



The New  
Farm Centre

Impact Report  
2025



# A Message From Our Executive Director



As a farmer, it's difficult to look back on the events of 2025 with a sense of optimism. Political and corporate leaders increasingly turned away from climate commitments, every week seemed to bring a new extreme weather event, and food insecurity in Canada continued to grow.

But on our farm, and in our community, I see ample reason for hope. The New Farm Centre is a very new organization, but our message - that regenerative agriculture can build resilience, mitigate climate change and help build healthy, connected communities - is clearly resonating. The generosity of dozens of funders allowed us to rapidly grow our staff and dramatically increase our educational programming.

We welcomed more than 3,500 farmers, corporate leaders, chefs, and community members to our farm to learn about the practical, low-tech and cost-effective solutions that we have been employing in our fields for more than a decade. Through our Farms for Change program, we shipped enough fresh, organic produce, chicken and pork to serve over 30,000 families. And our national advocacy work continued to build the case for a more regenerative and resilient food system from coast to coast. All of this in our first full year as a registered charity.

None of this would have been possible without the unflagging support of our funders, partners and staff. I am immensely proud to be part of this network of Good Food Organizations, progressive foundations, visionary corporations and like-minded farm groups. Together we are proving that we can grow food in a way that cools the planet, improves farmer livelihoods, and nourishes our bodies and our communities.

Thank you,

Gillian Flies

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gillian".

# 2025 Year at a Glance

Our mission is to develop, demonstrate and advocate for a regenerative farming system that mitigates climate change, fosters healthy ecosystems and communities, and improves farmer livelihoods.

**We are now a registered charity!**



**17**

**# of team members**

**267**

**# of volunteers on the farm**

**16K**

**online audience across platforms**

We hosted our first annual open house, welcoming 120+ community members to our farm.



Our Executive Director, Gillian Flies, is a member of Canada's Clean50 – recognizing exceptional contributions to the clean economy – and this year's Clean16 – one of only 16 individual honourees recognized as the top contributor in their specific category.

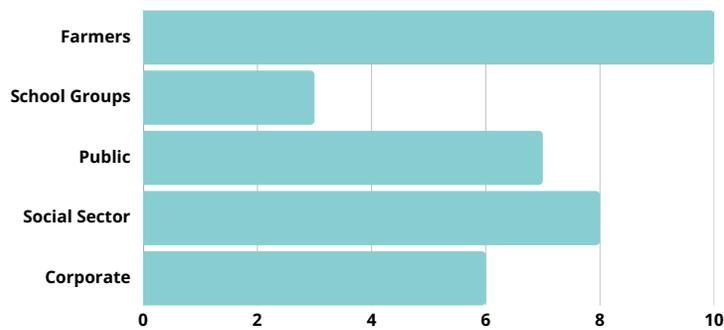


2026  
**Primary Resources**

# Education and Demonstration

In 2025, our farm served as a demonstration and knowledge-transfer site for regenerative agriculture. Through **41 educational events reaching 3,566 participants**, we delivered field days, workshops, tours, on-farm demonstrations, and off-farm talks that translated regenerative principles into observable practices. Our team continued to test and document regenerative and organic production methods, including nutrient contributions from livestock and indicators of farm ecosystem health, and shared these results through our on-farm programming. These efforts strengthened farmer adoption of climate-friendly practices and deepened public understanding and support of regenerative agriculture.

## Number of Events Hosted at the New Farm Centre in 2025 by Audience:



We're developing farmer info-sheets on our practices to share what we've learned



The World Food Forum - a UN-sponsored food policy forum for youth - soaking in a water infiltration demonstration after their farm tour.



Greg Judy:  
Planned  
Grazing for  
Profit

Farmer Field  
Day:  
3 Stop Tour

Dr. Allen Williams:  
Adaptive Grazing



The Centre hosted a series of educational events in our community designed to inform, inspire, and connect farmers with leading knowledge and expertise in regenerative grazing. These gatherings laid the groundwork for our Regenerative Transition Support Program, launching in 2026.



The majority of the food grown on the farm is donated to a network of Good Food Organizations across southern Ontario. **We provide thousands of pounds of fresh, premium-quality produce to low-income communities every week during the growing season.** Farms for Change is run in close partnership with Right To Food.

