
ONTARIO FOOD AND NUTRITION STRATEGY

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Consultation Report

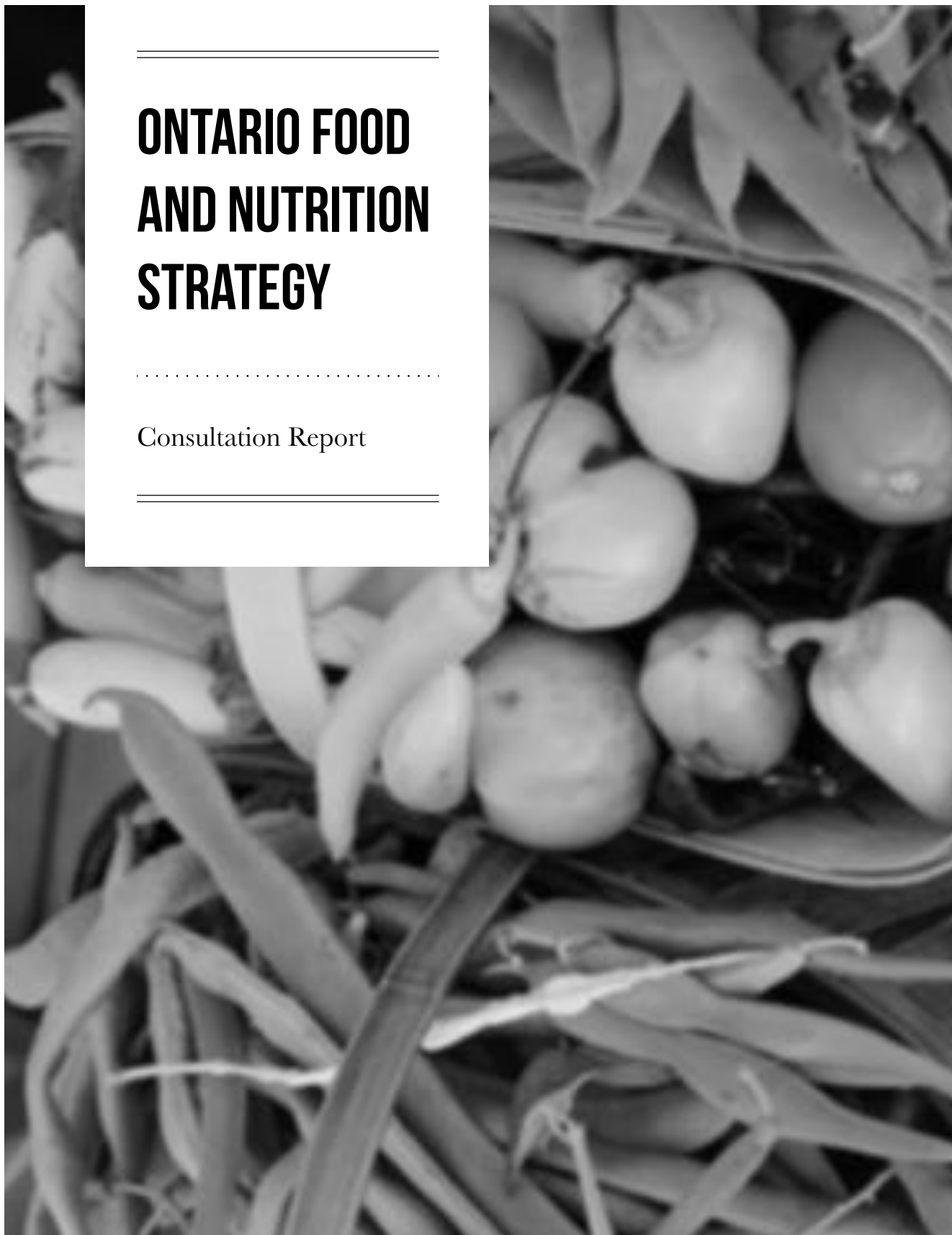


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Introduction

The Ontario Food and Nutrition Strategy will be a coordinated, cross-ministerial approach to food policies and programming with tremendous potential to make sure that Ontario's future is one of healthy people, a strong economy, resilient ecological systems, well educated kids and much more.

The goal of this consultation was to gather more ideas to include, to get a sense of what areas are commonly shared priorities, to get a sense of what is not widely supported, and to gather evidence and stories in support of the recommendations.

The Consultation Process

In 2011 an Ontario Food and Nutrition Strategy Design Team was created to write a draft strategy and carry out the consultation process with relevant stakeholders. A draft strategy was posted online for consultation from April to May 2012 and a stakeholders' discussion forum was held on June 18th, including 40 representatives of government, food, agriculture, education and health sectors. There were 233 participants and 126 submissions for the online survey (figure 1). Additionally 24 agricultural committees/councils, local food policy councils have been consulted to date. Each of the organizations involved in the Ontario Food and Nutrition Strategy has provided input on this Draft Ontario Food and Nutrition strategy.

