

Peterborough Food Action Network (PFAN)

MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, September 20, 2018

1:00 to 2:30 p.m.

LOCATION: Heritage Room, The Mount Community Centre, 1545 Monaghan Rd.

Attendees: Willow Denis, Adam McLaughlin, Luisa Magalhaes, Carolyn Doris, Dorothy Boddy, Chris Kawalec, Mary Anne Martin, Jill Bishop, Alida Gorizzan (Recorder), Joëlle Favreau, Dr. Rosana Salvaterra (Chair)

1.0 Welcome and Introductions

1.1 Luisa Magalhaes, Registered Dietitian, Peterborough Public Health

Luisa was introduced as the new Peterborough Public Health (PPH) representative for the network. She will take over for Carolyn Doris who has moved into a Management position at PPH. Dr. Salvaterra welcomed Luisa, and thanked Carolyn for her many years of work and dedication to PFAN.

2.0 Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved as circulated.

3.0 Approval of Minutes – June 21, 2018

The minutes were approved as circulated.

4.0 Business Arising from the Minutes

4.1 MPP Meeting Request Discussion

Members felt it would be important to schedule a meeting with the new MPPs (Smith and Piccini), a meeting with MPP Scott would be important as well, however not as urgent given that she was re-elected and has history/knowledge of food security and income security issues. Carolyn shared the link to the [Fight for \\$15 & Fairness Campaign](#), and Joëlle noted the importance of communicating the need for food-secure jobs.

It was suggested that the meeting could be timed with the release of the Limited Income report. In addition, partners (e.g., Nourish, Kawartha Food Share, etc.) and the Peterborough Poverty Reduction Network's Income Security Group could be approached to be included. **DECISION: Proceed with invitations to MPPs Smith and Piccini. ACTION: Dr. Salvaterra/Luisa will follow up on this item.**

4.2 We're Voting For Food – Municipal Election Resource

Carolyn shared a draft copy of this resource (based on the [provincial version](#) produced earlier this year) to attendees and requested feedback/edits if needed. The final version will be posted to the www.foodinpeterborough.ca site, and Jill offered to distribute copies at the Peterborough Downtown Farmer's Market.

4.3 Food Charter Update

Carolyn advised that efforts to promote endorsement of the [Peterborough Food Charter](#) with municipalities will ramp up after the new Councils are in place. The online sign up portal is working well, since June there have been five new endorsements: United Way Peterborough & District, Nourish Project, EcoParent Magazine, Peterborough Regional Farmers' Network, and the Peterborough Regional Farmers' Market.

Recent presentations include one to the Agricultural Advisory Committee, as well as to the board of Peterborough & the Kawarthas Economic Development. The Joint Services Steering Committee presentation was postponed and will occur in a few months' time.

4.4 Dignity for All Campaign Sign-on

Carolyn reported that this was completed.

4.5 Food Rescue Meeting Update

Approximately thirty people were in attendance at this recent meeting including representatives from Sustainable Peterborough, Nourish and local shelters. The common sentiment amongst attendees was that this should not be a duplication of services that Kawartha Food Share (KFS) already provides. In addition, some groups (e.g., Food For Kids) noted that there is no stipulation of nutrition standards for the food that is diverted which is a concern.

If the initiative were to proceed using the app-based software in Peterborough, it should be limited to smaller meals/food reclaiming rather than larger ones which would be handled by KFS.

A follow up meeting will be scheduled in early October. Carolyn also mentioned that Food Rescue supports 13 food hubs across the province, she will share more information on this with PFAN when it becomes available.

5.0 Work Plan

5.1 Working Group Updates

- System Change

- This working group is looking for members, including someone to take the lead with Carolyn's departure. **ACTION: Interested members were encouraged to contact Carolyn.**
- The group has focused on the upcoming municipal elections. In light of both provincial and municipal elections, Carolyn suggested it would be beneficial to review/update PFAN's 2019-20 work plan. She suggested that working groups could focus on this in October, and a broader discussion could be scheduled at the November 15 PFAN meeting.

