



Wendy Holm, P.Ag.

Professional Agrologist with 40+ years experience
in **agricultural economics** and **public policy**

BC Agrologist of the Year 2000

Rosemary Davis Award, Farm Credit Canada, 2009

Distinguished Alumni Award, Faculty of Agriculture,
University of British Columbia, 2008

Queen's Medal 1993, 2002

Award-winning farm journalist 20 years – public policy

can't mitigate forces
over which you have no control,
can only mitigate damage arising...

re•sil•ience

*the ability to become strong, healthy, or successful again
after something bad happens...*

Merriam Webster

There are lots of energy sources, but
only fruits and vegetables
are fruits and vegetables....



1. BC's greatest food self-reliance deficit is fresh fruit and vegetables.
2. BC imports 57% of fresh fruits and vegetables consumed in this province that could be grown in this province.
3. Fresh fruits and vegetables are the most important component of human nutrition.



May 2015 Stats Can:

10% Canadian families
food deficient

1 in 4 single parent families

December 2014

Auditor General Report on

Nutrition North Canada?

FAILURE

*Food insecurity can be harmful to children's healthy growth and development... [and]... can pose numerous health risks for children **due to a lower consumption of fruits and vegetables**, milk products, or other important sources of vitamins and minerals.*

*Such deficiencies may lead to **serious health problems** like obesity, developmental abnormalities, or a compromised immune system.*

Peace River Valley

*Closer to Vancouver
than California's Central Valley
(1200 vs 1700 km)*

*Certainly closer to BC's Northern
Communities*

Peace River Valley can produce all the vegetable crops grown in the Fraser Valley and imported from California and Mexico, including:

- early and late maturing corn,
- berries (raspberries are indigenous)
- heat loving crops (beans, cucumber, eggplant, peppers, tomatoes, squash, melons, okra)
- cool hardy crops (celery, onions, broccoli, cauliflower, cress, lettuce)
- cold tolerant crops (garlic, leeks, mustard greens, kale, radish, spinach, chard, parsley, herbs, cabbage kohlrabi, Brussel sprouts, kale) and
- root crops (including parsnips, carrots, potatoes, rutabagas, turnips, beets)

The valley also supports the production of grains to support a healthy livestock sector, including:

- Cereal grains
- Wheat
- Winter wheat
- Barley
- Fall rye
- Flax
- Rapeseed (canola)



Cropped to horticulture, the Peace Valley would produce sufficient fruits and vegetables to meet the nutritional requirements of a population of 1,082,896 people. In perpetuity.



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THANK YOU...

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