

Community Food Systems Draft Action Plan Framework

Outcomes	Strategies	Proposed Actions	Actions Occurring in the Community
<p>The organizational structure of the Community Food Systems Steering Committee (CFSSC) evolves to ensure that the Community Food Assessment (CFA) Action Plan is implemented.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a permanent coordinating body mandated to improve community food security in Regina and ensure the long-term and sustainable implementation of the CFA Action Plan. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish working groups of the CFSSC based on the identified focus areas: 1) <i>research</i>, 2) <i>public awareness</i>, 3) <i>education</i>, 4) <i>infrastructure</i>, and 5) <i>policy</i>. Each working group will be represented on the CFSSC and will be responsible for planning and coordinating action items in their area. • Each working group will develop indicators or measures of success in collaboration with the CFSSC. • The CFSSC will report on indicators and measures of success on a yearly basis. • Recruit volunteers to participate on working group and/or specific projects related to the CFA Action Plan. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual open house to demonstrate organizations work and highlight work of the action plan in the last year. • Development and launch of a more permanent coordinating body to improve community food security in Regina. • “permanent body” developed priorities for 2014-15 years.

Community Food Systems Draft Action Plan Framework

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<p>1) Community Food Security is enhanced by comprehensive evidence based <i>research</i>.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop and implement a comprehensive plan to address gaps in local food systems knowledge and support research projects in those areas. 	<p>Form a Research Working Group that will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and prioritize gaps in existing research. • Establish partnerships and identify funding to facilitate research needs. • Identify best practices in other urban centres. • Identify, initiate, and support pilot projects to improve the local food system. 	<p>RQHR, health promotion: GIS mapping on food deserts and swamps</p> <p>Community Research Unit: Help facilitate partnerships between organizations and University of Regina in order to facilitate expansion of knowledge through research.</p>

Community Food Systems Draft Action Plan Framework

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<p>2) Public awareness of local food issues, initiatives, and programs is improved through strategic communication and partnerships.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop and implement a comprehensive plan to increase public awareness of local food issues and resources, and to improve communication between all food system stakeholders. 	<p>Form a Public Awareness Working Group that will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Liaise with all other task groups to ensure the effective promotion of all projects and initiatives related to the CFA Action Plan. Develop and promote an online resource that improves awareness of local food issues; community resources, programs, and events; where/how to access healthy local foods, etc. Support the development of partnerships between food system stakeholders (e.g., producers, commodity groups, supply chains, consumers, etc). Promote increased individual and organizational knowledge of available emergency food services. Initiate a one-month campaign to promote the <i>Donation of Food Act</i> and increase food recovery in Regina. Encourage the development of community gardens as a centre of civic life by supporting initiatives such as festivals, concerts, art programs, community meals, etc. Initiate and support the development of food festivals. Support initiatives to enhance local food marketing. Explore models that increase business access to local foods (e.g., database, producers' cooperative, etc). 	<p>CFSSC will lead:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Well define public key messages and communication strategy. Develop the reginafood.ca website to be a main source for what is going on around the city re: access to local foods, emergency food programming, food skills programming (enhance the linkages with other organizations through this website) Establish credibility within the community for CFSSC as the go to for information on local programming. Promote existing databases advertising local food and current food programming within the city. Continue to use social media. <p>Community Research Unit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In partnership will link student volunteers to be involved in a campaign promoting the donation of food act. <p>Regina Public Interest Research Group:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hosts events at the University of Regina raising awareness of food issues i.e. fair trade week, Green patch, edible campus discussions <p>REACH:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supports a bulk purchasing co-op to non-profits to assist in accessing cheaper quality healthy foods for their

Community Food Systems Draft Action Plan Framework

			<p>organizations.</p> <p>Regina Food Bank will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- continue to support other charitable meal programs through the distribution of bulk food donations. <p>RQHR health promotion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">-Facebook posts raising awareness of healthy eating, programs, food systems, and food choices. <p>Food Events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Seedy Saturday
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Outcomes