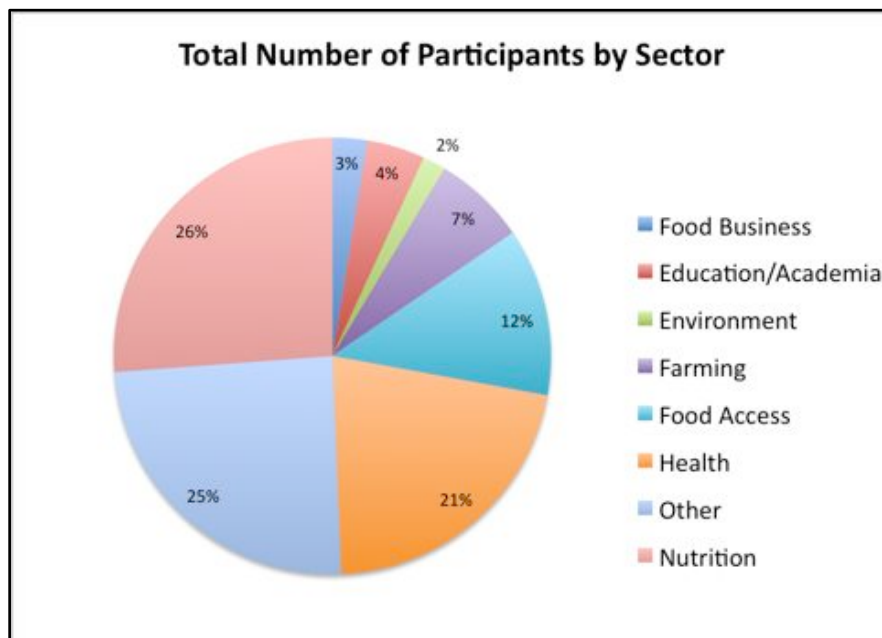


Figure 1 Breakdown of consultation respondents by sector.

Feedback for the consultation was received from participants from all over Ontario. Figure 2 illustrates the geographical spread of participants.



Figure 2 The geographical spread of respondents

The Consultation Report

This report is an accumulation of all of the feedback and suggestion that were contributed by participants in the consultation. Feedback was given on the visions, missions, and goals of the strategy, on each component of the strategy as well as feedback for the strategy as a whole. Respondents also provided extensive supporting resources, which have been accumulated in the annotated bibliography of this report. The appendices include the draft of the Strategy as well as the original feedback forms used in the consultation.

There were suggestions for substantive changes in content including the additions of measurable targets and timelines for the implementation of actions. Much of the feedback concerned wording changes; the specific suggestion can be viewed in the section-by-section summary below. Participants also suggested that the following terms should be defined:

- Food access
- Local and regional food
- Vulnerable populations
- Walk-able access
- Healthy and/or nutritious food
- Ecological farming
- Sustainable fisheries
- Sustainability
- Safe seafood
- Wild and/or natural land/food

Acknowledgments

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The Ontario Food and Nutrition Strategy Design Team has designed implemented, and guided the consultation process and wrote the Draft Ontario Food and Nutrition Strategy. The Design Team includes the following individuals and organizations:

Lauren Baker	Toronto Food Policy Council
Hillary Connolly	Centre for Addiction and Mental Health
Neil Currie	Ontario Federation of Agriculture
Ellen Desjardins	Wilfred Laurier
Joanne DiNardo	Canadian Cancer Society
Carol Dombrow	Heart and Stroke Foundation
Rhona Hanning	University of Waterloo
Rod MacRae	York University
Catherine Mah	University of Toronto/CAMH
Heather Manson	Public Health Ontario
Ralph Martin	University of Guelph
Theresa McClenaghan	Canadian Environmental Law Association
Ravenna Nuaimy-Barker	Sustain Ontario
Mary O'Brien	Public Health Ontario
Lynn Roblin	Dietitians of Canada
Floretina Stancu-Soare	Canadian Cancer Society
Cindy Scythes	
Ann Slater	National Farmers Union
Rebecca Truscott	Cancer Care Ontario
Ellen Vogel	University of Ontario Institute of Technology
Jessica Wegener	formerly University of Guelph
Leslie Whittington Carter	Dietitians of Canada
Sharon Zeiler	Canadian Diabetes Association

Visions, Goals, and Outcomes Feedback

Visions

A: An Ontario that supports health and wellbeing through a productive and sustainable food system*.

Strongly Prefer	25
Somewhat Prefer	18
Somewhat Oppose	5
Strongly Oppose	4
I Don't Know	1
Blank	12
Total Responses	64

B: Healthy Ontarians, a sustainable food system* and a prosperous and equitable economy.

Strongly Prefer	8
Somewhat Prefer	7
Somewhat Oppose	25
Strongly Oppose	1
I Don't Know	1
Blank	15
Total Responses	60

C: A productive and sustainable food system** that supports the health and wellbeing of Ontarians.

Strongly Prefer	29
Somewhat Prefer	18

Somewhat Oppose	6
Strongly Oppose	3
I Don't Know	0
Blank	6
Total Responses	65

Must Include

- Supports health and well being of Ontarians.
- Include self-reliant food systems.
- Words that I feel must be included are: health, Ontario, productive and sustainable food system.
- Health of people is included in all of the above suggestions -and it should be. However the word sustainable troubles me - it is a word we seem to use when we want to dump a lot of contradictory ideas into a bucket, and it has become meaningless.
- Proposed: “a deliberate system (means that it’s planned and thought through) that supports healthy people and a healthy economy without leaving a negatively impacting natural resources” - a “100 year” diet, not just a “100 mile” perspective.
- The foundation for healthy food and farming is a productive and sustainable food system.
- There needs to be a strong emphasis on the connection between food availability, access, production and business/agriculture and the health and well being of Ontarians.
- The word “realistic” production.
- Focus on a food systems that in turn will support people's health.
- The vision needs to reflect the integration of social, economic and environmental (both the physical and built environment) issues in fostering a Healthy Ontario. This vision is framed in the Healthy Cities/Communities Model developed by the World Health Organization, and supports a commitment to corporate social responsibility - different levels of government, non-profit and for-profit organizations, citizens being the "corporate" entity that values the three P's: People, Planet and Profit.
- With this vision, health is seen to be influenced by social, economic and environmental conditions. An inclusive community, a quality environment and a strong economy create an equitable, sustainable food system, which is a healthy food system.
- An equitable economy is an important piece and for ALL Ontarians
- We prefer option A with the additional words, “and a prosperous economy through...”
- Vision statement C was chosen by our group because there was consensus that the phrasing of the vision should emphasize that the end result we are looking for is

