

Peterborough Food Action Network (PFAN)

MINUTES

Thursday, May 16, 2019

1:00 to 2:30 p.m.

**LOCATION: Dr. J. K. Edwards Board Room, 3rd Floor
Peterborough Public Health, 185 King Street**

Attendees: Lauren Kennedy, Dr. Rosana Salvaterra (Chair), Alida Gorizzan (Recorder), Chris Kawalec, Judy Armstrong, Elisha Rubacha, Erica Richmond, Barb Diceman, Marie Bongard, Joëlle Favreau, Jill Bishop, Lori Sainte, Ruth Schumaker, Katie Caddigan, Dorothy Boddy

1. Welcome and Introductions

2. Approval of Agenda

Approved as circulated.

3. Approval of Minutes

3.1. March 21, 2019

Approved as circulated.

4. Collaboration – Sharing of a Highlight Since the March Meeting in small groups

5. Presentations

6. Business Arising from Previous Meetings

6.1. Sub-Groups and Next Steps

6.1.1. Community Best Practices

- Barb reported that the group met this past Monday.
- The City of Peterborough has recently updated their website, the group noted that it will check to ensure that the food calendar is up to date. There appears to be an opportunity for more consistent updates from local churches to the City regarding community meals. The working group hopes to connect with the listerv so that information can be collected and submitted in a more organized manner.
- Marie commented that the new site requires users to accept 'cookies', this is creating an issue with her accessible computer. Chris offered to assist Marie to resolve this.
- As noted at the previous meeting, the group did explore food initiatives in other communities, particularly in Perth, Guelph and York:
 - o *Perth:* [The Table Community Food Centre](#), Coordinator Ramsey Hart has family ties to Peterborough, and is meeting with Barb on an upcoming visit to Peterborough next week.
 - o *Guelph:* [The Seed](#) is a not-for-profit food project at the Guelph Community Health Centre. This project includes Community Food Markets which promote an equity-based food system by offering food priced on a sliding

scale (subsidized) for customers. Also, a Guelph collaborative (City, County, Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health, etc.) was recently awarded \$10 million from the Smart Cities Challenge Canada-wide competition by Infrastructure Canada to implement Canada's first circular food economy. Alongside community partners, Public Health will be leading projects devoted to increasing access to affordable nutritious foods by 50 percent by 2025. Main projects will include assessing the Guelph-Wellington Food Environment and creating a Food Security and Health Action Plan.

- *York*: The York Region Food Network hosts an annual Winterfresh event, and recently held a [Winterfresh Trivia Dinner Fundraiser](#) which could be replicated in Peterborough.

6.1.2. Federal Election

- This group met at the end of March. They will be looking at the food platform for all candidates, not all of which have been nominated yet (expected by the end of June).
- They envision hosting an event titled 'Eat. Think. Vote.' (from 2015 Food Secure Canada campaign) to engage people in the conversation. Tentatively, it will occur in September at Myrtle's Kitchen.
- It was suggested that PFAN could encourage neighbourhood potlucks as a way for these conversations to occur, and could support them by creating a toolkit and undertaking a social media campaign. PFAN could lead a 'train-the-trainer' event for individuals who wish to plan an event for their neighbourhood, and provide them with tools/materials, etc.

6.1.3. Municipal Engagement

- This group has been exploring water access options for people experiencing homelessness. [Bluewptbo.ca](#) currently lists locations for free water bottle refills, however the majority of access points are inside buildings, which can be an issue in terms of hours and access. Outdoor locations would be ideal, especially in the city centre. City locations including the library and Louis St. Park should be considerations, especially the latter given that construction has not yet begun and installing these lines are quite costly. **ACTION: Chris will confirm who the City contact is for the park development and provide that information to the working group.**
- It was recommended that the working group engage people with lived experience to get a better sense of what would work best for them.

6.1.4. Publicity/Promotions

- The first draft article on PFAN, 'Hungry for Change', was circulated to members. It was suggested that data included in the article should be referenced (Canadian Community Health Survey). The article will be posted on the website and shared broadly.
- A series of articles will follow which will focus on PFAN offshoots (e.g., gleaning).

6.2. Bill 60; Ministry of Community and Social Services Amendment Act (Social Assistance Research Commission), 2018

- Erica, Mary Anne, Lauren and Dr. Salvaterra drafted a letter which was sent in late April to Premier Ford and Ministers Elliott and MacLeod in support of Bill 60. The letter can be viewed [here](#). It was also shared with the two sponsoring MPPs.

