

Press Release

Transition Guelph Announces the Recipients of the 3rd Annual Resilience Awards

October 28, 2020

It's with great excitement and appreciation that Transition Guelph (TG) announces two awards this year, both related to local regenerative (aka organic or ecological) food production. This year's recipients beautifully demonstrate a number of core TG values including collaboration, community building, celebration and positive visioning.

Our first award goes to **Ignatius Farm (Ignatius Jesuit Centre), Everdale** and the **Ecological Farmers Association of Ontario (EFAO)** for their collaboration in developing and delivering a new modular training program for ecological farming. The Ignatius Farm New Farmer Training Program was made possible through funding from the [Ontario Trillium Foundation](#). Both Ignatius and Everdale have long histories of being teaching farms as well as producing nutritious food for Wellington County. Ignatius also hosts a very popular community garden and offers organic farm plots for rent. The EFAO has been sharing ecological farming techniques and farmer-driven research for 40 years and is highly respected in the organic farming community.

The second award goes to **Lisa Conroy**, founder and curator of the Guelph Seed Library and Farm Educator at Ignatius Farm. Lisa is an advocate for local food production, runs her own ecological farm, re-introduced the important skill of seed saving through the Seed Library and has been a past organizer of the TG Urban Farm Tour.

Steve Tedesco, Chair of the TG Board said "We are thrilled with this year's Resili Award recipients. Food has been a perennial favourite area of focus for TG since its founding in 2008. Last year the TG Board decided to make local regenerative (ecological) food production a focus for 2020 because of the crucial importance of it for our future. Our award recipients align so well with this focus."

Steve concludes that "On top of everything else, we face a crisis of an aging and shrinking farming community. Getting young people back on the land practicing regenerative agriculture is not only critical but farsighted. Our Resili Award recipients are actively taking a key leadership role to address this need. What they're doing is brilliant and we're so fortunate to have them right here in our community."

Transition Guelph is a local non-profit that is powered by volunteers and dedicated to strengthening local resilience through projects and events. Projects are initiated by community members and grow according to local needs and resources. To get involved, email info@transitionguelph.org.