



City of Hamilton

FOOD ADVISORY COMMITTEE REVISED

Meeting #: 20-003
Date: March 10, 2020
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Location: Room 192, 1st Floor
71 Main Street West

Heather Harvey, Health Promotion Specialist (905) 546-2424 ext. 3635

	Pages
1. CEREMONIAL ACTIVITIES	
2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA	
(Added Items, if applicable, will be noted with *)	
3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST	
4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING	
4.1 February 11, 2020	3
5. COMMUNICATIONS	
5.1 Citizen Resignation from the Food Advisory Committee	
6. DELEGATION REQUESTS	
7. CONSENT ITEMS	
8. PUBLIC HEARINGS / DELEGATIONS	
9. STAFF PRESENTATIONS	
10. DISCUSSION ITEMS	
10.1 Food Hub Models	
10.2 What is Food Sovereignty?	7

10.3 Letter to Agriculture and Rural Affairs Advisory Committee

10.4 Staff Update

10.5 Member Updates

10.5.a Climate Change Forum

11. MOTIONS

12. NOTICES OF MOTION

13. GENERAL INFORMATION / OTHER BUSINESS

*13.1 Event - Food is Political: Systemic and Institutional Oppression in the Food System

Friday March 13, 2020

14. PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

15. ADJOURNMENT



FOOD ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting #: 20-002

Date: February 11, 2020

Time: 7:00 pm

Location: Room 192, 1st Floor
71 Main Street West

Heather Harvey, Health Promotional Specialist (905) 546-2424 ext. 3635

Present:

Vivien Underdown (Chair), Elly Bowen (Co-Chair), Brian Tammi (Secretary), Maria Biasutti, Krista D'Aoust, Heather Harvey (Staff Liaison), Drew Johnston, Binamin Mehretab, Laurie Nielson, Mary Ellen Scanlon, Jennifer Silversmith, Barbara Stares, Kyle Swain, Andrew Sweetnam

Absent with regrets:

Councillor Merulla, Jordan Geertsma, Vicky Hachey, Frank Stinellis

1. CEREMONIAL ACTIVITIES

None

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

(Stares/ Nielson)

That the agenda for the February 11, 2020 meeting of the Food Advisory Committee be approved as presented.

CARRIED

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

4.1 January 14, 2020

(Tammi/Scanlon)

That the Minutes of the January 14, 2020 meeting of the Food Advisory Committee be approved as presented.

CARRIED

5. COMMUNICATIONS

None

6. DELEGATION REQUESTS

None

7. CONSENT ITEMS

7.1 Nutritious Food Basket Infographic “how much does healthy eating cost in Hamilton?”

(Biasutti/D'Acoust)

That the Nutritious Food Basket Infographic be received.

CARRIED

8. PUBLIC HEARINGS / DELEGATIONS

None

9. STAFF PRESENTATIONS

9.1 Climate Change and Food Systems - Trevor Imhoff, Senior Project Manager, Air Quality and Climate Change

Presentation received by T. Imhoff was received. Discussed climate change initiatives in Hamilton that aim to reduce GHG emissions in line with IPCC targets. FAC members questioned presenter regarding presentation and discussed local climate change issues.

10. DISCUSSION ITEMS

10.1 Work plan

Members discussed food systems and climate change. Members outlined desire to receive climate change adaptation plan and advise on the working group terms of reference. FAC members discussed need to look for opportunity to advise on upcoming food issues as per our mandate. Staff Liaison will attempt to stay informed of upcoming city initiatives related to the Food Strategy and bring them forward to FAC proactively for comment.

10.2 Staff Update

FAC budget of \$2500 has been referred to budget process.

An updated committee handbook is available online and attendance rules have changed.

Food Strategy Forum notes are being processed and a report is forthcoming.

10.3 Member Updates and Food Related Issues

D. Johnston, M. Scanlon discussed multilingual signage for guidelines regarding consuming fish from Hamilton watershed.

B. Mehretab has been involved in discussions with private parties regarding investment into the creation of a regional Food Hub and has received lots of interest.

E. Bowen requested presentation about waste management study for a future FAC meeting.

11. MOTIONS

None

12. NOTICES OF MOTION

None

13 GENERAL INFORMATION/ OTHER BUSINESS

13.1 City of Hamilton Waste Management Survey

Community consultation complete but we may be able to submit comments. If items for comment are time sensitive FAC members can be emailed.

13.2 National Farmers Union of Ontario Conference

Committee members are invited to attend a public talk "Planning for Climate Resilience" with Lynda Lukasik of Environment Hamilton that is part of the National Farmer Union of Ontario Conference on April 25, 2020.

14. PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

None

15. ADJOURNMENT

(Johnston/Nielson)

That there be no further business, the Food Advisory Committee be adjourned at 9:00 PM.

CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,

**V. Underdown, Chair
Food Advisory Committee**

**Heather Harvey
Staff Liaison
Public Health Services**



Food Sovereignty

Food Advisory Committee Meeting
March 10, 2020

"Food Sovereignty is the right of peoples to healthy and culturally appropriate food produced through ecologically sound and sustainable methods, and their right to define their own food and agriculture systems."

- La Via Campesina



Food Sovereignty

- The way we reach food security
- Grassroots movement, call for democratic food system
- 2007: Pillars of Food Sovereignty developed at International Forum for Food Sovereignty in Mali
- A 7th pillar was developed in Canada during People's Food Policy Process, by the Indigenous Circle

1. Food for People

- Need for food at the centre of policies
- Food is more than just a commodity

The right to sufficient, healthy and culturally appropriate food for all individuals, peoples and communities.

