# FOOD HUB COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE

# YEAR ONE REVIEW

Exploring the Roles of Food Hubs in BC is a BC-based case study, embedded within a larger North American-wide study, Resilience and Alternative Food Networks.

The BC Food Hub Study aims to answer the auestion: How do Food Hubs contribute to the resilience of regional food systems?

One of the project's objectives is to map the evolving structure and function of the Food Hub Community of Practice.



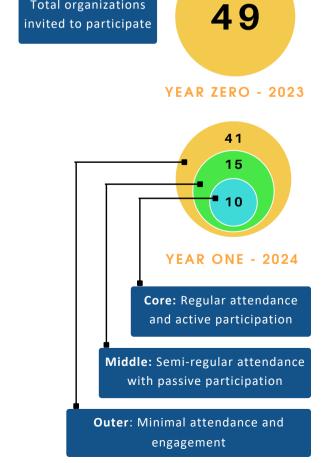


Total organizations

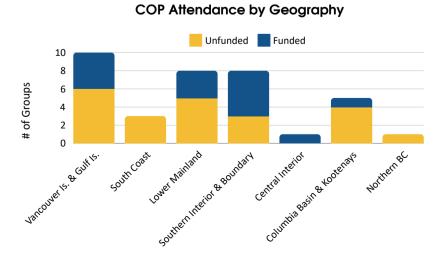




## COP ATTENDANCE & ENGAGEMENT

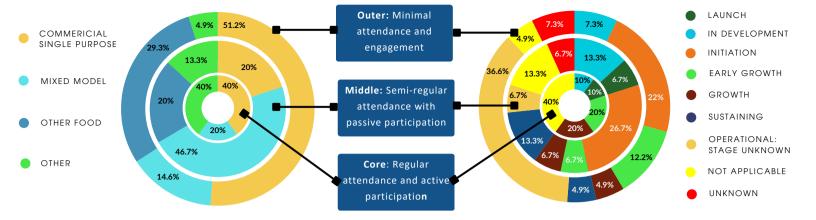


#### **COP Attendance by Month and Organization Type** Support/Government Non-funded Hub Funded Hub 25 20 15 # of Groups 10 5 March 2023 April 2023 June 2023 september 2023 October 2023 Wovernber 2023 January 2024 February 2024 Way 2023



#### **Engagement by Organization Type**

#### **Engagement By Hub Development Stage**



### **Emerging Themes**

# Influences on Participation:

- Organizational values
- Organizational capacity

## Geographic (in)Equity

 Missing Northern British Columbia

## What is a Food Hub?

- Broad range of organizations
- Evolving based on place and sub-sector

#### Tensions

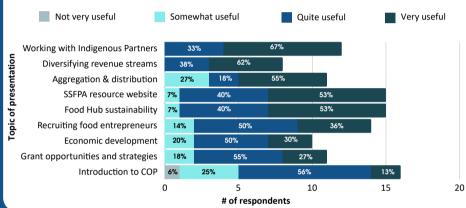
- Internal: values versus financials
- External: funding priorities versus community needs

# **Current COP Direction**

 Vertical structure with collaborative space

Financial
Sustainability and
Funding emerged as
a recurring
underlying topic.

# How useful was today's meeting, in relation to where you are at in developing or running your food hub?



### How does information flow?

Are relationships
evolving between
Food Hubs
outside COP
meetings?

PRESENTERS

OUTSIDE THE COP

PARTICIPANTS

Year 1 explored
the flows of
information
within the COP
want to

Have food hub operators strengthened previously existing relationships based on COP?

In Year One, we observed the types of interactions that occur inside the COP.

In Year Two, we want to include the types of interactions that occur outside of the COP.

### Influences and Tensions

#### Internal to Hubs

- Organizational Values
- Financial sustainability
- · Human capacity
- Place
- Scale

#### **External to Hubs**

- Regulation and legislation
- Funding
- Political pressures and expectations
- Collaboration and competition

### Research Team June 2024

INSIDE THE COP

Sarah-Patricia Breen, Selkirk College Lindsay Harris, UBCO & Kamloops Food Policy Council

Damon Chouinard, Central Kootenay Food Policy Council Caitlin Quist, Selkirk College



Canadä