden handle, possibly a shovel or rake. In the foreground, a large orange wheelbarrow is filled with green plants. The background is filled with various green plants and flowers, including tall pink flowers on the left.

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The 3 Food Security Programs at UWBC

**Food Security
Infrastructure
Grants**

**Regional
Community
Food Hubs**

**Food Link
Platform**



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At the Hearth of the Community: Filling Gaps in Food Security

- Since pandemic United Way BC has played a significant role in food insecurity
- Community partners looked to us for support and leadership
- Rapidly responded to needs in BC communities
- We filled gaps by:
 - Mobilizing resources and expertise
 - Enhancing collaboration
 - Providing direct support (purchasing power, logistics and a fleet of volunteers) and funding



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Regional Community Food Hubs: Strengthening Vital Connections to Food

- Addressing pressing needs and leveraging opportunities:
 - Partnership building
 - Improving efficiency and effectivity of food distribution
 - Implementing co-sharing models
 - Developing roles for regional coordination
 - Investing in sustainable operations
- Strategic, responsive and collaborative approach = less siloing and more impactful response



Improving Community Resilience & Well-being

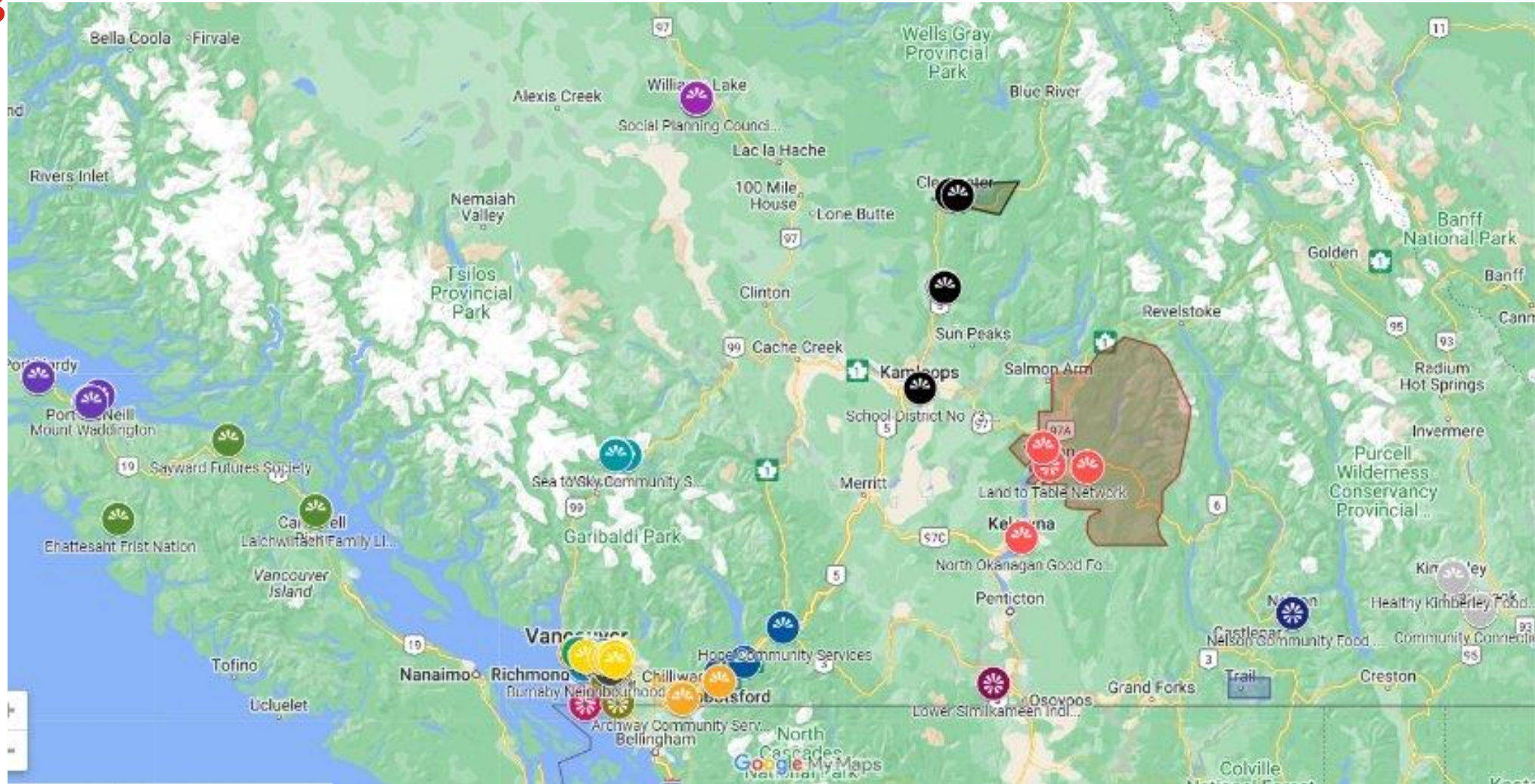
- Regional Community Food Hubs **strengthen vital connections and create an ecosystem of care so that all community members have access to nourishing food they need.**
- Place-based, neighbourhood-led Food Hubs strengthen partnerships, build infrastructure and engage with communities in meaningful ways improving health, well-being and resilience for all.



