



A brighter future

Grow lights for self-sufficient organic foods, serviced by the community

Currently, the Rideau Community Hub is serving as a centralized common space of non-profit organizations to help serve the community. However, while there are several social services that are of great help, its methods of addressing the food security issues could be improved. We are proposing a new way of social food innovation to not only feed the community through healthy organic foods, but to also allow for cultural flourishing.

After creating a new surplus food supply, this practice would be maintained by community members who intend to use the service. Food grown will be a heavily community involved process that will carry through past the farming itself to delivering food to plates of those who could best use it. By leveraging the influx of food, culinary skills could be taught as after-work programs at the school and then put into practice to serve the community. The information learned in these classes can also be brought back to the home as a way of improving homelife far past the current outreach of the Rideau hub. Furthermore, the school cafeteria could be once again re-opened, along with its kitchen. The kitchen will serve as the area of food preparation and the cafeteria would be where people of the community will receive their food. By leveraging input from different people of the community, and drawing on their varying cultures of origin, new crops could be grown in the farm to better cater to their desired taste preferences and give a greater sense of ownership and pride with their culinary works.

This new focus on food serves to help battle food security. Our solution will greatly increase the quality of foods passed along to the community in the form of nutritious, warm and fresh organic foods, far better than a generic food drive of non-perishables. Given this project's cooperative nature, it can be argued that this solution also tackles social isolation by involving community members to run and maintain these services while working together and providing tastes of varying cultures. This project could greatly increase the number of daily participants to the Rideau hub, allowing it to find a new life and become a hub of self-sufficiency.

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