Nourish

Margaret Edgars Reconciliation Recognition “Food is Love” Award

Nourishing Traditional Food in Health Care & Community 2026 Recipients

In honour of Margaret Edgars, who passed into the Spirit World in summer 2023, Nourish created the Margaret Edgars Reconciliation Award. The award is presented to individuals or organizations advancing Indigenous foodways in community and health care settings. These actions include acknowledging the history, land, and water in ways that create positive, lasting impacts for future generations. This also includes what Margaret always kept front and centre in our conversations: the importance of “putting the love in food.”

Dana Marshall led the ‘From Land to Care Collaborative’, also known as Team Newfoundland and Labrador, in Nourish’s Third Anchor Cohort. As Community Animator for Labrador with Food First NL, Dana said yes to trying things outside her comfort zone, created new partnerships - including the first nonprofit license moose hunt that put harvested moose on the plates of long-term care residents, built relationships with government officials to start turning the tide on country foods in health care, and co-founded a new podcast with colleague Kendal Garlow from Six Nations - *Ajuinata* - to get important stories into the world. Dana invested in her own learning, completing both the Food Is Our Medicine Animated Learning Journey and a Masters Degree in Arctic & Subarctic Studies at Memorial University of Newfoundland during her Cohort work. Dana says: “This is more than a project; it's a movement rooted in the belief that country food is essential to health and healing. We invite you to imagine a health care system where food is not just what's on the plate, but is viewed as medicine, memory, and a reflection of one's identity.”

Gordon FOOD SERVICE

Gordon Food Service Canada is demonstrating their commitment to advancing Truth and Reconciliation in their dedicated participation in Nourish’s Food Is Our Medicine Animated Learning Journey. Investing in their learning and unlearning, GFS Canada is integrating their Food Is Our Medicine journey as a core part of their Indigenous Relations Strategy, anchored in cultural education, respectful partnerships, and economic inclusion. This team is weaving Indigenous foodways into health care, senior living, and non-commercial foodservice to advance meaningful truth and reconciliation action and holistic healing through food.