Inclusion for marginalized folks at the centre of food systems.



2. Builds Knowledge and Skills

- Builds on traditional knowledge
- Users research to support and pass knowledge to future generations
- Rejects technologies that undermine or contaminate local food systems

Conserve, develop and manage localized food production systems.



3. Works with Nature

- Optimizes the contributions of ecosystems
- Improves resilience

Diverse, low external input agro-ecological production and harvesting that supports climate change mitigation and adaptation.



4. Values Food Providers

- Supports sustainable livelihoods
- Respects the work of all providers

Women, men, peasants, small scale family farmers, pastoralists, artisanal fisherfolk, forest dwellers, indigenous peoples and agricultural and fisheries workers, including migrants.

Rejects policies that undervalue them or threaten their livelihoods.



5. Localizes Food Systems

- Reduces distance between food providers and consumers
- Rejects dumping and inappropriate food aid
- Resists dependency on remote and unaccountable corporations

Rejects GMOs and inequitable international trade.



6. Puts Control Locally

- Places control in the hands of local food providers
- Recognizes the need to inhabit and to share territories
- Rejects the privatization of natural resources

Local control over territory, grazing, water, seeds, livestock, fish populations.



7. Food is Sacred

- Recognizes that food is a gift of life, and not to be squandered
- Asserts that food cannot be commodified

Canada home to more than 600 aboriginal Nations. Using traditional foodways and language for empowerment.

Essential relationships between humans, the environment, and all other creatures.



Example: “Negotiating the Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition: Our concerns and proposals”, La Via Campesina

- Jan 2020: Global Council for Food Security, negotiations conclude in July
- Advice on focus: marginalized people, root causes of hunger/malnutrition, human rights approach, systems approach, etc.
- Proposed additions: identify impact of power imbalances, reasons for unsustainable diets, safeguards against humanitarian aid
- “Reminder” Right to Food Guidelines Paragraph 16.1 - food should never be used as a means of political and economic pressure
- Stance on biofortification

Example: U.S. Food Sovereignty Alliance: 5 Collectives

- Youth Process, Platform: peer-to-peer learning, leadership, political analysis, strengthening skills
- Narrative Strategy: coordinates content (blogs, videos, etc.)
- Political Education: Creation of educational materials, host webinars, and national course to help build movement
- Agroecology, Land, and Water: seeks to create a land trust in accordance with food sovereignty, demand justice for immigrant families, and solidarity with indigenous communities
- International relations: establish a well-informed participants to speak on behalf of USFSA

<http://usfoodsovereigntyalliance.org/teams/>

Example: Tackling the Farm Crisis & the Climate Crisis: A Transformative Strategy for Canadian Farmers and Food Systems

- The National Farmers Union report
- Agriculture in Canada: Impacts of climate change
- Key conclusions include:
 - Threat and opportunity
 - Become more integrated and sustainable
 - Farm crisis and climate crisis share many similar causes and solutions
 - If we fail to plan, we plan to fail
 - Priority: incentivize low-input, low-emission agricultural approaches

<https://viacampesina.org/en/nfu-announces-new-report-tackling-the-farm-crisis-and-the-climate-crisis/>

Example: Resetting the Table

- Context: ~2.5M Canadians food insecure; farmers going out of business, environmental degradation, 1/4 Canadians obese, and only G8 country without nationally-funded school meal program
- 3500 Canadians participated; 10 detailed discussion papers, policy recommendations and guidelines
- Rooted in food sovereignty. Key elements:
 - Food is eaten close to where its produced
 - Support ecological production
 - Federal poverty elimination and prevention program
 - Nationally funded Children and Food strategy
 - Ensure public is actively involved in decisions about the food system

Possible Steps toward Food Sovereignty

Hannah Wittman, Faculty of Land and Food Systems and the Institute for Resources, Environment, and Sustainability at the University of British Columbia

- Organizing consumers: e.g. public food procurement, farm-to-school programs
- Training new generation of farmers
- Securing the land: protecting from urban sprawl
- Demanding fair trade
- <https://www.policyalternatives.ca/publications/monitor/food-sovereignty-canada>

Pillars of Food Sovereignty, Summary

1. Food for People: Food at centre of policy; more than a commodity
2. Builds Knowledge & Skills: builds on tradition; research and future generations; rejects technologies that undermine or contaminate local food systems
3. Works with Nature: Optimizes contributions to ecosystems; improve resilience
4. Values Food Providers: Supports sustainable livelihoods, respects work of all providers
5. Localizes Food Systems: Reduces distance between farm to plate; rejects dumping and inappropriate food aid; resists dependency on remote and unaccountable corporations
6. Puts Control Locally: In the hands of food providers; need to inhabit/share territories; rejects privatization of natural resources
7. Food is Sacred: Food is gift of life and not to be squandered; food cannot be commodified

Resources

- <https://viacampesina.org/en/>
- [The People's Food Policy Project- Introducing Food Sovereignty in Canada 2012](#)
- Food Sovereignty stories: <http://usfoodsovereigntyalliance.org/food-sovereignty-stories-video/>
- Food Sovereignty in the Golden Horseshoe Region of Ontario:
<https://tfpc.to/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2012/09/Friedmann-2011-Food-Sovereignty-in-Ontario.pdf>
- Food Sovereignty in Canada: Movement to control our own food and agriculture
<https://www.policyalternatives.ca/publications/monitor/food-sovereignty-canada>