**32**

Good Food Organizations across southern Ontario received weekly food donations

**1,200+**

people attended our annual Farms for Change fundraiser



Seniors group from Black Creek Community Farm who are regular recipients of the weekly fresh produce from The New Farm Centre.



Working with the New Farm Centre has strengthened our hope for meaningful climate and food system solutions. Seeing how sustainably-grown, local produce can directly support community health has shown us what a more resilient and just food system could look like. -Program Participant



We donated + delivered

**7,500**

lbs of pastured chicken and pork

**50,000+**

lbs. of Regenerative Organic Certified salad mixes and vegetables

# Policy and Advocacy

**Our staff delivered workshops and presentations at farm conferences, community meetings and university classrooms across Canada, sharing our experience and furthering our reach.**

**Over 1500 people attended presentations and workshops delivered by NFC staff in 2025.**



**Staff from NFC and FCS met with federal Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food Heath McDonald in Ottawa.**

At the New Farm Centre (NFC), we believe that supportive government policies are necessary to accelerate and scale the adoption of regenerative practices on Canadian farms. **Our policy advocacy is rooted in our on-the-ground experience as regenerative farmers.** Through leadership roles with Farmers for Climate Solutions (FCS) and Canadian Organic Growers (COG), NFC staff are helping to shape national policies that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, increase farm resilience and improve farmer livelihoods.



## Cultivating the Organic Opportunity for Canadian Farmers and Consumers

Economic and Environmental Impacts of Organic Agriculture and Policy Recommendations for Canada

New Report Published



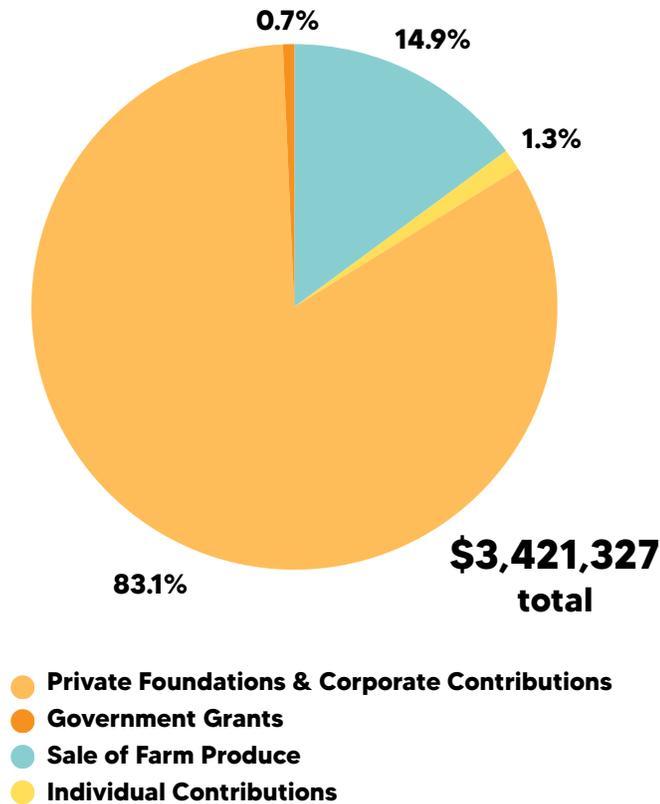
## Farmer Advocate Training

The Centre brought together 12 leading farmers from across Canada for our inaugural Farmer Advocate Training program, where participants learned practical communication skills to better advocate for regenerative agriculture. Planning for the 2026 training is well underway.

