

# 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 and is now owned by Betty Johnson (nee Furrer). 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.

Since 1985, Betty has leased the land to the Community Enhancement and Economic Development Society (CEEDS) which has organically farmed it for hay, cattle 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 are working 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 Horse Lake Community Farm Cooperative:

Phone: (250) 791-6255 or 395-4042  
Email: [rlceeds@bcinternet.net](mailto:rlceeds@bcinternet.net) or  
[www.horselakefarmcoop.ca](http://www.horselakefarmcoop.ca)

C184 Horse Lake Site  
Lone Butte, BC  
V0K 1X0

OR



2709 Shoreline Drive  
Victoria, BC V9B 1M5  
Phone (250) 479-8301  
Fax (250) 744-2251  
[rscott@conservancy.bc.ca](mailto:rscott@conservancy.bc.ca)  
[www.conservancy.bc.ca](http://www.conservancy.bc.ca)

# Horse Lake Community Farm Co-operative



- Help protect farmland, forever.
- Contribute to you local food supply.
- Access healthy, organic food.
- Provide affordable farmland to farmers.
- Support 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 will 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 membership-share, thus creating the capital to purchase the land, and undertake farm improvements.

Shares may be redeemed or sold. A member may own more than one share but each member has only one vote.

*TLC* retains ownership of 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 a mutual agreement between the Co-op and *TLC*.

The farm will be operated as an organic, multi-functional 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.

