

"BLACK CREEK COMMUNITY FARM: HEALING THE COMMUNITY" VIDEO

DIGGING IN: FACILITATING DIALOGUE AND ACTION

KEY THEMES AND TERMS

Urban agriculture, food justice, food insecurity, community-shared agriculture (CSA), certified organic, systemic barriers, access to food, immigrant communities, culturally appropriate food, community farm, community food programming, watershed, community gardens, pollinator gardens, food forest, farm park, accessible public space, community governance and ownership, funding, not-for-profit challenges.

CATALYZING CONNECTIONS

DECODING QUESTIONS

- *Description:* What stories are told? How did you feel reading them?
- *Personal Connection:* Does this story connect to your personal experience or stories in your family?
- *Common Themes:* What social issues/themes are raised in these stories? Is there a common issue shared across contexts?
- *Social Analysis:* What are the historical and social processes that created this situation?
- *Planning for Action:* What can be done? What can I/we do?

SPECIFIC QUESTIONS

- What programming happens at the farm and how does this meet the needs of the community?
- What are some of the systemic issues faced by the Jane Finch neighbourhood?
- What challenges has the farm faced and how have they adapted?
- The subtitle of the video is "Healing a Community". In what ways can a farm like this be healing for a community?
- How is the farm a model and inspiration for urban agriculture in Toronto and globally?
- What does Leticia hope for the future of the farm?

Hands-On Activities

Research or visit an urban agriculture initiative in the community where you live or nearby. What kinds of urban agriculture initiatives exist? What kind of programming happens at these gardens or farms. If possible participate in an event or workshop at one of these projects.

Read the photo essay “Food Justice and Urban Agriculture in Action” to learn more about food justice issues in the Jane-Finch community. The Digging In Facilitator’s Guide has additional questions you may want to explore related to food justice.

INTERGENERATIONAL AND INTERCULTURAL DIALOGUE

How are youth involved in the farm? What is the value of this intergenerational engagement?

How does the farm provide space for the community to come together in different ways?

Read the photo essay “Promoting Organic Agriculture in Mexico: From Urban Gardens to Multinational Companies” and compare urban agriculture in suburban Guadalajara with urban agriculture in Toronto.

INDIVIDUAL AND COLLECTIVE ACTION

How does the [Black Creek Food Justice Network](#) organize around food justice issues in the community and beyond?

What role can an organization like Black Creek Community Farm play to galvanize collective action in a community?

How could urban agriculture address issues of food security, food sovereignty and food justice in cities? in your local context?

The U.S. and Canadian food movements have been criticized for structural racism. What are the ways that it is manifested? How are these issues being addressed by food movement leaders and organizations?

How can public space like the farm contribute to community food security and well-being?

DIGGING DEEPER: RESOURCES FOR FURTHER RESEARCH AND ACTION

AUDIO

Brown, Zak'isha. "Zakisha Brown - DEY KNOW." June 13, 2019. Video, 5:18.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nL8d5wjX3jw>.

BOOKS AND ARTICLES

Agyeman, Julian, and Alison Hope Alkon, eds. *Cultivating Food Justice: Race, Class, and Sustainability*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 2011.

Black Creek Community Farm. "Home: Welcome to Black Creek Community Farm."
Accessed July 5, 2020. <https://www.blackcreekfarm.ca/>.

Black Creek Food Justice Network. "Black Creek Food Justice Network - Facebook."
Facebook, accessed July 5, 2020.
<https://www.facebook.com/BlackCreekFoodJustice/>.

Black Creek Food Justice Network. "Fighting for Food Justice in the Black Creek Community: Report, Analyses and Steps Forward." 2016.
http://tfpc.to/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/FullReport_small.pdf.

Food Tank. "24 Groups Leading the Charge in Cultivating Urban Farming." *EcoWatch*, April 26, 2016.
<https://www.ecowatch.com/24-groups-leading-the-charge-in-cultivating-urban-farming-1891123567.html>.

