

**Peterborough Food Action Network (PFAN)**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**Thursday, May 21, 2015**  
**1:00 to 2:30 p.m.**  
**Parish Hall, All Saints Anglican Church, 235 Rubidge St.**

**Attendees: Ashlee Aitken, Dr. Rosana Pellizzari (Chair), Joelle Favreau, Carolyn Doris, Chris Kawalec, Lori Sainte, Dorothy Boddy, Jason Hartwick, Thomas Marek, Lori Sainte, Margaret Wright, Marie Bongard, Lyn Miller, Todd Barr.**

### **1.0 Welcome and Introductions**

The meeting was called to order at 1:01 p.m.

### **2.0 Approval of Agenda**

The agenda was approved with the addition of item 8.1, Announcements. Items 5.1 and 5.2 were moved up in the agenda to occur after item 2.0.

#### **Income Security Discussion**

Jason Hartwick was invited to the meeting to discuss the Basic Income Guarantee (BIG) and the [BIG Push Campaign](#). Jason is part of a working group comprised of 13 members who are planning a local event. They are in the midst of securing the attendance of Rob Rainer, founder of the BIG Push Campaign (for a biography [click here](#)). The group also plans to approach local federal candidates prior to the election.

Attendees discussed growing support for this initiative across the country, specifically in Prince Edward Island where Jason reported all candidates running for the Premier have [committed to exploring the guarantee program](#). Carolyn shared that at the recent National Poverty Summit held earlier this month, Edmonton Mayor Don Iveson and Calgary Mayor Naheed Nenshi both [expressed their support for a BIG](#).

The group discussed a 2011 paper on Manitoba's guaranteed annual income experiment (*The Town with No Poverty: The Health Effects of a Canadian Guaranteed Annual Income Field Experiment, Evelyn L. Forget*). As noted on the [Canadian Public Policy site](#), the paper documented the historical context of MINCOME, a Canadian guaranteed annual income field experiment (1974 to 1979). In general, it found a reduction in the hospitalization rate for participants (particularly for accidents and injuries and mental health), as well as a decline in participant contacts with physicians (especially for mental health), and that more adolescents continued into grade 12. It concluded that a relatively modest guaranteed annual income can improve population health, suggesting significant health system savings.

Lastly, Dr. Pellizzari advised that a resolution will be tabled at the Annual General Meeting for the Association of Local Public Health Agencies in June to garner broad support from boards of health across Ontario.

### Nourish Peer Advocacy

Jason Hartwick and Lori Sainte discussed the 8-week peer advocacy program offered by [Nourish](#). Twelve participants were recently trained to support members of the community living on low income find and access the resources they may need. Various organizations participated and offered training, including the Peterborough Community Legal Centre and the Canadian Mental Health Organization. Topics varied from tenant rights to crisis and de-escalation training.

The peers will have office space at the YWCA where they will continue to provide support. They plan on meeting monthly to share experiences and challenges in order to improve their skills and abilities, and will reach out to members of the community in pairs to promote the service and explain the support that is available.

### **3.0 Approval of Minutes – April 16, 2015**

The minutes were approved as circulated.

### **4.0 Business Arising from the Minutes**

#### **4.1 Review Action Items from the Previous Meeting**

- *PPRN Strategic Plan* – Carolyn confirmed that the information was sent to Diane Therrien and that she has offered her support for further implementation or next steps. The PPRN are planning a community consultation over the summer, Carolyn suggested that a session should be held with the network if possible. **ACTION: Carolyn to follow up to inquire whether this could be scheduled on one of the summer meeting dates.**
- *Name Change Poll* – The most recent (and final) poll resulted in the new name: Peterborough Food Action Network (PFAN). The network will be advised via email, and other collateral items (e.g. web site, documents) will be changed over.
- *Food Calendar* – Chris reported that the change to a week-at-a-glance calendar has occurred. There are tentative plans to create a County calendar.
- *Food Not Bombs* – FNB continue to serve every Monday (for almost ten years). They also have a phone number and actively monitored e-mail address to accept questions and ideas 5-days a week 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. It was determined that the misunderstanding regarding their operation arose out of an individual's comment about their presence at City Hall. A prayer group has also been meeting under a tent on council days and it's likely that she confused the two.
- *Community Meals – Special Meeting* – Carolyn felt that a potential next step would be to survey attendees to determine what issues they may be experiencing and gather data to inform a future meeting of providers. The group discussed the following :
  - *Survey* – The group discussed the challenges around surveying meal attendees, including the perception that providing negative feedback may jeopardize their ability to access a meal. As part of Jason's work in the community, he offered to obtain feedback as he was already in the community gathering information for the BIG as well as for an Active Neighbourhoods Canada project. There was consensus that the approach would have to be sensitive and discreet. It was noted that perhaps the Nourish Peers could assist with this work, as well as other network

volunteers who regularly attend meals. Todd Barr added that perhaps the [Trent Community Research Centre](#) could be of assistance if the timing works (the Centre could potentially support the study if it took place in early 2016).

- *Guidelines/Tools for Providers* – In addition to reissuing the previously developed materials ([Poster, Guiding Principles for Community Funded Meals \(Nov 2012\)](#); [Poster, Nutrition Suggestions for Community Funded Meals \(Feb 2013\)](#)) with the new network name, it was felt that a checklist should be developed for meal providers to ensure that certain considerations are given to the needs of attendees (e.g., gluten intolerance, diabetics, poor oral health or lack of teeth).