6.3. Federal Budget Introduction of a Food Policy for Canada

A letter of support will be developed, it was suggested that the policy highlight other strategies to address food security in addition to food banks (e.g., lack of income).

6.4. Draft Updated Nutrition Suggestions for Community Meals

- As mentioned at the last meeting, this guide was updated in response to the new Canada Food Guide. Feedback was provided at the meeting and will be incorporated into the final version which will be posted on the Food in Peterborough website. It was also recommended that PPH produce laminated versions and circulate them to providers (as was done when these were initially developed). **ACTION: Lauren to follow up.**
- It was suggested that the ethnic and indigenous foods should be addressed, however the purpose of the guideline is primarily nutrition-based. Dr. Salvaterra advised that the Indigenous Health Advisory Circle would be recommending a policy to the Board of Health on Indigenous foods and wild game.

6.5. PFAN Membership Survey – update on mail-out to members (Alida and Lauren)

- PFAN is updating its [membership list](#) for the [Food in Peterborough Website](#), an email was sent out to all members on May 13 requesting a response by May 24 to indicate whether members would like to remain on, or be removed from the distribution list and/or [membership list](#).

7. New Business

7.1. Provincial Budget, and Implications for various sectors, and for food insecurity

- Members discussed how provincial cuts were affecting the various sectors.
- Municipalities will see cuts to social service programs approaching \$1 billion. Cuts are also affecting Ontario Works, assisted devices and addictions programs.
- The Trillium Foundation has been cut \$150 million.
- The Ontario Child Benefit has changed to the non-refundable Low-income Individuals and Families Tax (LIFT) credit (provides up to \$850 in Ontario Personal Income Tax relief to low-income Ontario taxpayers who have employment income, including those earning minimum wage).

7.2. Eat Think Vote Campaign (Katie, Marie, Joëlle)

- This item was addressed earlier, please see item 6.1.2.

7.3. Possible event with Dr. Elaine Power (Joëlle)

- Dr. Power is continuing her research, Nourish has invited her to come to Peterborough to present in the fall.

8. Round Table Themes

8.1. Income Equity/Advocacy

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

- Nourish hosted [Basic Income: The Time Has Come](#), an event on April 3rd which featured a short film 'The Manitoba Story' and panel with Ron Hikel, Joli Scheidler-Benns and Dana Bowman who shared first hand experiences and lessons learned from the Manitoba and Ontario basic income pilot projects.
- The Basic Income Peterborough Network continues its advocacy, focusing on the federal election to keep basic income on the radar of federal candidates.
- A related upcoming event will take place on June 20 in Toronto on precarious work.

8.2. Emergency Food/Community Meals/Community Food Hub/Food Programs

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

- A report will be going to the Joint Services and Steering Committee on June 13 from Social Services staff which will request an extension to the meal program at One Roof for one year. It will include an update on local food security programs, including successes and challenges.
- Lauren noted that she followed up with Kawartha Food Share regarding the outcome of the food rescue initiative that was pursued last year. She confirmed that only one agency was interested in participating, so it wasn't feasible to pursue it any further.
- It was reported that 211 is conducting a survey on food rescue (looking at barriers).
- The City of Peterborough is reopening debate on the backyard hens by-law, it is likely that sites which were grandfathered in under the previous by-law will see that end in 2019. Selwyn is also looking exploring by-laws on backyard hens.

8.3. Urban Agriculture/Farming/Local Food

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

- Jill noted that she recently attended a municipal parks planning meeting hosted by the City. They are re-examining all parks using an equity lens, and was pleased to share that parks in areas with high-density / low income rose to the top and the City will be working towards making better parks within those neighbourhoods.
- Community Gardens are in full swing, with 48 in place and 2 more in progress. The Peterborough Community Gardens Network has also recently connected 60 people who were on the waiting list seeking plots. Peterborough currently has the highest number of community gardens per capita in Ontario.

8.4. Food Policy

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

9. Other

- Many Windows, One Light 2019: Towards a Caring and Welcoming Community – A potluck meal, 'Delicious Diversity', has been planned for Saturday, May 25 from 1 - 4pm at the Picnic Shelter at Nicholls Oval.

10. Decision re: Next Meeting Date

- A July PFAN meeting will be organized (to be determined, not July 18) which will focus solely on planning for the September 'Eat. Think. Vote.' event.
- Working Groups can continue to meet over the summer months.

11. Agenda Items for Next Meeting

12. Meeting Highlights for Email Notice

13. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:23 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.