

What is Significant About the Betty Place?

This 133-acre farm, located on Horse Lake near 100 Mile House, has been passed on through two generations of Furrer family. Ownership of the land goes back at least to Lord Edgerton of Tatton, England who acquired it during the First World War, then sold it to well known Mabel Sandberg.

Beginning in 1985, Betty Johnson (nee Furrer), leased the land to the Community Enhancement and Economic Development Society (CEEDS) which has organically farmed there for hay, cattle and sheep pasture, and market gardening.

Artifacts found over the years indicate First Nations used this land for various purposes. Longbow Creek - or Rabbit Creek, as it was traditionally referred to by the local First Nations - was the source of the irrigation system and continues to flow through the farm, emptying into Horse Lake.

The American Badger (red-listed species), deer, bear, moose, skunks, otters, over 45 species of birds, and a wide variety of flora are found on the farm. A rich riparian area along the creek and lakeshore provides habitat for a vibrant wildlife population.

CEEDS, TLC and Betty worked together to facilitate the purchase of this property in order to preserve the heritage, agricultural, and ecological values of the land in perpetuity.



To Purchase a Membership Share in the Horse Lake Community Farm Cooperative, contact us:

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Developed in partnership with



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HORSE LAKE
COMMUNITY FARM CO-OP

March 2014

Horse Lake Community Farm



Co-operative

- ☞ Helping to protect farmland.
- ☞ Contributing to your local food supply.
- ☞ Providing access to healthy, organic food.
- ☞ Keeping farmland affordable for farmers.
- ☞ Supporting conservation and sustainable agriculture.

Why Create a Farm Cooperative?

Horse Lake Community Farm Co-operative, in partnership with TLC (The Land Conservancy of BC), is an innovative means to directly involve community in local food security.

A Co-op is a principle-based business model accountable to the community it serves.

Horse Lake Farm Co-op was incorporated in August 2006. Its purposes are to:

- ❧ Preserve and enhance the agricultural and ecological capacity of its land;
- ❧ Sustain a source of local, fresh, healthy food;
- ❧ Manage and operate its land in accordance with organic farming standards;
- ❧ Consider members' proposals to operate food production, processing and other related agricultural projects on the farm;
- ❧ Provide members the first option to purchase goods from the farm;
- ❧ Provide members the opportunity for involvement in direction of the farm;
- ❧ Provide educational opportunities for a diverse audience to learn about the interdependence of sustainable agriculture and conservation;
- ❧ Provide a location for cultural activities; and
- ❧ Demonstrate a community farming and land stewardship model for others to adopt.



How does the Cooperative work?

The Co-op is a legal entity – a limited liability, for-profit business corporation restricted to 200 members.

Individuals, families, businesses, groups, community organisations, agencies, and schools are eligible to apply as members of the Co-op.

Each member purchases a \$5000 share, thus creating the capital to pay for the land, and undertake farm improvements.

Shares may be redeemed or sold. A member may own one share, entitling each member to one vote.

TLC will hold an undivided interest in the property to ensure the farm is protected in perpetuity.

A Board of Directors, elected from the Co-op membership, will manage the farm according to terms of the Co-op constitution and Memorandum of Agreement.

The farm will be operated as an organic, multifunctional farm under business rental agreements with select co-op member-farmers.



What are the Benefits of Co-op Membership?

- ❧ Contribute to protection of farmland for future generations forever.
- ❧ Preferential option to purchase food produced on the farm.
- ❧ Preferential access to programs, events, and education offered on the farm.
- ❧ Opportunity to submit a proposal to operate a profitable farm business. Number and types of businesses will be selected in accordance with capacity of the land, operating principles and goals of the Co-op and *TLC*.
- ❧ Opportunity to vote and stand for election on the Board of Directors.
- ❧ Be part of managing a model organic farm that other communities can replicate.