to improve the health and well being of Ontarians and to do this through a well functioning productive and sustainable food system. We want to ensure that health, not economics, is the driving force behind the policies that define our food system and hence food strategy.

- Inclusive of all Ontarians; focus on food and nutrition.
- Equity, support health and well being, sustainable food system, economic viability.
- The concept of health as the priority; sustainability and ability to feed Ontarians
- Consider including wording regarding nutrition needs throughout the lifecycle. Consider wording regarding access to and affordability of food.
- The concept of healthy, nutritious food for Ontarians in order for them to attain optimal health and nutritional status.
- Must include “equitable”; equity is important but does not work in number 2 with the word “prosperous”; sustainable may mean different things to different people. All three proposed visions are not our preference.
- The role of government in a sustainable food system. Reference to economy.
- The word “accessible” - does Ontario mean catch all? Ensure that everyone is accounted for. The relationship between the health of the food system and the health of the people. How is food making people healthier? Diverse ecology. Mimicking natural ecosystems. What does health mean? Health and wellbeing of what?
- Human health, economic health and environmental health all need to be a part of health.
- Health and wellbeing; food system; social justice
- I found the Mission - Vision - Values - Goals and Expected Outcomes confusing. Your Nov 29 OFNS slide #10 is much more to the point.
- Key words: Sustainable food and nutrition system; include the word nutrition in the vision because it is an Ontario Food and Nutrition Strategy - this would speak to expected outcomes 2 and 3; prosperous instead of productive. Supports the health and wellbeing of Ontarians.
- Our preference is for vision #3 but feel that this is missing “prosperous and equitable economy”. We feel that it is important to highlight the triple bottom line and encourage cross-ministerial collaboration.
- Values: Communities that support local or regional food and agriculture businesses that contribute to social and economic prosperity (especially in the Northern context).
- The fact that it is not how food is produced but that food in Ontario must contain the nutrition our bodies need so that we don't become obese and so dependent on supplements and drugs. Young families that I recently surveyed have no idea that they are feeding obesity-inducing food to their children, food that will eventually get them dependent on the pharmaceutical industry.
- Health but also economy and agriculture to ensure that all groups support the strategy.
- Health and sustainable.
- Prefer option C with the wording “a sustainable food system that supports the health and wellbeing of Ontarians in an equitable economy”.

- Option C is our preferred choice with these changes in wording suggested: A sustainable food system** that supports the health and wellbeing of Ontarians in an equitable economy.
- Access to healthy food is a right and not a privilege.
- A “sustainable food system”.
- I think the ‘sustainable food system’ should be the subject and focus of the sentence. Health and wellbeing is too broad. The first impact of the statement should be about food.
- Health and a sustainable food system.
- A reference to a strong economy must be there. The vision cannot be accomplished without prosperity. A sustainable system is profitable.
- Sustainable, health, wellbeing; environment.
- Suggestions:
 - Not sure about the many interpretations that may come from the words “a prosperous and equitable economy”.
 - As per B above, healthy Ontarians, sustainable food system, and equitable economy. “Prosperous” should be removed unless it is specified “prosperous for all”.
- There are a great number of other mechanisms and means to support the health and well being of Ontarians, but as this document focuses on the role of food, Option C should be the foundation.
- I think that either 1 or 3 would be improved by inserting the word “equitable”. Although 2 includes it, the reference to the economy is too vague and not causally linked to anything. Without relating it specifically to the food and agriculture economy, it sounds too broad.
- Please edit the asterisk footnotes, they are referenced under Values but should be under Vision for clarity.
- Durable, productive and sustainable (economically) food system discussed, not in terms of health and wellbeing.
- Consider using the words “productive” and “equitable” and “all”.
- Concerned about use of the word “sustainable”.
- Access to food for all.
- Each of these values is vital to the creation and sustainability of healthy Ontarians
- Emphasizing “the health and well-being of ALL Ontarians”.
- Use of food supply instead of system.
- Add “equitable” to the vision: An equitable, productive and sustainable food system that supports the health and wellbeing of Ontarians.
- In line 1 of values change from land, soil, water and forests to “ecosystems”.
- Need to define what “prosperous” and “equitable economy” mean, if you use those terms.
- Ensure definition for sustainable is included and is comprehensive.
- Add “equitable” and “all”: “A productive, equitable and sustainable food system that supports the health and wellbeing of all Ontarians”.
- An Ontario that supports health, equity and wellbeing through a environmentally-sound and socially just food system.