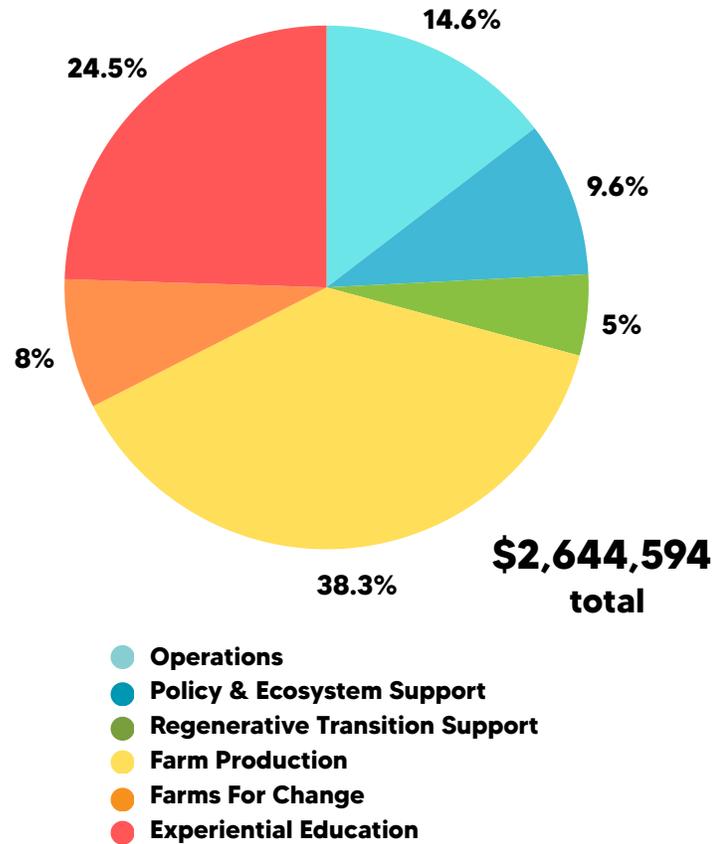
# Building a Solid Foundation

In 2025 we built the core financial and operational systems required to run our organization effectively. This included establishing budgeting and audit processes, policies, and internal procedures to support accountable program delivery and long-term financial sustainability.

## Where Our Support Came From



## Where Your Support Went



Financial audit underway with expected completion in early March.

In 2025, The New Farm Centre made \$482,683 in capital investments, all of which were fully funded. These investments included the transition of farm inventory from New Farm Inc., the purchase of an electric delivery truck, a new chicken brooder, a no-till seeder, and the replacement of a greenhouse damaged in a windstorm.



## From 2024 to 2025 we...



Doubled the number of funders making multiyear commitments



Increased our new funders by more than 50%



More than doubled the total number of our funders

# Looking Ahead to 2026

**In 2026, NFC will deepen our impact across research, education, partnerships, and policy:**

**Launch of a Five-Year Strategic Plan to guide organizational growth and priorities.**

**Expand research and on-farm trials, supported by improved data collection and analyses.**



**Support a Food as Medicine Research Task Force and host an on-farm symposium, convening practitioners, researchers, and partners.**

**Strengthen university partnerships through on-farm education, collaborative research, and curriculum support.**

**Develop online educational resources to broaden access beyond the farm.**



**Develop the Centre's site plan & capital budget for future infrastructure needs**

**Engage in provincial and national policy advocacy, contributing farm-based insight to food and agriculture systems change.**

**Offer executive-level business education for regenerative farmers**



# Our Supporters

## Board of Directors

## External Advisory Group



**Heather Johnston**

TREASURER



**Tina Jagdeo**

DIRECTOR



**Brian Lawson**

ADVISOR



**Joannah Lawson**

ADVISOR



**Wendy Cooper**

DIRECTOR



**Tim Ross**

CHAIR



**Richard Blundell**

ADVISOR

## Supporting Foundations and Corporations



Brian + Joannah  
Lawson Family  
Foundation

**Black Sheep  
Foundation**



Meighen  
Family  
Foundation

THE ARRELL FAMILY  
FOUNDATION



Natural Foods Ltd.

**Butterfield Family  
Foundation**

**Burgin and Flood  
Family**

**Bradstreet Family  
Foundation**



Peter Gilgan  
Foundation

Fondation **ECHO**  
ECHO Foundation

**Endswell  
Foundation**



**Stait Foundation**

**Luke McCain Foundation**

**Employment and Social Development Canada**

**Agriculture and Agri Food Canada**

**Scott Griffin Foundation**

**Glenrose Foundation**

**Flow Capital Charitable Foundation**

**Anita Lorelli and Mark Wallace Foundation**

**Wood Cathcart Memorial Fund**

**Raymond Chang Foundation**

**George Weider Foundation**

## Our Partners



**FARMERS  
FOR CLIMATE  
SOLUTIONS**



100KM FOODS INC. RICHMOND STATION





# The New Farm Centre

The future of food and climate will be shaped by the choices we make today. Your support helps turn regenerative ideas into real impact for farmers, families and the planet.



Thank you for helping us build a regenerative future.

