

FLYING DUST MARKET GARDEN



FLYING DUST MARKET GARDEN

FDFN MG BACKGROUND

- The Business is located on the Flying Dust First Nation which lies on the northeast boundary of Meadow Lake, Saskatchewan
- Has an on reserve population of 700 people
- It was Created in 2009 and was Incorporated in 2010
- This is the 9th year for the garden and the need for expansion was required to make the garden a viable operation

FDFN MG MARKET

- The Market Garden provides employment for 30 weeks for 10 participants
- All employees have attained *Level 1 Green Certification* for Organic Vegetable Crops
- Cultivation, Maintenance & Harvesting of a 150 acre garden and 4 acres of mixed fruit trees
- Marketing and Selling of produce at ML Farmers Market, community events, highway stand
- Large Wholesalers (Thomas Fresh & Sobey's)

FDFN MG DESCRIPTION



FLYING DUST MARKET GARDEN

FDFN MG TIMELINES

➤ **TIMELINE (2018)**

- **May 2nd – May 30th** – Prepare Market Garden for Seeding, Prepare equipment & Set-up Classroom/Office
- **May 20th – June 15th** – Staggered Seeding of 50 acres of vegetables & 4 acres of fruit trees
- **June 1st – August 30th** – Hoeing, weeding, watering & maintaining a successful crop
- **July 15th – Sept. 10th** – Marketing/Harvesting (baby potatoes/vegetables to full grown potatoes/vegetables)

May 2018- Oct 2018 PROJECT SCHEDULE

	APRIL-JUNE	JUNE-AUGUST	AUG.-OCT.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ May-June ➤ May-June ➤ June-Aug ➤ June-Aug ➤ Aug-Oct ➤ Aug-Oct 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Site Preparation Logistics ◆ Seeding Preparation/ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Seeding/cultivation/ weeding ◆ Marketing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Cultivation/weedi ng/Harvesting

FDFN MG BUSINESS GOALS

- **Establishment of a biodiverse, integrated food-production landscape, including:** *annual vegetables, perennial fruits & food stock (wildlife habitat)*
- **Training** in Green Certificate Level 1 & 2
- To **create a sustainable local food system** that is environmentally friendly and marketable
- To **create 10 jobs** for the local members and add to the local economy
- **Educate** in Storage Facility and Greenhouse construction and operation

FDFN MG GOALS

- To **grow 50 acres** of vegetables and **4 acres** of perennial fruits
- **Update our Marketing Plan**
- **Acquire and establish long term markets that will run from year to year** (ML Coop, MacDonald's Food Consolidated, Athabasca Catering Ltd., Flying Dust First Nation)
- **Promote FDFN Market Garden in the local food services industry** (restaurant owners)

FDFN MG GOALS



FDFN MG OBJECTIVES

- To be a self sufficient by 2020
- Secure Training in Green Certification for Level 1
- Secure On-going Training for GC for Level 2
- Training in Marketing
- Training in Garden Development and Operation
- Building understanding and implement consensus decision-making in governance amongst group
- Building group capacity by developing more long-term goals and objectives

FDFN MG BENEFITS

- Employment of 10 people in a group that has historically high unemployment levels (aboriginal people, women & youth)
- Greater utilization of FDFN Lands
- Healthier grown foods & locally grown
- Empowerment of Individuals from building of self esteem & self confidence
- A movement from reliance to independence
- Reward of accomplishment from growing food for fellow community members

FDFN MG BENEFITS



FLYING DUST MARKET GARDEN

FDFN INVOLVEMENT

- Provides 170 acres
- Provides Training Facility
- Provides Maintenance of equipment
- Provides top up dollars
- Assists with Administration of project (Finance)
- Assists with capacity building

TRAINING (LEVEL I)

- Green Certification for Organic Vegetable Crops
- Curriculum from University of Saskatchewan Department of Agriculture
- 26 week program with Certified Instructor
- Understanding the community and the FDFN Market Garden goals
- Level I has Sections A – K with various disciplines on the Classroom requirements (1/2 day Mon. - Fri.)

PASSING THE GIFT

- The FDFN Market Garden would like to supply seed potatoes to a First Nation or Community who would like to start a garden in 2020
- We are also willing to train by inviting other First Nations to come to our Garden to participate and learn the techniques required to plant, maintain and harvest a garden of this size
- We are also open to the idea of other groups such as Meadow Lake Food Bank and Welcome Wagon to be part of our Garden

CLOSING

- The Flying Dust Market Garden has been a diamond in the rough for FDB Holdings Ltd.
- The ability to have food sovereignty should not be understated in these times of uncertainty
- Chief, Council and Community Members feel blessed and humbled with their opportunity to achieve this goal. The mission now is to maintain it.

CLOSING

**GROWING HEALTHY PEOPLE
GROWING HEALTHY FOODS**