- More definition of terms. More length, why do we have such a short vision? Let's make this a little longer. Ensure inclusivity! Are you including all of Ontarians?
- The asterisk footnotes need to be edited - ** is used after Vision words, but referenced under Values. - Also ** is used after statement 1 of Actions/Strategies, but not referenced to anything.
- Sustainable, productive, and integrated local food systems that support the health, wellbeing, and social and cultural fabric of Ontario.
- "A productive, sustainable food system that supports the health and wellbeing of Ontarians and a prosperous and equitable economy". This vision incorporates triple bottom line.
- Who is Ontario in the first vision statement? Are we talking about government or citizens or geography or all three?
- An Ontario that supports education about wholesome food, health and wellbeing through a productive and sustainable food system.
- A productive and sustainable food system that supports the health and wellbeing of ALL Ontarians regardless of economic status.
- Perhaps adding 'just' to productive and sustainable in the third vision.
- The reason that I somewhat oppose #2 is that I don't know that a "prosperous" economy will result immediately from taking measures to improve the food system (and it definitely won't be seen as promoting a "prosperous" economy by Big Food). I do like the equitable part.
- Leave out "prosperous" - too murky of a word; definition may vary.
- In consideration of nature and the environment, which affect the health and wellbeing of all of us.
- In the Vision Statement we chose Option A: An Ontario that supports health and wellbeing through a productive and sustainable food system.
- What is the definition of sustainable? A definition of sustainable agriculture used by ecological farmers, and based on the work of John Ikerd, describes sustainability as 'meeting the needs of the present without diminishing opportunities for the future'. Other agricultural organizations suggest sustainability is market driven and is about meeting future demands by doing more the same, i.e. farmers producing more on existing land by purchasing crop protection products (pesticides).
- I would like to see an additional value that articulates the idea that food is a right.
- Yes, the mission and vision statements are how we should be, but how can this be done? Is not some of what is suggested not already being done is this strategy re-inventing the wheel? A strategy is a method to accomplish some goal. As the mission states; to promote and support healthy eating and access; to improve health care and reduce health care costs and to strengthen our economy. Great! Sounds wonderful! Let's do it! My question remains: what is the strategy?
- Vision: Vision one is more of a top-down approach for the strategy. The Ontario government is a partner in the process, not the leader. A system such as this must come from the grassroots and much of this consultation is coming from grassroots organizations.
- First Nation Peoples if not referred to in the Mission should be mentioned in the Vision. This segment of the population, while they are First Nation peoples,

reside in Ontario and should be included separate from the federal and provincial designations. They are among the most vulnerable segment of population of Ontario for malnourishment, access to clean drinking water, high rate of diabetes and so on.

- Vision: While this is a Food Strategy, perhaps there could be an element on physical activity or food in relation to physical outputs.
- We would like to see the values as a visual (making the connection between community and the environment).

Rationale

- Option A identifies clear ownership of the issue (Ontario, i.e. the government's responsibility to its citizens).
- Option B: the mention of a prosperous and equitable economy is likely outside of a Food & Nutrition.
- Option A is most preferable because of the focus on health and wellbeing. However, Option C is also acceptable as it implies the importance of the role of the food system.
- We prefer vision C, with the following modification: “productive, equitable and sustainable food system** that supports the health and wellbeing of Ontarians”
- Focus on healthier choices more often with easier access to good foods.
- Overall, C is more appropriate (with changes) because we are trying to support a productive and sustainable food system in order to improve health.
- This is more appropriate as this strategy is focused on food/our food system.
- The word *supports* has a more passive connotation; change to *promotes*.
- Add An Ontario that supports health, wellbeing and prosperity through a productive and sustainable food system. **
- Add ** definition to vision section. Add food service sector to definition. Should food education be included in the definition?
- I like all the concepts, all are needed to get us in touch with this huge issue
- Option C: A productive and sustainable food system** that supports the health and wellbeing of Ontarians.
- Option B fits our organization's purpose better because having the term 'economy' includes food producers as needing to make a living from their hard work.
- Option A is preferred but with the following wording: A prosperous Ontario that supports health and wellbeing through a productive equitable and sustainable food system and economy. Would like to see the community building aspect of food represented somewhere in this first section. Families involved with teaching, encouraging, being a role model for their children with respect to cooking together, sharing meals together, having a garden/potted vegetables and caring for it together, grocery shopping together and being active as a family. The support from the school system would include teaching on nutrition and foods, hands-on cooking, availability in the classrooms, cafeterias, fundraising, etc. The community centers should make healthy foods available; buying apples at a local hockey game should be easy and accessible. The supermarkets should keep locally grown produce priced well and in larger volumes. Pick your own at local

- farmer: let the consumer know where the farms are, how to get there (or provide a special bus on Saturdays to hop around), etc.
- Vision C, but seeing as this will be a politically driven, I guess you need to use A or B.
 - A and C - both seem to have more of a focus on health with less clear relationship to economy, while B seems to have more economy.
 - I would prefer B as it would appeal to more groups including business and agriculture rather than just health related groups.
 - I prefer Option B; placing "Healthy Ontarians" first will be relevant to everyone, whether their background is in food, nutrition, or neither. We all want people to be healthy.
 - One that mentions sustainability, diversity, and the environment - as well as food.
 - Getting a handle on obesity especially with children is a preference for me.
 - I have to hold my nose and select B. It is awkwardly worded but it is the only vision that includes economic prosperity. The definition of sustainable must include sustaining each step in the food value chain. Tax dollars are required to accomplish many of the tasks in the strategy. Tax dollars are only available for new initiatives when the economy is strong. Protecting the environment is only accomplished by societies that have strong economies. The restructuring and investment that is required to move agriculture towards sustainability can only be accomplished by profitable enterprises.
 - Food education and food access are vital in terms of reaching mission/vision of the strategy. Must be able to make every citizen aware and educated about proper nutrition, food pricing, food preparation, alternative food methods i.e. home grown, etc., teaching healthful and nutritionally dense (macronutrient balance) recipes, etc., as well as food use (World Health Organization under Food Security definition) i.e. Food-waste composting, growing corn for consumption and not ethanol, mono-cropping (cash-crop) as opposed to permaculture (way of life).

