



Farm Site Address: 66 Hickory Street, Waterloo, ON
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**Wilfrid Laurier University
Sustainability Office
255 King St. N, K402
Waterloo, ON**

Attn: Claire Bennet

Re: Young City Growers – WLU Market Garden Site

This letter is to provide an update on the Young City Growers market gardening project that commenced in 2013 at the WLU Northdale Campus site. The objective of the first growing season of the project have been met as 1600sq feet of unused urban land has been successfully transformed into a viable micro-agricultural site. Through our land partnership with Wilfrid Laurier University, participating local youth interns were able to grow a diversity of 12 crops for produce that included tomatoes, cherry tomatoes, peppers, beets, summer squash, beans, carrots, cucumbers, leeks, onions, a variety of greens including kale and lettuce, and a variety of herbs. The market garden site produced over 900 lbs of fresh food that was made available to CSA Market participants from the local WLU faculty and staff and local families. Through the Support of the Ontario Trillium Foundation, the Young City Growers project was provided learning and summer employment opportunities to local students, who gained experience in planning and creating an urban garden and operating a Community Shared Agriculture model market.

Our partnership with the WLU Sustainability Office has provided the project with the vital resources of urban land, water access that sources our drip irrigation system and a new greenhouse facility that will extend our growing season in the future. Our partnership with WLU has also allowed us to provide interdisciplinary learning opportunities for WLU Students studying socio-environmental issues, economics, urban planning, community psychology, and those pursuing independent research projects related to food and environmental sustainability. Young City Growers looks forward to increased local food production, learning opportunities and social engagement through our partnership with the WLU – Sustainability Office.

Sincerely,

**Fanis Juma Radstake
Young City Growers – Project Coordinator**