Holt-Giménez, Eric. "Food, Security, Food Justice, or Food Sovereignty?: Crises, Food Movements, and Regime Change." In *Cultivating Food Justice: Race, Class, and Sustainability*, edited by Julian Agyeman and Alison Hope Alkon, 309-330. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 2011.

Holt-Giménez, Eric and Breeze Harper. "Food-Systems-Racism: From Mistreatment to Transformation." *Food First* 1, (Winter-Spring 2016).
<https://foodfirst.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/DR1Final.pdf>.

Jane-Finch.com. "Jane-Finch.com - Official Website - Community Broadcasting and Multimedia Library - Toronto, Ontario, Canada." Accessed July 5, 2020. <http://www.jane-finch.com/>.

Lessa, Iara, and Cecilia Rocha. "Nourishing belonging: Food in the lives of new immigrants in T.O." In *The Edible City: Toronto's Food from Farm to Fork*, eds. Christina Palassio and Alana Wilcox, 148-153. Toronto: Coach House Books, 2009.

Palassio, Christina, and Alana Wilcox, eds. *The Edible City: Toronto's Food from Farm to Fork*. Toronto: Coach House Books, 2009.

Penniman, Leah. *Farming While Black: Soul Fire's Practical Guide to Liberation on the Land*. White River Junction, VT: Chelsea Green Publishing, 2018.

Penniman, Leah. "Uprooting Racism: Seeding Sovereignty." *Food Solutions New England*, April 5, 2019. https://foodsolutionsne.org/uprooting-racism-seeding-sovereignty/?fbclid=IwAR2Memf-vVsnq0F1-gcXQsZgZt9RyXQFBTGJhYvuD1JQ-4yVPhmM7Q9H2V4&mc_cid=a4c804ed6b&mc_eid=cb56f23e4b.

Ramsaroop, Chris, and Katie Wolk. "Can we achieve racial equality in the food security movement." In *The Edible City: Toronto's Food from Farm to Fork*, eds. Christina Palassio and Alana Wilcox, 252-263. Toronto: Coach House Books, 2009.

Roberts, Melana. "Black Food Insecurity in Canada." February 3, 2020. https://www.broadbentinstitute.ca/black_food_insecurity_in_canada?mc_cid=a4c804ed6b&mc_eid=cb56f23e4b.

York University. "Black Creek Food Justice Network." Accessed July 5, 2020. <https://cec.info.yorku.ca/black-creek-food-justice-action-network/>.

ORGANIZATIONS

Afri-Can FoodBasket. "Afri-Can FoodBasket - Healthy Food - Healthy Communities." Accessed July 5, 2020. <https://africanfoodbasket.ca/>.

Afri-Can FoodBasket. "Black Food Toronto: A Food Sovereignty Initiative." Accessed July 5, 2020. <https://blackfoodtoronto.com/>.

FoodShare. "FoodShare - Good Healthy Food for All!" Accessed July 5, 2020. <https://foodshare.net/>.

Michigan Urban Farming Initiative. "Home - miufi." Accessed July 5, 2020.
<https://www.miufi.org/>.

RUAF. "Homepage - RUAF Urban Agriculture and Food Systems." Accessed July 5, 2020.
<https://ruaf.org/>.

Soul Fire Farm. "Soul Fire Farm - Ending Racism and Injustice in the Food System." Accessed July 5, 2020. <https://www.soulfirefarm.org/>.

Sundance Harvest. "Sundance Harvest." Accessed July 5, 2020.
<https://www.sundanceharvestfarm.com/>.

Toronto Food Policy Council. "Toronto Food Policy Council." Accessed July 5, 2020.
<https://tfpc.to/>.

Toronto Urban Growers. "Toronto Urban Growers." Accessed July 5, 2020.
<http://torontourbangrowers.org/>.

Urban Harvest STL. "Urban Harvest STL." Accessed July 5, 2020.
<https://www.urbanharveststl.org/#>.

Whitelock Community Farm. "Whitelock Community Farm." Accessed July 5, 2020.
<http://whitelockfarm.org/>.

York University. "Faculty of Environmental Studies." Accessed July 5, 2020.
<https://fes.yorku.ca/>.