Studies/Links/Websites:

- There is a significant amount of peer reviewed academic literature that outlines in detail the environmental and social problems of our current system. I think people often think about the social economic aspects and overlook the ecological and environmental impacts - I don't think I need to elaborate here - water and soil degradation, air quality problems, loss of biodiversity, loss of top soil, etc. Recent article by Tony Weis attached - but so much more is available.
- Food and Farming: An Action Plan 2021 (Golden Horseshoe ag and agricfood strategy).
- The type of policy development process matters. The Actions/Strategies seem to hint at a number of policy-program areas of intervention. What is not clear is how different stakeholders will share in the design and in the implementation.
- The attached booklet proposes three approaches to engagement in policy making, the third one seems to be the one you are advocating for, but you fail to signal how your proposed approach contrasts with the dominant "consultation" one. I find Lenihan's framework useful in explaining this.
- www.gwfirt.com

- Weston Price, Pottenger cat studies, Jerry Brunetti, Acres USA, (Joel Salatin), Michael Pollen, etc.
- I have done the "do the math" exercise and discovered that it is impossible to eat healthy on any form of social assistance. We espouse health yet discriminate against our most vulnerable.
- *Definition of a Food System:* A food system includes wild and cultivated food production and procurement, food processing, food distribution, food access, food consumption, food education and waste management.

General Feedback on Visions

- The term 'system' also refers to all the inter-relations and micro-politics between stakeholders. A system is a set of inter-relationships between parts.
- Add food trade as Ontario produces more food than it needs in some areas and this food can be exported and contribute to the Ontario economy. Also, many foods (e.g. sugar cane) cannot be produced locally but are processed locally and contribute an essential ingredient in many healthful foods.
- Please clarify if "includes wild and cultivated food production and procurement" is to be included.
- Appreciate the inclusion of food education. Production tends to be associated with manufacturing/factories vs. farming, not sure if the term will relate to farmers/small producers? Do food preparation/skills fit?
- In the definition of a Food System, we would recommend you change the words *waste management* to *waste reduction*.
- Proposed Changes: "A food system includes food production, food processing and manufacturing, food distribution and transportation, food access, food preparation and consumption, food skills and food literacy, food retail/marketing/purchasing and waste management". Also, the definition needs to include a definition for "sustainable" (increased consumption of healthy food; increased biodiversity; reduced dependency on imported food, etc.).
- Not sure food education completely fits within the definition.
- Preserving of natural resources or without harming the environment or produce food at the expense of the environment.
- We have reworded: "A food system deliberately includes an integration of food production, procurement, processing, distribution, access, consumption, education and waste management".
- Add *food service sector*, and *remove food education*.
- Address food system as "healthy food system". Define "healthy" to include: land sustainability, economic viability, productive based on good farm management, community food security.
- Include wording regarding preservation and stewardship of farmland (e.g. green strategies).
- Don't think that "education" needs to be spelled out; it is embedded in all the aspects of food consumption.
- Add to definition of food system "accessible information about food".

- We envision a food system** in the Headwaters that is productive, sustainable, transparent, and fair; supports the health and wellbeing of our residents and food providers; and contributes to a prosperous and equitable economy.
- Rather than “food education”, use “nutrition education”, which better reflects health issues. Health is missing in this definition.
- Should include food marketing, as this is a huge part of our system here in Ontario.
- In the values section it is important that the language suggests that the government of Ontario has a responsibility to cultivate a thriving food system.
- Distinguish between the system, which includes production, processing, distribution, access, consumption and waste management, which is then supported by a robust system of education and policy. Be sure to include packaging in the system too.
- Why is this definition different from the Strategy? What happened to “includes wild and cultivated food production and procurement?”
- Food and *nutrition* education.
- The definition of sustainable that I favour is “a system that provides for the needs of the present without diminishing humanity's ability to meet its needs in the future”. There are two important nuances in that definition. First you cannot have “sustainable food” - you can only have a sustainable food system. Second, the system is focused on meeting needs not desires.
- Add language around linkages, interaction between those listed above. Considerations: food safety, notions of scale, rural versus urban.
- The definition in your document is better: “A food system includes wild and cultivated food production and procurement, food processing, food distribution, food access, food consumption, food education and waste management”. Food production on its own does not make me think of the agricultural aspect of food production. Waste management should be changed to ‘managing food waste’. Otherwise I am thinking about those big green trucks hauling away Toronto's garbage!
- We are in the process of doing a food system assessment in Chatham-Kent, with the term waste management. There was a lot of discussion that this can be viewed as only garbage rather than also including food excess in fields and home. We moved to the term food excess and waste management to encompass both of these thoughts.
- Add marketing of local, healthy food.
- A food system that includes all aspects of food handling and management. This encompasses food production, processing, distribution, access, consumption and waste management as well as food education for all.
- “Waste” is an anathema in a sustainable system. To achieve true sustainability, all “waste” needs to be viewed as a resource. All the nutrients contained in all forms of “waste” must be returned to food production. We cannot continue with a system that transports nutrients from mines to fields, to homes, to toilets, to sewage treatment plants to landfills or waterways.
- In the definition of a Food System, we would recommend you change the words *waste management* to *waste reduction*.

