

Our Food... Our Future!



A Food Charter for the City of Kawartha Lakes

A Food Charter is a community created and community-owned document. Food Charters express key values and priorities for developing just and sustainable food systems. Typically they combine vision statements, principals, and broad action goals pointing towards coordinated municipal food strategy.

A Food Charter is a document that articulates a commitment to a common approach to food security. A Food Charter can act as a guide for policy development on food security.

More simply, a Food Charter is a set of community developed principles that reflect a commitment to local rural economic and social health through the enhancement of the local food system.

Such a commitment can:

- Increase the economic sustainability of farms in the region
- Strengthen rural communities as one part of its economic base (agriculture) is itself strengthened.
- Encourage personal, business, and government food practices that foster local production and protect natural and human resources
- Increase availability and access to nutritious food for all
- Ensure the security of the regional food supply.
- Enhance tourism
- Elevate the image of the City of Kawartha Lakes as a leader in the sustainable development of rural communities

Food Charters have been developed by Durham Region, the Province of Manitoba, City of Sudbury, the City of Toronto, City of Vancouver, and the City of Thunder Bay, among many others.

The following groups are spearheading creation of a local food charter:

HKPR District Health Unit, Victoria Stewardship Council,
City of Kawartha Lakes Economic Development Office, Toward Balance Support Network, Ontario
Ministry of Agriculture Food and Rural Affairs, Kawartha Field Naturalists,
Kawartha Conservation, and individual farmers

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