The Hub & Spoke Model

- Regional Community Food Hubs: a **network** of community partners providing a comprehensive and inclusive response to food needs
- Operational model: United Way BC subcontracts a regional service provider = regional **"steward"**
 - Contract delivery
 - Regional coordination and collaboration
 - Liaising with other service providers **"spokes"**
- Partnerships between non-profits, local businesses, agricultural sector, private sector, school districts, municipalities

Provincial Growth & Expansion of Regional Community Food Hubs



Food Link by United Way BC

Vision: United Way is the trusted connector of communities, bridging reliable access to nourishing food in BC.

Key goal:

- Link available food with real time demand and allowing community partners to submit needs directly

Key users:

- Demand: Community partners (including First Nations, grassroots organizations and equity seeking groups)
- Supply: Food Businesses (retailers, farmers, small producers)
- Logistics: UWBC's public and corporate volunteers



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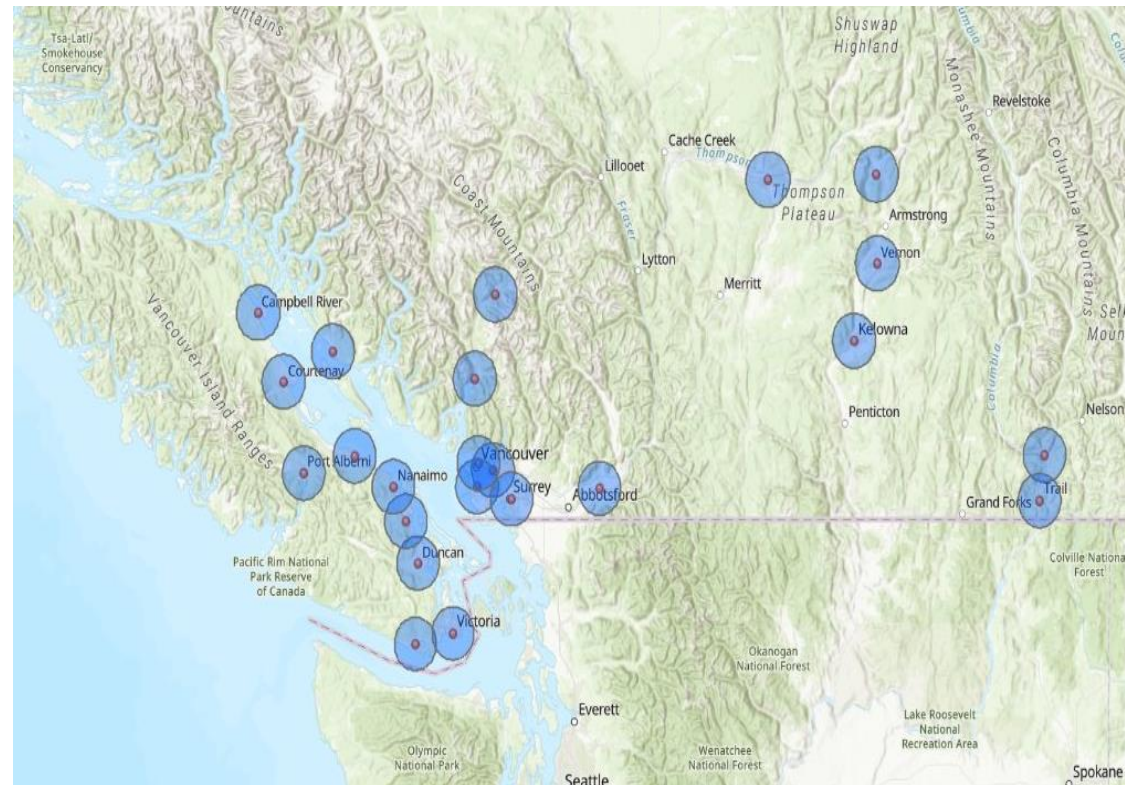
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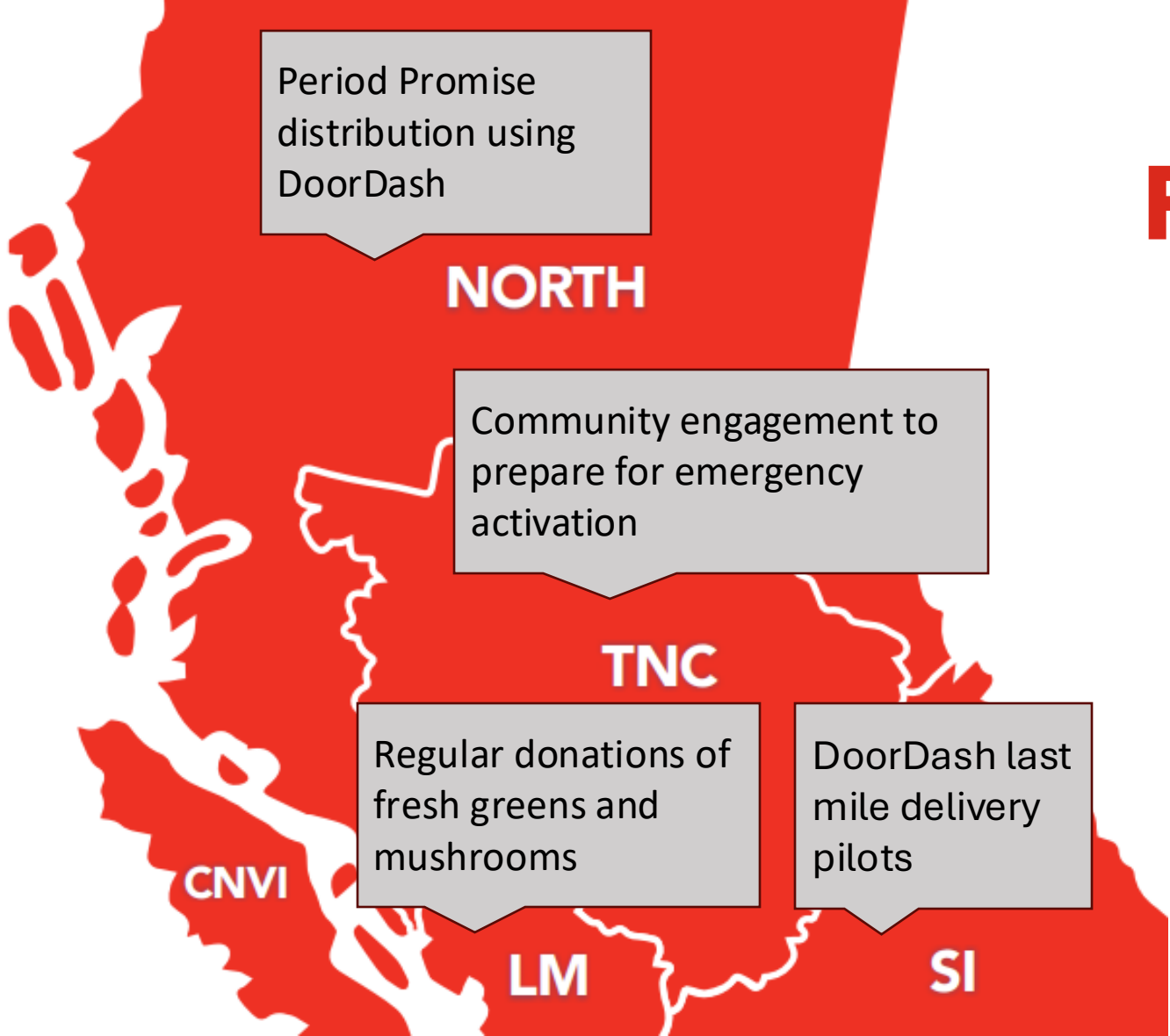
DoorDash Partnership



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Period Promise
distribution using
DoorDash

NORTH

Community engagement to
prepare for emergency
activation

TNC

Regular donations of
fresh greens and
mushrooms

DoorDash last
mile delivery
pilots

CNVI

LM

SI

Food Link Expansion

Through our collaborations of increased supplier engagement and our partnership with DoorDash, the Food Link platform is expanding provincially



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Thank You & Questions



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