- In definition of food systems, include forests and water.
- The food system is well defined (and includes all key components), however the main focus of the draft strategy appears to be on the health and consumer-related areas of the food system (i.e. those related to food access and consumption).
- The food system components related to food production, procurement and processing should be further highlighted and considered if agriculture and farming are key aspects to this strategy (as noted above, relevant stakeholders related to these areas should also be directly engaged).
- There is waste at every step of the process and we want our system/vision to address that.
- Food and nutrition education go hand in hand.
- Many individuals do not understand the language used in this area (food system, access, consumption). Education on the issue is paramount.
- Should it include anything about the interaction of consumers, retailers, farmers, processors, distributors etc.? This links to the influences of food choice; theoretical models exist.

Goals

1. To promote health through healthy eating and access to healthful food for all Ontarians.

Must Keep	30
Keep	1
Keep with Changes	10
Remove	1
I Don't Know	1
Blank	11
Total Responses	54

Rationale

- I understand the differences between 1 and 2, however I feel the actions to accomplish 1 and 2 will have a lot of overlap unless there are more distinct differences between them. Perhaps goal 1 should have a greater focus on food access.
- The goal of a food system is not just about access to healthy food - it is also about celebrating the fullness of a food system - the relationships, the joys; this goal diminishes food too much.
- The term "access" refers to access to healthful food is not likely common to all professions/sectors, so it must be defined.

- To support health through promotion of healthy eating and improved access to nutritious food for all Ontarians.
- Not measurable, it is too vague. Again, if we don't educate young mothers (sorry women are the natural caregivers) on what is in the cans and boxes of food they are putting in front of their children, there won't be any change. Rural areas seem to be in desperate need of help. I am in a farming community of large farms (Huron), and I don't see any edible food anywhere, except in my own garden and on Mennonite farms.
- Important that we promote a food secure Ontario.
- Healthy eating is key to health promotion, as is access to those foods.
- Acknowledge health throughout life cycle, acknowledge different needs of various groups/ages.
- Keep it. Word health is used a lot. Understand why, but it's redundant.

Wording

- Cut to the chase - to promote healthy eating and improve access to healthful food for all Ontarians.
- Access should be defined to include affordable, available, and appropriate, etc.
- To promote health through healthy eating and access to safe, healthy, nutritious, culturally appropriate food for all Ontarians.
- Do not use the term healthful, use healthy.
- To promote health and wellbeing, and reduce the burden of chronic disease and obesity through healthy eating and access to healthful food for all Ontarians.
- The word "affordable" should be inserted.
- I don't know that you necessarily want to say "relative access" because people might not know what it means, but I don't think it's just about providing increased access to healthful foods. There also may be some promise in restricting access to unhealthy foods - and this has been done in many schools. I realize that restricting access for adults will not be politically feasible currently, but if you had something in there about "relative access" (relatively higher access to healthy food would include strategies that would decrease access to unhealthy food), I think that would be more accurate.
- Recommend removing "promote health through..." because that is implicit and is already covered in the vision; therefore would read "To promote healthy eating and food access for all Ontarians."
- Word "health" is repeated too many times. Unsure of term "healthful", could use "nutritious" instead? We use this term elsewhere, e.g. Nutritious Food Basket.

2. To reduce the burden of obesity and chronic disease on Ontarians and the Ontario health care system

Must Keep	20
Keep	12
Keep with Changes	12

Remove	5
I Don't Know	3
Blank	3
Total Responses	55

Rationale

- Important, but very long term. Are there other, more immediate goals that can be accomplished sooner, therefore building momentum for the long haul of reducing obesity and chronic disease?
- We need to implement a comprehensive approach to reduce obesity and chronic disease in Ontarians.
- Obesity and chronic disease correspond to choices made by the person, so it is challenging to make the link as directly as it is stated.
- Potentially remove because there are other risk factors for obesity and chronic disease, beyond just food and nutrition. The "burden" of obesity is complex and encompasses various factors (e.g., social, economic). The strategy should focus on health, not weight and is too broad of a strategy to appropriately measure its impact on overweight/obesity.
- Including obesity may be politically savvy but focus may be perceived as not appropriate for a food and nutrition strategy. It may be an indirect connection to the strategy.
- Healthy eating and sustainable agriculture have health overall health benefits that relate to many things and we question why 'obesity' is suggested as a priority over other things. I suggest that obesity be removed and that the focus be to reduce the burden of chronic disease.
- Targeting obesity as the main health issue will continue to increase societal weight bias and stigma because it suggests a blame and shame based individualized cause of obesity. We need to address the environment we live in today to decrease chronic diseases as a whole.
- All Ontarians can be encouraged to make healthier choices, regardless of their weight. Having access to food produced in a healthy food system will mean better choices and real food available in Ontario. We need healthy food choices to be the easy choice.
- Reduce the burden of obesity, malnutrition and associated chronic diseases. Poor nutrition does not always lead to overweight or obesity. Plenty of people who are not consuming a healthful diet may appear 'thin/healthy'.
- To reduce the burden of disease we must improve the nutritional quality of the food available in the system.
- Specifically it is the focus on obesity that I am advocating removing. Obesity is only 1 indicator of health, and not a very good one at that. The in-your-face-wherever-you-look focus on obesity contributes to blaming/shaming the individual, weight bias, stigma, and expectations that the individual level is the source of the solution. Did you happen to notice the site/e-mail comment from a

