



# Our House to Yours



## Proud Greenhouse Capital of North America



Ontario, and our communities, are acknowledged around the world as the Greenhouse Capital of North America. Just like many growing regions around the world, a concentration of crops creates competition, innovation and synergies that leads to a world-class farming sector.

For over 60 years, family farms have been growing tomatoes, peppers and cucumbers and have brought greenhouse growing technology to new heights.

Looking towards the future, the Ontario greenhouse produce sector is embracing new innovations in A.I. (artificial intelligence), lighting, and automation. Coupled with the protective environment of a greenhouse, this gives farms the ability to grow food 365 days a year and gives Canadians reliable fresh, nutritious local produce all year long.

With these new technologies and longer growing season come new careers - adding to the over 13,000 people currently employed by Ontario's greenhouses. These new careers will showcase a broad

scope of talent with increasing demands for more S.T.E.M (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) based positions focusing on biosecurity, engineering, food safety, and robotics.

As technologies improve, greenhouses will become even more efficient and productive by improving on their energy and water usage. The majority of greenhouses already utilize water recycling systems, and many farms have incorporated cleaner energy sources such as solar and wind.

However, there is more to do. Our growers take pride in what they do and together we look forward to contributing to our province's plan to build a post-pandemic world and economy that we will all benefit from and be proud of.

Visit [greenhousegoodness.com](http://greenhousegoodness.com) to read more about what Ontario Greenhouse Vegetable Growers are doing to address what Canadian consumers want in their food - vegetables that are grown with the future in mind.

**THE ADVENTURES OF Lady Bug**

Most greenhouse vegetable growers recirculate 95% or more of their irrigation water.

Water that isn't used by the plants is collected, disinfected, and rebalanced with nutrients before going back to the plants again.

Using water efficiently reduces water costs and community burden, making it an important component of sustainable greenhouse farming.

## Local Business Spotlight: DOUBLE DOWN For Your Town!

COVID-19 has affected all Canadians in different ways. Both large Canadian cities and small rural communities had to find ways to navigate through this global challenge. Our farms and all involved in keeping Canada's food supply running, stepped up as essential workers, maintaining the food supply to our community, our nation, and beyond. Local hotels took the lead in ensuring our International

Guest workers were safe, adhered to quarantine protocols, and together we have helped each other through these harsh times. Local restaurants stepped up to deliver meal programs for workers and found ways to give back and be generous to our frontline healthcare workers. But, local businesses and restaurants have been hit hard. OGVG and our membership farms encourage everyone who can, to 'Double Down for

Your Town'. As Father's Day weekend approaches, think to look to your favorite local business. Visit Rays Rib house to help them celebrate their 25th anniversary, take a drive out to Freddy's and enjoy the patio now that it's open again, support Milana's Menswear with some new threads as we move out of sweatpants, and welcome Sward to our town's culinary scene! Consider picking up a gift card with your order or purchase, or double your tip to servers and delivery drivers to thank them for what they do. There are so many examples of the way our community businesses have "stepped up", and in doing so, have helped Canadians maintain our Food supply. From meal plan providers like Armando's, Jose's, Crave, Joey's, Burgess Refreshments, and many more; to all the front-

line Health care workers; our local businesses have been there for our community, and we want to thank them for all they do. It takes a village...

### 'Our House to Yours' Week 8 BINGO Numbers

Congratulations to Sue McDowell on her Bingo win!

**121 · O63 · G48 · I17**  
**G59 · B6 · B15**



## COMMODITY SPOTLIGHT: Lettuce

OGVG growers specialize in growing tomatoes, peppers and cucumbers, but many of our growers are innovating with new products as well, including lettuce! Someday soon, we'll have locally grown lettuce all year round!



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