Carolyn noted that the last time meal providers were brought together by the PFAN was in 2012 so this could be a good opportunity to re-engage them. **ACTION: Carolyn to move this work forward. This item will be brought back for further discussion at the next meeting.**

## **5.0 New Business**

### **5.1 Income Security Discussion**

Please refer to item 2.0 for details.

### **5.2 Nourish Peer Advocacy Project**

Please refer to item 2.0 for details.

## **6.0 Round Table Themes**

### **6.1 Income Equity/Advocacy**

*(PPRN; Income Security Work Group; Nutritious Food Basket)*

- The PPRN are holding a meeting with community partners to work on their application to the Province for their new Local Poverty Reduction Fund. The fund emphasizes collaborative approaches and evaluative components. The intent of the meeting is to bring together partners to help them decide the best approach; it is anticipated that the application will focus on a small scale project related to their Community Hub work. The meeting takes place on Thursday May 28th from 11:30am-1:30pm in the Coronation Room at Seeds of Change/George Street United. An [RSVP](#) is required to attend.
- The [Peterborough LETS](#) holds a market every second weekend in the Peterborough Social Planning Council office in the Peterborough Square. The LETS has increased their membership steadily (2-3 additional members per month).

### **6.2 Emergency Food/Community Meals/Community Food Hub/Food Programs**

*(Kawartha Food Share; Faith Community members; Nourish Project; JustFood; Collective Kitchens; Gleaning)*

- Kawartha Food Share has noted a sharp increase in the demand for emergency food boxes (usually approximately 20 per month, this has tripled over the last few months). As well, the March Hunger Count numbers, while still not finalized, appear to be quite high. The KFS City Wide Drive takes place on June 6 (bags will be distributed on the 3<sup>rd</sup> via Peterborough This Week), and they are looking for volunteers to walk or drive through a Peterborough neighbourhood to collect food. For more details, members were encouraged to contact [Ashlee Aitken](#).

- Joelle advised that the YWCA issued 5,000 boxes last year and that last month numbers in the City exceeded the County by only 31. A recent calculation based on funds spent on local food by the program (\$27,500 spent on food from the Peterborough area) and applying the multiplier effect (2.6%) meant an estimated \$71,000 investment in the local economy.
- Nourish begun selling gift vouchers in various denominations for the Downtown Farmers' Market. These are available for purchase at the market.
- The gleaning program is preparing for the upcoming season and has recently completed a series of training workshops to train individuals to become supervisors on gleaning trips. They are seeking volunteers (pickers and supervisors), interested members are encouraged to contact [Lori Sainte](#).
- Carolyn reported that the Health Unit's Collective Kitchens and Come Cook With Us (CCWU) programs were very well attended last year and the numbers continue to grow, especially within the County. In 2014, CCWU had over 1,500 participants.

### 6.3 Urban Agriculture/Farming/Local Food

*(PCGN; Farms at Work; Sustainable Peterborough; Farmers Markets; Peterborough Eats; By the Bushel; Seasoned Spoon; Kawartha Choice)*

- The Second Annual World Food Day Dinner hosted by PFAN has been confirmed for Sunday, November 8<sup>th</sup>.

### 6.4 Food Policy

*(PSPC; Municipal Update; Community Social Plan; Healthy Communities/Partners in Wellness)*

- Next week, the Ontario legislature is poised to enact Bill 45, *The Making Healthier Decision Act*. This bill has bundled menu labelling legislation, regulation of e-cigarettes and other changes to the Smoke Free Ontario Act. Several boards of health, as well as a number of other organizations are advocating for an amendment to the Bill to include the disclosure of sodium content in addition to caloric content.
- Peterborough Partners For Wellness is holding an information session at the Sadleir House on May 22 from 1-3 p.m.

## **7.0 Other**

### 7.1 Announcements

Marie shared details regarding a number of local events which are scheduled to take place during National Access Awareness Week, including the Walk for Dog Guides (May 31) which will be held at the Lions Community Centre.

## **8.0 Agenda Items for June 18, 2015**

- Community Meals (Survey/Guidelines)
- Work Plan Items

## **9.0 Meeting Highlights for Email Notice**

- Name Change
- Nourish Peer Advocacy

- BIG Push Campaign
- LETS Market
- Gleaning

## **10.0 Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

### **Parked Items**

- PCFN Co-Chair (Pellizzari)
- Community Food Security Discussion (Kim Dolan, PARN)

### **Future Items**

- Social Assistance Reform/Provincial Advocacy on Food Security

### **Meetings for Remainder of 2015**

*June 18, July 16, August 20, September 17, October 15, November 19, December 17.*

*PCFN meetings take place the third Thursday of every month at All Saints Anglican Church, 235 Rubidge St. in the Parish Hall from 1 – 2:30 p.m. Please submit your agenda items to Alida Tanna ([atanna@pcchu.ca](mailto:atanna@pcchu.ca)) no later than 1 week prior to the meeting for inclusion in the circulated package. Meeting agendas and minutes for the PCFN are posted in the 'Create Change' section of the [Food in Peterborough](#) web site.*

*Any community member or organization is welcome to submit relevant updates which may be shared as part of the 'Round Table' section. The organizations listed below each heading are examples of each theme or grouping, and are not meant to be exclusive. If you cannot attend a meeting to provide your update, please submit them via e-mail to Alida Tanna.*