- Get Involved (Mary Anne)
 - o The working group met last on July 27 and discussed various events including the Focus on Women Candidates Meeting, as well as the Hungry for Income campaign.
 - o The next meeting is scheduled for October 12 from 10:30 – noon at PPH.

6.0 New Business

6.1 All Candidates Meeting, Oct. 2

Carolyn advised that a food backgrounder was being developed for candidates for this meeting. Candidate meetings in the City are as follows:

- September 25, 7-9pm (Peterborough Public Library); Canadian Federation of University Women Peterborough, Spotlight on Women Candidates
- September 27, 5:30pm (Location to be determined, usually the Lion's Centre); Peterborough and the Kawarthas Association of Realtors (PKAR) Public Debate
- October 2, 6:30 to 8:30pm (Lower Level, Peterborough Square); All Candidates Meeting, Social Issues
- October 4, 6-8pm (The Venue); Mayoral Debate
- October 9, 6pm (Evinrude Centre); Peterborough This Week's Electionfest

6.2 Federal Updates

a. Federal Poverty Strategy

Canada's first poverty reduction strategy initially came out of the Prime Minister's mandate letter to MP Duclos, Minister of Families, Children and Social Development. The report shows measurable targets for poverty reduction which will be embedded in legislation. Specifically, Canada's Official Poverty Line which will be used to measure progress towards two targets:

- by 2020, reducing the poverty rate by 20% from its 2015 level; and
- by 2030, reducing the poverty rate by 50% from its 2015 level.

The Government will also establish a National Advisory Council on Poverty (serving an advisory role, as well as publicly reporting to Parliament and the public on progress) and will introduce a new Poverty Reduction Act in Parliament.

b. Results – Consultations on a National Food Policy for Canada

Carolyn shared this cross-ministerial initiative which is the first of its kind relating to establishing a national food policy. Of the consultations that occurred (only 29 MPs held town halls) Peterborough's event had over 100 individuals in attendance while 6 regional consultation sessions had 350 people, combined.

According to the report, four themes have emerged:

- **Food Security:** Priorities identified for increasing access to affordable, nutritious, and culturally-appropriate food in Canada included, among others:
 - o Recognizing the link between food and cultural identity;
 - o Increasing food security for all people living in Canada;
 - o Addressing food security as an issue based on income security;

- Increasing food security in Indigenous and isolated northern communities; and,
- Supporting local, community-based solutions to food security
- **Health and Food Safety:** Priorities identified for improving the health and maintaining food safety included, among others:
 - Recognizing food as a key determinant of health;
 - Supporting Indigenous and northern health and food safety;
 - Enhancing food literacy and improving food labelling; and
 - Addressing food fraud – the deliberate substitution or misrepresentation of food for economic gain.
- **Environment:** Priorities identified for the environmental sustainability of Canada’s food systems included, among others:
 - Including protecting biodiversity in the environment theme;
 - Protecting agricultural land and animal and fish habitats;
 - Recognizing and monitoring the impacts of climate change and habitat loss on country/traditional foods, particularly in the North;
 - Providing more information and training opportunities for farmers and fishers on sustainable practices;
 - Reducing food loss and waste across the food system; and
 - Continued or increased monitoring on the use of pesticides.
- **Economic Growth:** Priorities identified for future growth of the agriculture and food sectors included, among others:
 - Supporting the Government’s ambitious plan to grow Canada’s agriculture sector in order to meet the target of \$75B in agri-food exports by 2025;
 - Supporting sector growth and prosperity at the local and regional levels;
 - Promoting innovation, to address existing barriers and adapt to changing market conditions and demands;

It was determined that this report should be shared with MP Monsef, with a copy to other MPs and the Prime Minister. **ACTION: Joëlle, Dorothy, Adam and Mary Anne volunteered to assist Luisa with drafting a letter.**

6.3 [Food Too Good To Waste Event, Sept. 27](#)

Luisa shared details of this upcoming event which will be held at PPH on Thursday, September 27 at 7:00 p.m. to explore how wasted food affects the community, economy, and the environment, and to discuss realistic solutions, including composting, waste audits, everyday household waste reduction practices, and sustainable waste management.

