



Sylvia Jean Gibson

Executive Director

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Sylvia has years of international and local experience with youth facilitation, urban agriculture, volunteer co-ordination, community engagement and cross-cultural work. She is an environmental science graduate from the University of Saskatchewan focused on sustainable community development. In July of 2008 she established EarthShare Solutions Ltd. to fill a need at a local level for community engagement and environmental education.

As a youngster growing up in Calgary, Sylvia was always fascinated with farming and how far her food had to travel to get to the City. This fact, combined with a love of traveling, led to volunteer experiences on a variety of organic farms in Ecuador, Ireland, Spain and France. Upon returning to Canada Sylvia managed a bountiful certified organic farm in the unlikely location Newfoundland for three seasons! This experience really inspired her to see what was possible to grow in unlikely places and conditions.

Her passion for farming and the environment encouraged her to complete her Bachelor's of Science in Environmental Science and Soil Science at the University of Saskatchewan (2005). During this time she received funding to study soil erosion and farming practices at the University of Awassa in Ethiopia, where the final report of this experience was used to strengthen the relationship and understanding between the University of Saskatchewan and the University of Awassa. During her final year, Sylvia assisted a PhD student complete his thesis research by conducting numerous laboratory experiments in soil microbiology.

Sylvia's passion for working with youth and communities inspired her to facilitate international youth exchanges focused on international relations, community development and environmental issues. She developed, implemented and evaluated non-formal educational content and process to facilitate learning on active local and global citizenry, sustainable community development, social justice awareness and global education. During this time Sylvia also coordinated the creation of environmental initiatives and the expansion of an extremely successful community gardens in Moose Jaw, SK,

Throughout the years Sylvia has worked with youth, of varying abilities and ages, in interactive environments. She has witnessed the impact of 'non-formal' education for countless youth in developing confidence and leadership while learning about current issues. Sylvia's dance and theatre backgrounds have played out in providing creative and exciting facilitation for participants. Sylvia also speaks (and writes) English, French, Spanish and basic Ukrainian assisting with cross-cultural and international work.

Urban agriculture has truly been the meeting point for her expertise and passions of agriculture, environmental education, cross cultural and community engagement, and creative expression. Planting a few small seeds and harvesting your own food helps reduce carbon dioxide emissions, builds community and beautifies wasted space.

Think global, eat local.