

Public input wanted ? Headwaters Food Charter stakeholder consultations start in Caledon

The public is invited to participate in the Headwaters Food and Farming Alliance (HFFA) Food Charter consultations.

A Food Charter will define a common vision for a healthy, fair, prosperous and sustainable food system in the Headwaters region. It will include value statements and action steps intended to guide communities, community organizations and all stakeholders toward a unified vision and plan.

HFFA has held several consultations in the last two years and one repeated message was that there is a need to develop a formal charter that is owned, valued and recognized by the community. Once the charter is finalized, HFFA will be taking it to municipal councils for endorsement, making it a public document for future decision-making and possible funding.

For the consultations, HFFA needs individuals who represent any of the following sectors ? health and wellbeing, social services and food access, economic development, environmental responsibility, food production, or culture. Individuals from these sectors are asked to share their perspectives and provide valuable insight into what the food charter should include and what strategic actions need to take place for the Headwaters Food System to thrive.

The first of four community partner consultations will be March 2, from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. at Caledon Town Hall in Caledon East. Due to the importance of these events, HFFA has hired a professional consultant to lead the session and a meal will be served for participants.

The second consultation will be March 8, from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. at WDG Public Health Orangeville Office, 180 Broadway, Orangeville.

The third will be April 20 from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. at WDG Public Health Orangeville Office, 180 Broadway, Orangeville

The fourth will be April 27 from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Shelburne Public Library, 201 Owen Sound St., Shelburne.

For more information, contact Ishan Angra of HFFA at 1-800-265-7293, ext. 4207 or at ishan.angra@wdgpublichealth.ca