
Sharing SBLA Success Stories

Spalding Community Development Co-operative

Northern Nutraceuticals Inc.

Kevin and Kathy Johnson, Owners

Northern Nutraceuticals Inc. had its beginning in 1998. Kevin and Kathy Johnson had been growing a few different herb and spice crops on the farm, but one in particular stood out from the rest: borage. At first, they grew the crop only for the seed to sell. Then they decided to take the process one step further. They found someone to custom-crush the borage seed and sold the oil in bulk to American clients they found via the Internet.

As the business grew, they realized the next step was to purchase equipment and crush their own seed. They chose to build in Spalding as opposed to their farm.



The Village of Spalding offered many incentives and sold them the land at a very affordable price. With the help of the Spalding Community Development Co-operative, the company was able to purchase an extractor to crush and extract the oil themselves.

The expansion paid off very well, and they were able to attract a major client from British Columbia that rents shop space, and has put in their own equipment to do the de-hull, crushing, extracting and drying

necessary to produce oil and protein powder from hemp seed. This client contracts Northern to do all of the work and packaging, as well as shipping the finished product to a distributor in the United States. The products leave Northern Nutraceuticals ready to be distributed to retailers. The company also does custom-crushing and oil extraction for a number of clients in Saskatchewan and Manitoba.

The Johnsons are very confident this business will remain viable and sustainable in rural Saskatchewan. They are in the best location, right in the middle of all their clients.