



Little Green Thumbs Program Celebrates 11th Year Harvest Celebrations MEDIA RELEASE

MAY 24, 2023 - Agriculture in the Classroom NL (AITC-NL) would like to give a “thumbs up” to our Little Green Thumbs and our Little Green Sprouts classes on their successful gardens this year.

AITC-NL has 291 Little Green Thumbs/Sprouts classes in 119 schools participating in Harvest Celebrations in May and June. That’s 4,350 Little Green Thumbs and 1,573 Little Green Sprouts students across Newfoundland and Labrador! Our Little Green Thumb classes have also successfully wiggled their way through another year of vermicomposting. We have thousands of very happy and healthy worms in Newfoundland and Labrador schools!

Students will be participating in Harvest Celebrations by visiting vegetable and dairy farms, hosting concerts for parents, grandparents and special guests, having a harvest feast with their crops, attending grocery store tours to learn about nutrition and healthy eating, visiting greenhouses, and planting and sharing the gift of their gardens!

“Congrats to AITC-NL and young students across Newfoundland and Labrador for 11 fruitful years of celebrating Canadian agriculture. I hope all of the Little Green Thumbs and Sprouts are inspired to learn more about the origins of their food during this year’s Harvest Celebrations.”

The Honourable Marie-Claude Bibeau
Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food

“A big green thumbs up to our Little Green Thumbs and Sprouts, who remind us why a sustainable, reliable food system is so important. We are happy to support this vital program and the connection it makes between students and the hard-working farmers and producers who dedicate their lives to growing our food. Thank you to program staff, teachers, sponsors, farmers, and volunteers who make these important programs possible. Enjoy your harvest!”

Honourable Derrick Bragg
Minister of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture

The Little Green Thumbs/Sprouts would like to thank our partners, who make Harvest Celebrations special for our Little Green Thumbs classes. This program would not have blossomed without the dedication of partnerships, sponsors, volunteers, and dedicated teachers and students. WAY TO GROW!

We have a waitlist of classes requesting gardens for September 2023. If you are interested in becoming a contributor, sponsor, or volunteer of the Agriculture in the Classroom NL and/or the Little Green Thumbs programs, please contact us.

This project was funded in part by the Canadian Agricultural Partnership, a five-year (2018-2023), \$3-billion investment by federal, provincial, and territorial governments to innovate, strengthen and grow Canada's agriculture and agri-foods sector. This included a \$2-billion commitment that was cost-shared 60% federally and 40% provincially/territorially for programs that were designed and delivered by provinces and territories. The Canadian Agricultural Partnership provided \$305,000 annually to support Agriculture in the Classroom NL activities in Newfoundland and Labrador. The Canadian Agricultural Partnership has been replaced by the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership, a new \$3.5-billion, 5-year agreement (2023-2028), between the federal, provincial and territorial governments to strengthen the competitiveness, innovation, and resiliency of the agriculture, agri-food and agri-based products sector.

For more information, please visit aitcnl.ca.

Contact:

Maureen Foley, Little Green Thumbs Coordinator NL
Chelsea Foley, Agriculture in the Classroom NL Coordinator
Agriculture in the Classroom NL
NL Federation of Agriculture
chelsea@nlfa.ca

Website: www.aticnl.ca

Twitter: [@AITCNL](https://twitter.com/AITCNL)

