Farmers' Market **Incubator Program** For entrepreneurs looking to test or grow their product/business at the Kamloops Farmers' Market.

The Incubator Program

The Farmers' Incubator Program will provide support for food producers or processors looking to test products, launch or grow their business at the Kamloops Farmers' Market.

The following supports will be subsidized by Community Futures Thompson Country for vendors part of the program:

- → Use of a tent and table
- → Use of reuse-able signage (such as dry erase or chalk boards)
- → Reduced stall fees (by 50%) for the first six markets; costs vary, see Kamloops Farmers' Market application for rates.
- → Access to webinars, guidebooks and business planning resources
- → 1-on-1 support from a Business Advisor

Vendors are expected to:

- → Commit to attending at least six markets throughout the 2022 season
- → Follow market regulations
- ▶ Meet with their Business Advisor
- → Provide feedback at the end of the program



Eligibility

- → Must not have regularly attended the Kamloops Farmers' Market in the past
- → Must be a food producer or processor
- → Located within location boundaries set by the Kamloops Farmers' Market
- → Must follow 2022 Market regulations. For details, visit https://www.kamloopsfarmersmarket.com/join/

Additional Resources

- → Additional marketing opportunities, such as aggregation and distribution
- → Opportunity to obtain certifications, such as Good Agricultural Practices and safety certifications
- → Support to pilot value-added goods
- → Introduction to mobile processing for Indigenous entrepreneurs
- → Access to Community Futures' self-employment program, a seven-week virtual course on how to start business. Learn about:
 - → Business basics
 - → Goal Setting
 - Marketing and branding
 - Business operations
 - → Business financials

The program is free for vendors that are eligible for Employment Insurance, otherwise is \$250. To learn more, contact Community Futures Thompson Country.

Participation

To express interest in the program contact Community Futures or to learn more about the Kamloops Farmers' Market, contact Greg Unger.

