



UAKN
Urban Aboriginal
Knowledge Network

RCU
Réseau de connaissances des
Autochtones en milieu urbain

RESEARCH PROJECT SUMMARY UAKN Prairie Research Centre

Name of Project:

Defining Food Security for Urban Aboriginal People

Research Start-up Summary and Abstract:

While food security is an urgent social, economic, cultural and health issue for Aboriginal people in urban areas, and particularly those living in inner city areas, there may be some unique elements of food security related to cultural values. The Environics Institute found that 44% of Aboriginal people in Winnipeg felt that it was important that future generations know about traditions pertaining to food (Environics Institute, 2011). The four pillars of food security – access, availability, utilization, and stability of supply take on unique characteristics in an Aboriginal (Powers, 2008) and urban (Mundel & Chapman, 2010) context. Yet, there is very little research that explores what food security might mean for Aboriginal people in the city.

Name of Principal Investigator:

Professor Evelyn Peters, University of Winnipeg

Collaborating Friendship Centre and/or other urban Aboriginal organization:

The Indian and Metis Friendship Centre of Winnipeg

Engagement objectives:

This study proposes to explore this issue with the objective of making policy recommendations to better meet the needs of increasing urban Aboriginal populations. Using Winnipeg, Manitoba, as a case study, the specific objectives of this research are to:

- Explore the concept of food security from an urban Aboriginal perspective.
- Explore the challenges of maintaining access to culturally valued food in the inner city.
- Make recommendations concerning food systems policy in order to meet the needs for culturally valued foods for urban Aboriginal households.

Main contact:

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