



Food Advisory Committee

Co-chairs Krista D'aoust & Mary Ellen Scanlon

Mandate

- ▶ Advisory committee to the Board of Health
 - ▶ 13-18 members represent food related sectors incl. production, processing, distribution, buying/selling, consumption, waste mgmt.
- ▶ Supports and advises on:
 - ▶ Implementation of Hamilton's Food Strategy
 - ▶ Development of food related policies and programs

Mandate cont'd

▶ Other roles include:

- ▶ Identify and inform about innovative food security policies and programs
- ▶ Identify and advise about emerging issues affecting Hamilton's food system
- ▶ Facilitate and share information with members and community
- ▶ Support research, monitoring and evaluation, identify gaps and opportunities related to community food security
- ▶ Facilitate cross promotion of community food security within existing programs, policies, events, services and other actions

Hamilton's Food Strategy

- ▶ Ten year strategy endorsed by Council in August 2016
- ▶ Based on research, best practises and engagement with 2700+ people
- ▶ Four goals:
 - ▶ Support food friendly neighbourhoods to improve access to healthy food for all residents.
 - ▶ Increase food literacy to promote healthy eating and empower all residents.
 - ▶ Support local food and help grow the agri-food sector.
 - ▶ Advocate for a healthy, sustainable, and just food system with partners and at all levels of government.
- ▶ Fourteen recommendations and forty-six actions

Current Committee Activities

- ▶ Regrouping after 1 year hiatus due to redeployment of Public Health support staff. Membership declined during hiatus
- ▶ Pre-pandemic focus on 5 priority actions:
 - ▶ Funding criteria & process
 - ▶ Food skills and employability program
 - ▶ Community and Neighbourhood Infrastructure
 - ▶ Food Literacy Network
 - ▶ Local Food Promotion
- ▶ Evaluating implementation of all 46 actions by the municipality and community partners. Outcomes will inform priority actions