

News Bites

Island Chefs' Meeting

On February 5th the Island Chefs' Collaborative hosted their sixth annual Chef/Farmer meeting at Dunsmuir Lodge. Over 100 local chefs, food producers and industry professionals got a chance to meet, mingle, make business contacts and exchange information. Attendees heard presentations on subjects as diverse as the Green Seed Fund, the upcoming Bastion Square Farmer's Market and the purchasing policies of the University of Victoria - straight from the director of purchasing himself. In addition, Suzanne and Bryan Bradbury presented a proposal to lease parcels of their 65 acre property in Maple Bay to farmers who are looking for land. They are offering a 20 year lease and very reasonable annual rates. The Island Chefs Collaborative announced that they are once again offering two \$1000 grants to help farmers purchase greenhousing, irrigation, fencing or other infrastructure items.

As always this event yielded scores of new connections between our local farmers and chefs, the results of which will be appearing on menus of the Island's top restaurants this summer. A buffet of delicious food from Dunsmuir Lodge chef and ICC member Candace Hartley finished off the event in an appropriately tasty fashion!

For information on the Island Chefs Collaborative contact:
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For Information on the ICC Farmer Funding Grants contact:
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For Information of the Bradbury's farmland for lease contact:
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