



**Municipality of the County of Kings**

June 13, 2019

## Media Release

181 Coldbrook Village Park Drive, Coldbrook, NS

PO Box 100, Kentville, NS B4N 3W3

Phone: (902) 678-6141

Toll Free: 1-888-337-2999

[www.countyofkings.ca](http://www.countyofkings.ca)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

---

### **VALLEY AFRICAN NOVA SCOTIAN DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION TO PARTNER WITH COUNTY OF KINGS ON FOOD SECURITY PROGRAMMING**

**KINGS COUNTY, NS:** The Valley African Nova Scotian Development Association (VANSDA) in partnership with the Municipality of the County of Kings will be offering Grow Together, a targeted initiative to help address and alleviate the impacts of food insecurity and access to recreation opportunities for families living in the region.

Grow Together will be jointly delivered by VANSDA and Municipal Staff. The Municipality of the County of Kings is pleased to partner with VANSDA on this initiative and looks forward to building capacity around food literacy and increasing access to municipal recreation programming for families living in Kings. Throughout each four-week session, participating families shall take part in weekly cooking lessons and customized recreation activities. Grow together will have rolling intake periods throughout 2019-20.

Funding for this initiative has been provided by the Government of Canada and the Province of Nova Scotia as well as in-kind contributions from both VANSDA and the Municipality of the County of Kings.

For more information or to register for this unique programming opportunity please contact the VANSDA office at: 902 678-7410 or by email at: [info@vansda.ca](mailto:info@vansda.ca)

#### **Quotes:**

“Our government believes Canada’s diversity is one of its greatest strengths. This is especially true in Nova Scotia, where African Nova Scotians play a vital role in the community. We are proud to support the Valley African Nova Scotian Development Association by investing in the Grow Together project, which will help families of diverse backgrounds live healthier, happier lives.” – The Honourable Pablo Rodriguez, Minister of Canadian Heritage and Multiculturalism

« Notre gouvernement considère que la diversité est l’une des plus grandes forces de notre pays. Ceci est particulièrement vrai en Nouvelle-Écosse, où les Canadiens d’origine africaine jouent un rôle essentiel dans la communauté. Nous sommes fiers d’appuyer la Valley African Nova Scotian Development Association en investissant dans le projet Grow Together, qui aidera les familles de tous les milieux à mener une vie plus saine et plus heureuse. » – L’honorable Pablo Rodriguez, ministre du Patrimoine canadien et du Multiculturalisme

“The Grow Together initiative is a great example of what a community can achieve when it works together towards a common goal. Our government is proud to support the Valley African Nova Scotian Development Association and help it build a stronger community through food literacy and local recreation programming.” —Andy Fillmore, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Canadian Heritage and Multiculturalism and Member of Parliament (Halifax)

« Le projet Grow Together est un bel exemple de tout ce qu’une communauté peut accomplir quand ses membres s’unissent pour atteindre un but commun. Notre gouvernement est heureux d’appuyer la Valley African Nova Scotian Development Association et de l’aider à rendre sa communauté encore plus forte au moyen de programmes locaux axés sur le savoir-faire alimentaire et les activités récréatives. » — M. Andy Fillmore, secrétaire parlementaire du ministre du Patrimoine canadien et du Multiculturalisme et député de Halifax

“As Kings' Mayor, on behalf of each of our 9 Councilors, and the 45,000 residents of Kings who we represent, I say with some pride that we proudly endorse this initiative. We pledge to be constant in growing ever greater awareness and support for food security and well-being throughout the Kings Region and beyond.”— Mayor Peter Muttart, Municipality of the County of Kings

“As the Chair, of the Valley African Nova Scotia Development Association (VANSDA), I am enthusiastic & proud of our staff for this initiative and welcome the Municipality of the County of Kings on our team supporting our families the opportunities to access the many building blocks of success along with food security. Programs are so essential for the long term health issues of our Community and has been a long term commitment for the organization as we grow together. Thanks to everyone involved as we continue to strive to make a difference” – Geraldine Browning, Chair of the Board, VANSDA

## **CONTACT**

Brittany Mastroianni

Diversity & Outreach Specialist

Tel: 902-690-2409

[bmastroianni@countyofkings.ca](mailto:bmastroianni@countyofkings.ca)