Guest speakers include Trevor Barton, Executive Director of the Municipal Waste Association; Laurie Westaway, Lead Waste Reducer from Wasteaway; and, Lily Hamill and Tara Stephen from Peterborough County’s Waste Management Department.

6.4 [Basic Income Network Update](#)

On July 31st the Province announced its intent to cancel the Basic Income Guarantee project. Since that date, Mayors from the affected cities (Thunder Bay, Hamilton and

Lindsay) have advocated to the federal government to take the project over, and a class action lawsuit has been filed against the Province by participants. Public outcry has been swift, as well as international condemnation for the Government's violation of proper research ethics. Dr. Evelyn Forget recently wrote an [open letter](#) on this front. The project is scheduled to end prematurely on March 31, 2019.

Members expressed concern about losing the data that has already been collected, and supported the appeal to the federal government to take over the project. **ACTION: Carolyn and Luisa will draft a letter to MP Monsef, this will be circulated to PFAN members for input.**

6.5 Nourish Hungry For Income Campaign

This campaign will be launched on World Food Day, a community dinner is being planned for October 16th at 5pm at Trinity United Church, details can be found [here](#).

The evening will include the poverty game, and will focus on discussing policies that support income such as basic income and living wage and examining individual and group actions to foster system change. A speaker has also been invited (to be confirmed).

6.6 Tour of Food Centre Facility

Nikki Nelson, Manager of the Mount Food Centre provided a tour of the kitchen facility once the meeting concluded.

7.0 Round Table Themes

7.1 Income Equity/Advocacy

(PPRN; Income Security Work Group; Nutritious Food Basket; Basic Income Guarantee)

- The most recent [Housing is Fundamental Report \(13th edition\)](#) has been released. Food security information can be found on Page 7 of the report.

7.2 Emergency Food/Community Meals/Community Food Hub/Food Programs

(Kawartha Food Share; Faith Community members; Nourish Project; JustFood; Collective Kitchens; Gleaning; City of Peterborough)

- The Salvation Army will be suspending for the time being its Produce Box Program as it focuses on a pilot project involving a canteen vehicle that will service homeless individuals with refreshments and clothing items at locations known to be homeless hotspots.

7.3 Urban Agriculture/Farming/Local Food

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

- The Downtown Farmers' Market closes on October 31st.
- September is Local Food Month in Peterborough.
- The Purple Onion Festival will take place on Sunday, September 23 in Downtown Peterborough.

7.4 Food Policy

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

- Chris Kawalec shared that the Community Wellbeing Plan is still scheduled to be released in the New Year. **ACTION: Chris will ask Nancy Fisher if a draft will be circulated for input, as well as advise PFAN when the plan is scheduled to come forward to City Council.**

8.0 Other

- Chris shared details of the upcoming Senior's Summit which will focus on Dementia. The summit, organized by Age Friendly Peterborough occurs on October 24 & 25, details can be found [here](#).
- Mary Anne provided a bound copy of her PhD dissertation to PFAN titled, "At least I can feel like I've done my job as a mom": *Mothers on low incomes, household food work, and community food initiatives*. The copy will be kept on file in the PPH Library. Congratulations Mary Anne!!!

9.0 Agenda Items for November 15, 2018

- PFAN Planning for 2019

10.0 Meeting Highlights for Email Notice

11.0 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

Future Items

PFAN meetings take place the third Thursday of every other month at Peterborough Public Health, Dr. J. K. Edwards Board Room (3rd Floor), 185 King Street from 1 – 2:30 p.m. Please submit your agenda items to Alida Gorizzan (agorizzan@peterboroughpublichealth.ca) no later than one week prior to the meeting for inclusion in the circulated package. Meeting agendas and minutes for the PFAN 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 Gorizzan.