- contributor re: implying health professionals needing to lose weight if they are going to work in the field?
- Good health is absolutely reliant on good nutrition. Without it it's impossible to be healthy. Although obesity can be related to some degree to food it is a complex issue that requires some exceptional work on the SDoH.
 - Highlight populations with highest burden of illness.
 - Regarding the goal/outcome related to reduction of overweight/obesity and chronic diseases: food and nutrition aren't the only determinants related to the prevalence of obesity and chronic diseases; therefore consider removing or modifying this goal/outcome (e.g. focus on health such as food and farming, not weight).
 - Cost of chronic disease is higher than obesity. The two things are not the same. Obesity may follow from solving the chronic disease. Wording is a bit “blame the victim”.

Wording

- To reduce the prevalence of obesity and chronic diseases in Ontario and the impact on the Ontario health care system.
- Can we refer to “diet-related illness” or find some way to remove obesity?
- Support Ontarians in addressing risks associated with obesity and chronic disease.
- To reduce the prevalence of chronic disease and obesity on Ontarians and the resulting impact on the health care system.
- Remove *obesity* but keep chronic disease.
- Increase healthy eating throughout the socio-economic spectrum, and to reduce the burden.
- To build a prosperous and equitable economy and regenerate the environment through a sustainable food system.
- To reduce obesity and chronic disease in Ontario.
- The wording for goals 1 & 3 are positive. The wording for #2 is negative. Consider rewording to a more positive/productive statement.
- Using the word “burden” can contribute to weight bias. Instead could use prevalence and incidence.
- Remove the reference to obesity throughout the document. Weight is not a measure of health. Using obesity as a measure is destined for failure and creates unnecessary.
- If this goal remains then perhaps remove the word “burden” or say, “contribute to reducing chronic diseases and obesity”.
- #2 appears to be a result of a successful #1, plus it sounds negative using the word “burden”. If you keep it I would make it into a positive such as “to provide efficiencies (or some other positive word) to the Ontario health care system by reducing the prevalence of obesity and chronic disease”.
- Although we agree on the necessity of including Goal Statement 2 “to reduce the burden of obesity and chronic disease on Ontarians and the Ontario health care system”, we are concerned that the term “burden of obesity” may be perceived as an offensive statement. We suggest the following modifications: “Address the

- contributing factors to reduce the prevalence of obesity and chronic disease on Ontarians and the Ontario health care system”.
- Proposed wording: Reduce the risk of dietary illness for Ontarians and reduce the burden on the Ontario health care system.
- The tone of the strategy is somewhat off-putting. In large part this came through abrupt language in the document (e.g. Goal 2: burden of obesity).

3. To strengthen the Ontario economy and environment through a sustainable food system

Must Keep	25
Keep	15
Keep with Changes	9
Remove	0
I Don't Know	2
Blank	5
Total Responses	56

Rationale

- This warrants being separated into 2 different goals - one for the economy and one for the environment. By putting both these huge concepts into one goal, this goal appears out of scale with goals 1 & 2, and makes it seem like this is lip service to the economy and the environment, that these words are there because politically they have to be, but the people writing the goals don't really see these as the focus of the strategy.
- We need to more research to show how self-reliant we can be; look at percentage of procurement, percentage land used for farming vs. farmland available, reduce imports etc.
- Sustainable should specific - what we grow, how we grow, diversify, labour sustainability in terms of following labour laws. Food production sustainability - use of whole and fresh/frozen foods.
- Food system- such a large part of the Ontario economy, planning for sustainability is logical for the long-term benefit to the economy and the health of Ontarians (given how essential the economy is for health as well).
- Acknowledge the role of social capital in the food system and the impact of social determinants on health.
- Is it related to the reduced use of food banks and children having meals/healthy food at schools? Maybe the third point needs to specifically say something about food security. I think it's too vague to get a clear picture of how strengthening the economy is related to a sustainable food system.

- Don't understand this as a goal. Distracts from the overall goals of the strategy (but makes it more politically palatable).

Wording

- To strengthen the Ontario economy and environment through a sustainable healthy food system.
- Include wording regarding farmland preservation for future generations (include in definition for sustainable). Include “regional” food system.
- Include wording regarding farmland preservation for future generations; include “regional” food system.
- To strengthen the Ontario economy by supporting health and wellbeing through a productive and sustainable food system
- To strengthen Ontario physically, mentally, economically, and socially by enhancing food security, education, and the availability of safe and healthy food.

General Feedback on Goals

Rationale

- How do we integrate “local food” into the goals? Is “strengthening our economy and environment” enough to describe local food systems?
- The ideas contained within the goals are good, however, the structure of the goals ensures that the strategy will not succeed. The goals need to be SMART: Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Realistic and Time limited. Otherwise any amount of change will be considered success. For example, number two could be reworded as, “Reduce the rates of obesity and diabetes among teenagers by 10% by 2020”.
- Covers it all - important to mention the environment, hand in hand with economy, as they do not need to cancel each other out.
- I've favored the goals with measures attached. The agriculture and food jobs goal needs to be modified to specify what types of enterprises we want to see. A new Twinkies factory would contribute food jobs but it wouldn't support the intended outcomes.
- Goals: I think public awareness and education is so important - especially as it relates to food choices that affect the environment. Perhaps education will be captured within actions/strategies regarding skills and education but I am also leaning towards it being one of the goals. Beliefs come before behaviors and there is so little information for the general public on this particular issue. (i.e. eco-friendly labels, organic foods, sustainable seafood, carbon footprint of beef compared to other protein choices, etc.).
- Your section on farming practices suggestions strike me as being skewed towards direct marketing of products to a select group of consumers with money. Your choice of examples of kinds of farming practices say they are diverse but your goals aim towards the ecological /organic side of the equation.
- All do. Strengthening the economy/environment through a sustainable food system.

