WO ININA 2025 What We Heard

At WO ININA 2025, the NCIAF hosted an engagement session focused on empowering Indigenous youth in agriculture and local food systems. The session brought together diverse voices to explore opportunities, challenges, and solutions for engaging youth in food security and food-related initiatives through a World Café exercise.

What types of hands on activities would most effectively engage youth in food-related initiatives?



Workshops & Educational Activities



School Garden or Greenhouse & Processing



Cooking Classes



Outdoor Learning Activities (e.g. meat harvest)



Technology & Research **Activities**

How can we engage youth in learning, preserving, and sharing both traditional and modern food ways?



Connect with Elders, Community & Culture



Use Technology to Share Stories & Create Videos



Cooking Classes & Food/Garden **Programs**



More Learning **Opportunities**



Field Trips

What existing barriers can we can tackle to get youth back into food and agriculture?

37% Lack of food and agriculture programming in school and community

Lack of knowledge sharing and co-ops for Indigenous Peoples **15%**

150/n Misconceptions of agriculture, food and nutrition

140/0 Access to land, markets, and capital/ funding

110/₀ Access to resources and training

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What opportunities can we create for Indigenous Peoples to be involved in their local food systems?

14%

Food-related Training & Business Development Opportunities

32º/o

Community-led Agriculture & Food Programs/ Initiatives 110/0

Cultural Teachings & Sharing/ Celebrating Them

12º/o

Increased Funding Opportunities for Foodrelated Infrastructure/ Initiatives

90/0

Reduction in Systematic Barriers 220/0

Increased Collaboration (e.g., co-ops, partnerships, mentorships, etc.)

What can you do to contribute to Indigenous agriculture and food systems?

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pollinators funding changes
                                                        organization's design
                                       solutions
                                         agriculture connections share engagement
         employers mental new expand voices
                                                    food businesses produced
                                       resoures learn
    policy
                                                           opportunities
                                       gathering
                                                work keep relevant
                                      increase
      gardening indigenous-owned
                                    listen youth help building partnership pushing
  knowledge understand
         join capacity teach leads
availability
                                                                   S legends Pro-
        media
         distribution elevating
        friends procurement nation
                                                               farm open interested
                           products community
            raising seeds organizations training enabling indigenous-led
                          organizations
                                                         birds old curriculums
                               health stories empower
                                                      calk
                                                             engage plant
                           pathways
                                                  introductions
                                 educating
                                    program council
                                                   family
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