Strategies

Proposed Actions

Actions

Community Food Systems Draft Action Plan Framework

<p>3) Food systems knowledge and skills are enhanced for all community residents through a variety of learning opportunities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop and implement a comprehensive plan to support relevant food systems education and skills development for all people. 	<p>Form an Education Working Group that will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support and promote education and skills development (e.g., indigenous food practices, preserving, gardening, cooking, waste control, healthy eating, composting, label reading, etc.) for all demographics. • Develop food systems programming for children in partnership with schools and other local organizations. • Work with the Ministry of Education to integrate food systems information and skills into school curricula. • Support stakeholder organizations to expand educational components of programs and services. • Promote the teaching and sharing of traditional indigenous knowledge • Support and promote food skills education and programs for newcomers • Support and expand new and existing urban agriculture projects that provide education, skills development, and social development. • Promote the exploration of learning opportunities through pilot projects, hands on experiences and demonstrations. • Work with commercial cooking training programs (e.g. SIAST) to increase knowledge about food production and waste recovery. • Work with food retailers to address the challenges facing consumers (e.g., confusion about food pricing, etc.) 	<p>RQHR health promotion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Food Mentoring Program which builds capacity in agency staff and volunteers to deliver consistent nutrition messaging within their organizations. - Work with Ministry of Education & other health regions to develop supporting health curriculum documents for SK schools. - Work with Ministry of Health & health regions to develop provincial infant and child feeding standards for child health clinics. - Working with partners to develop a local foods school fundraiser. <p>RQHR, REACH, Regina Food Bank, RODS, Regina Community Clinic will partner to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - support nutrition for newcomers. <p>REACH will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - continue to offer community kitchens support and training within the community. - Continue to work with schools and other organizations to improve cooking skills for children and other populations. <p>Regina Food Bank will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Implement new Nutritional Leadership Cooking Program through ACERT and other food preparation knowledge and skill development programming through Nutrition in the Kitchen programs.
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Community Food Systems Draft Action Plan Framework

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<p>4) Local infrastructure is expanded to support community food security.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop and implement a plan focused on improving and expanding local food infrastructure. 	<p>Form an Infrastructure Working Group that will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with Regina Farmers’ Market to identify opportunities to expand the existing market (e.g., year round market, expansion to other areas of the city, retail market store, etc). Explore opportunities to improve access to locally produced food for individuals, organizations and institutions (e.g., Community Supported Agriculture, wholesale market for local chefs and institutions, etc). Explore and facilitate ways to improve transportation options to access food, particularly local and healthy food options (e.g., transit, park and ride, shuttles, volunteers, etc). Facilitate the development of permanent community, school, and other public garden spaces, especially in food insecure neighbourhoods. Support the development of composting programs at residential, business, institutional, and municipal levels. Initiate and support new and existing initiatives to enhance infrastructure (e.g., community food storage facilities such as root cellars, locker plant for local farmers who supply Regina residents with food through the winter and spring, indoor gardens and greenhouses, etc). Support the development of a traditional foods processing plant to improve access to traditional foods. 	<p>CFSSC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Help facilitate communication to improve access to local foods. <p>Farmer’s Market:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> New location on Hamilton Street Thursday markets at University of Regina <p>Regina Food Bank:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rental of warehouse and compound space to other local food system stakeholders. <p>Other initiatives within Regina:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Team looking to expand the existing Farmer’s Market and find a year round location. Organizations looking at improving access to locally produced foods. i.e. Local & Fresh, Farmer’s Table, other CSA’s, SCIC local food app, 211 food security database

Community Food Systems Draft Action Plan Framework

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<p>5) Organizational, municipal, provincial, and federal policy is improved to support Regina’s community food security.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthen policies at the municipal, provincial and federal levels to support a sustainable local food system. Strengthen policies of local agencies (government and community organizations) to use healthy, local foods when possible in programs. 	<p>Form a local Working Group that will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advocate for policy changes at the municipal, provincial and federal level. <p>Municipal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review City of Regina bylaws specific to urban agriculture, food access and permanent land use and recommend changes as needed. Advocate for additional permanent space to be allotted for urban agriculture. Advocate for the development of local food policies that provide incentives to food suppliers that make available locally grown food (e.g., carbon tax, parking tax, square foot tax, etc). Advocate for policy changes that encourage the use of healthy, local food by local government agencies and community organizations. Advocate for policy changes that increase healthy, local, and diverse food options in food deserts (e.g., tax incentives). <p>Provincial:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advocate for improved economic situation for low income families (e.g., higher minimum wage, “Living Wage”, higher social assistance rates, affordable housing, etc.) <p>Federal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advocate for regulations on genetically modified (GM) foods (e.g., GM food bans, transparency in food labelling, etc.) 	<p>RQHR health promotion is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reviewing all development applications, as part of a health region team, made to city of Regina through a health lens including access to food, preservation of agricultural lands and opportunities to grow food. Participating in national consultations for food labeling regulations. <p>REACH:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Works to improve neighbourhood access of healthy foods through R mobile stores, good food baskets/family baskets and convenience meals in neighbourhoods and communities i.e. senior’s housing where access to healthy food is a challenge.

Community Food Systems Draft Action Plan Framework

		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Advocate for policies that provide incentives and/or subsidies to support local food production (e.g., Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) training.	
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