



CITY OF HAMILTON
HEALTHY AND SAFE COMMUNITIES DEPARTMENT
Long Term Care

TO:	Chair and Members Healthy and Safe Communities Committee
COMMITTEE DATE:	July 8, 2021
SUBJECT/REPORT NO:	Golden Horseshoe and Farming Alliance: Serving Up Local II: An Economic Analysis Research Project in Long Term Care (HSC21031) (Ward 7 and Ward 13)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	Ward 7 and Ward 13
PREPARED BY:	Holly Odoardi (905) 546-2424 Ext. 1906
SUBMITTED BY:	Paul Johnson General Manager Healthy and Safe Communities Department
SIGNATURE:	

RECOMMENDATION

- (a) That Macassa Lodge and Wentworth Lodge participate in an Economic Analysis Research Project Serving Up Local II with the Golden Horseshoe Food and Farming Alliance (GHFFA) and the University of Guelph to determine the economic impact of offering local food in facilities to improve the nutritional health and well-being of residents; and,
- (b) That the General Manager, Healthy and Safe Communities Department or his designate, be authorized to negotiate, enter into and execute any contract and any ancillary documents required in relation to the research project “Serving Up Local II: An Economic Analysis Research Project in Long Term Care” as further described in this report, in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2016, “Serving Up Local” developed a partnership between Durham and Halton Regions, the City of Hamilton and the Golden Horseshoe Food and Farming Alliance to increase the amount of local foods offered with a focus on public long term care homes.

The Serving Up Local research project identified the purchasing power of public institutions to strengthen Ontario’s agricultural sector and determine the interest of Long

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OUR Mission: To provide high quality cost conscious public services that contribute to a healthy, safe and prosperous community, in a sustainable manner.

OUR Culture: Collective Ownership, Steadfast Integrity, Courageous Change, Sensational Service, Engaged Empowered Employees.

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Term Care Homes (LTC) pursuing or requesting local food offerings. This project was financially supported by the Government of Ontario, in partnership with the Greenbelt Fund.

The City of Hamilton's Long-Term Care Homes have been invited to continue with this work and to participate in the Serving Up Local II: An Economic Analysis research study which is being conducted by the School of Environmental Design and Rural Development and the Department of Food, Agriculture and Research Economics at the University of Guelph. This research study continues to be organized in partnership with the Golden Horseshoe Food and Farming Alliance and SCC Consulting. This research project would be funded by the Ontario Ministry of Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) and administered through the Ontario Agri-food Innovation Alliance. This 3-year research project would continue between the GHFFA and the University of Guelph. Through the work since 2016, it has been identified that municipal partnership is critical and key to this project and with that Peel and Niagara will be participating in this new stage of research.

The purpose of the Serving Up Local II project is to focus on the economic impact on LTC homes of purchasing more local food by auditing and studying the food purchasing data collected from the municipal LTC Homes. The University of Guelph will be requesting a Data Share agreement be completed with the City of Hamilton to be able to review the requisite information as noted above. The researchers will be interviewing staff at both LTC Homes to assist with information gathering related to items which will include:

1. Aggregate home demographics, size and kitchen infrastructure
2. Food contracts and rebates
3. Annual food budgets
4. Food service staff time
5. Meal preparation type
6. Procurement policies around food purchasing
7. Staff training opportunities
8. Change management
9. Purchasing and nutrition management software

As shared by the researchers, the project will:

1. Yield research results intended to assist the province in setting realistic goals for Broader Public Sector local food procurement under the third pillar of the Local Food Act.
2. Provide support, resources and tools that will aid long-term care homes to achieve and surpass set local food purchasing goals within their budgets.

3. Provide sector-wide policy and procedural recommendations focusing on: food procurement strategies in LTC; alignment with new food quality and nutrition guidelines; and the potential of food purchase tracking to positively influence local and quality food purchasing, based on the success stories of participating research teams.

Alternatives for Consideration – Not applicable

FINANCIAL – STAFFING – LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Financial: N/A

Staffing: Staff will be required to work with the research team to participate in interviews spread over three to four sessions approximately one hour in length. In addition, staff will be working with Legal Services Section, Legal and Risk Management Services Division; City Clerk Division; Procurement Section, Financial Services and Taxation Division; and other key stakeholders to review required documents as per the Data Sharing Agreement to meet all contractual requirements.

Legal: Legal is actively involved with consultation for the Data Agreement.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

In 2016, Serving Up Local developed a partnership between Durham and Halton Regions, the City of Hamilton and the Golden Horseshoe Food and Farming Alliance to increase the amount of local foods offered with a focus on public long term care homes.

In 2018, City Council approved Group Purchasing Services for Food and Related Supplies (Report HSC18026) which recommended that Macassa and Wentworth Lodges continue to increase the proportion of purchases of local food products through the approved suppliers in the Complete Purchasing Services Inc. program.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS AND LEGISLATED REQUIREMENTS

None

RELEVANT CONSULTATION

Legal Services Section, Legal and Risk Management Services Division, Corporate Services Department was engaged in the review of the report.

ANALYSIS AND RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

The Serving Up Local research project was a great success, and now moving forward with the next phase of research, “Serving Up Local II: An Economic Analysis” (SULEA) will continue with the formed partnerships, utilizing the learnings and results of the “Serving Local I project” with a new and highly regarded partner in academic research; the University of Guelph.

The researchers have highlighted those LTC Homes that have adopted local food purchasing and participated in the economic and food purchasing analysis will be the first to have achieved this work across Ontario. The research project intends to provide the Province with evidence based information and recommend that there are established goals and targets developed for local food purchasing with LTC Homes and other broader public sector institutions and to determine, if having a local food purchasing as a priority will enhance compliance with the Ministry of Long Term Care Act and Regulations in LTC Homes.

The goal for residents across our LTC Homes is to provide them with excellent nutrition that they require and legislated through the Ministry of Long Term Care. There have been reports completed by the Ontario Auditor General’s office and that of the Long Term Care Commission that highlights the need for better nutrition and this research may assist to achieve the desired goals. This research certainly complements what we are actively working on and can would value learning lessons from the other Long Term Care Homes that are participating in this research to enhance the lives of our residents.

ALTERNATIVES FOR CONSIDERATION

None

ALIGNMENT TO THE 2016 – 2025 STRATEGIC PLAN

Healthy and Safe Communities

Hamilton is a safe and supportive City where people are active, healthy, and have a high quality of life.

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED

N/A