

VISION: that Salt Spring Island become a place where agriculture is a strong, vital and productive part of the local economy and is carried out in a manner that protects and promotes a sustainable community... *Through collaboration, cooperation and coordination.*

| Recommendations | | Current Status/Comments |
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| 1. Establish a SSI Agricultural Alliance | | Done |
| 2. Establish a community farmland trust | | Done |
| 3. Infrastructure to support the expansion of agricultural activities | Abattoir Storage & distribution Processing Composting Financing mechanisms | Operational for lamb, poultry, pork and small beef animals. The Root (Farm Centre) in use for Seed Sanctuary. Construction in progress, fundraising for new building ongoing, occupancy scheduled for 2019. Pilot Project scheduled for summer 2019 at BVCF. Transition SS Enterprise coop Rural Accelerator business training Rural Dividend program SSI Foundation Shaw Family Fund |
| ENSURE LOCAL UNDERSTANDING AND PARTICIPATION | | |
| 4. Maintain local agricultural information | update info; monitor and track changes | Livestock Study—2009/10, revised data collected in 2015, report released 2016. Produce study — 2005, 2010, new data collected for 2016 growing season report completed 2018. SSI Agricultural Land Use Inventory—2006 and 2017. |
| PROTECT AND USE FARMLAND | | |
| 5. Implement proposed agricultural policy recommendations | | Revisions to OCP—2008. Responded to LTC proposals for revising OCP 2016 & 2017 |
| 6. Work with government agencies regarding use and management of agricultural holdings | i.e. lobby for agricultural use | Letters and meetings with BC Parks (2009) – not successful; ALC review (2010). Letters to LTC and ALC, and meetings with CRD 2015-2016 regarding non-farm use of 15 acres for playing fields and decision-making authority for ALR lands, resulting in ALC decision against non-farm use. Participation in working group regarding restrictions to agriculture in Rural watershed zone. |
| 7. Pursue strategies to make more land available for farming | alternative models of land tenure; mechanisms to identify unused or available farmland | Ongoing SSIFLT work |
| 8. Increase awareness of new and potential residents | develop ag information to provide to future residents | Participation at events. Previously AFP booklet provided to realtors for farm buyers. Updating of SSIAA & SSIFLT websites. ING produce guide in Welcome Wagon. Promotion of Farm Dinner Series |
| ENCOURAGE AND SUPPORT ENVIRONMENTAL FARM PRACTICES | | |
| 9. Establish a voluntary SSI agricultural code of practice | | Some discussion in context of Rural Watershed protection. |
| 10. Harmonize local environmental bylaw policy with fed and provincial regs. | Review of Bylaw 335 | Review completed and revision proposals submitted to Island Trust. Input into RAR regulations. Meeting with Water Preservation Society in 2015 regarding agriculture in drinking watersheds. Participated in Ag in Rural Watersheds Working Group 2017 and submitted comments to LTC in 2018. |

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| 11. Encourage implementation of beneficial farm management practices. | help farmers access programs and funding. | EFP workshop held in 2010. 2015 discussions with SSIWPA coordinator regarding new series of workshops for group participation in EFP. SSIWPA and SSIAA workshop on groundwater licensing. Ongoing workshops by ING |
| 12. Explore potential for programs to support environmental services on farms | | No activity |
| INCREASE LOCAL UNDERSTANDING AND APPRECIATION | | |
| 13. Improve local ag literacy through provision of ag focused public education activities & events | i.e. encourage local activities, identify events where ag can be featured | Tuesday market, Fall Fair, Apple Festival, Seedy Saturday, Eat Local events, Farmland Trust educational events and community seed bank, Farm dinners; abattoir fundraisers, Sip & Savour etc. Calendar project in 2014-15. |
| 14. Increase ag education opportunities for children & youth. | | GISS Culinary arts program & ag program includes work on farms; School gardens; Salad Cart production and vending, SSIFI projects & 4H. |
| PROVIDE SUPPORTIVE AG INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES | | |
| 15. Address farm housing issues | | Farm Housing Committee made recommendations; revision proposals re: Bylaw 355. 2018 recommendations to ALC underway. |
| 16. Increase agricultural training and mentoring opportunities | provide wide range of opportunities, mentoring, internships etc | ING, FI, Poultry Club, Abattoir Society workshops; the Farmland Trust educational program; individual farmers providing mentoring and internships etc. Coordinated education program is planned for The Root when operational. |
| PROVIDE CONDITIONS THAT ENCOURAGE & SUPPORT AG ENTERPRISE | | |
| 17. Determine costs & profitability | Conduct economic study (student project?) | No activity |
| 18. Develop a coordinated approach to production and sale of locally grown products | | ING's GUO/ Farm Food Link pilot project operated for four years (ending in 2012) and demonstrated how to organise aggregation and diversification of markets for local produce. 37 farmers participated. No actions following 2013 exploratory meetings re branding. More potential created by The Root project. |
| 19. Development of local agri-tourism guidelines | for SSI & other government agencies such as ALC | No guidelines but activities support goals. E.g. increase in agri-tourism type events such as Local Food Dinners. |
| 20. Address local farm labour issues | establish online resource; how to attract and keep skilled labour; possibility of work for credits with GISS; potential for more temporary housing on farms. | No activity except in relation to housing: Farmer applications for temporary housing for farmworkers have been supported by LTC and ALC. |
| 21. Development of local ag product purchasing policies | | ING GUO-FFL project; TC policy |
| IMPROVE LOCAL FOOD SECURITY & SELF SUFFICIENCY | | |
| 22. Increase local seed production | education to growers; seed trials | Seedy Saturday, SSI Seed Sanctuary, workshops; More farmers involved in seed production. New seed vault at The Root in collaboration with the SSI Sanctuary Society. |
| 23. Encourage producers to adopt GE free policy for locally grown products. | | No activity |
| 24. Local Food safety protocols and standards that reflect needs of small producers and processors | provide supportive information and training. | ING 2009 On-farm food safety workshops; Farm Food Link participating farmers worked with FS consultant in 2010 SSIFLT -proposed activity at The Root. |
| 25. Participate in regional provincial and national agricultural discussions | | Directors & others attend regional meetings. |