- All three are important. Regional approaches to sustainability. Mental health or poverty reduction as part of the key determinants.
- The goal should be the health of Ontarians; although health and the economy are intertwined, economics should not displace health as an equal or greater goal of the strategy.

Additions

- Consider adding a fourth goal.
- Add a fourth goal re: growing healthy children and the important role of the community (to address population health vs. lifestyle approach). This would also make a connection to the Ontario Childhood Obesity Strategy/Healthy Kids Panel.
- The goals do not directly talk to creating a sustainable food system although it is talked about in the vision and values. How will these goals be measured?
- Our group discussed the need for a system wide approach. The listed goals do not state that the goal is to work throughout the food system, from production right to consumption, towards the achievement of the vision, therefore we suggest the addition of the following goal, “To promote changes throughout the food system that result in the vision and ultimately mission being achieved”.
- There is no mention of there being a healthy public policy goal. Something that describes the multi-sectoral and stakeholders responsibility in creating an Ontario that supports health through creation of public policy.
- What about the farming? The happiness of our farmers? The ability to feed our communities and ourselves. Revalue the farmer and the farm labourer. Incentivize it so that people want to participate. Eating responsibly - diet, environmental footprint
- Focus on fewer levels, lean more on the OFNS slide 10 layout.
- Add a goal on maintaining adequate farmland availability to support our sustainable agricultural needs.
- Add something about food security. Add something about education about healthful foods - people can't choose healthy foods if they don't really know what they are.
- Would like to add the goal: To build and empower community around food (Activism, advocacy, community gardens/kitchens etc.).

Wording

- I think words like vibrant and diverse are strong words that start to capture the kind of food system we need to build.
- To promote increased connections to our food sources/an awareness of where our food comes from. To create an environment in which farming is a viable lifestyle/career option.
- Make sure that sustainable food system is defined more clearly.
- We recommend reversing the order of Goal Statement 2 and 3 (e.g. Goal Statement 2 becomes “to strengthen the Ontario economy and environment through a sustainable food system” and Goal Statement 3 is “obesity and chronic disease on Ontarians and the Ontario health care system”).

Expected Outcomes

1. Ontarians have access to and have the means to buy safe, nutritious and culturally acceptable food

Must Keep	35
Keep	10
Keep with Changes	4
Remove	1
I Don't Know	0
Blank	6
Total Responses	56

Rationale

- It needs to say that the food is produced and procured in ways that conserve the environment, and leave our natural assets in better condition than how we found them.
- This is too general. All the actions are specific to institutions. Have costs been considered? Access to foods year round? No linkages to locally grown foods or connections to value chain/sales/access to sell?
- Access is essential, must keep. Consider adding “affordable”.
- 1 and 2 resonate with the People's Food Policy focus on food sovereignty.
- Change high school curriculum to include mandatory courses in food (not the knowledge of dietitians), sustainable agriculture, nutrient dense food and measuring brix, growing your own food and emotional intelligence skills (interpersonal skills, personality type, communication styles, managing conflict, growing self-esteem in children, etc.), we would have healthier Ontario families.
- Address both the poverty crisis and the farm income crisis.
- Ontarians in rural and urban areas need to have access to safe, nutritious and culturally acceptable food. At the same time, farmers need to receive fair compensation for the work they do producing food.
- Ontarians should have access to and have the means to buy safe, nutritious and culturally acceptable food from Ontario farmers while providing farmers with fair compensation. As stated, this outcome can be met through food imports.
- Minimally processed food grown and processed with few inputs, additives and 'technology' should be the priority in discussions of safe, nutritious food. Technology is regularly put forward as a solution to increasing nutrition (e.g. biotechnology) and alleviating safety issues (e.g. irradiation) in food.

- Both rural and urban residents have access to alternative places to purchase safe, nutritious and culturally acceptable food (not just chain supermarkets).
- All targeted areas are pivotal to Ontarians having access to/having the means to buy safe, nutritious and culturally acceptable food.
- There is support to build relationships between those who grow and harvest food and those who eat it, in both rural and urban communities and the relationships are under the direction and control of local communities.
- Ontarians do not have access to unhealthy, processed foods.
- As written, outcome #1 is trying to address food security yet in several of the listed target areas and policy recommendations there seems to be the assumption that increasing access to local foods will improve food security while we have not seen research that supports such a broad conclusion. This highlights the need for strategies and policies to be based on evidence and research into the specific outcome area.

Wording

- For the first one, should add in “all” Ontarians have access to and have the means to buy safe, “affordable” and nutritious...
- Remove safe and nutritious and include healthy instead; recognizing that industry driven safety protocols can be inhibiting.
- We feel the word ‘acceptable’ does not satisfy our work. We recommend rewording this expected outcome to read, ‘culturally diverse food’.
- Not attainable with this kind of wording; too general.
- Means as well as skills.
- Include wording regarding vulnerable populations.
- 'Have' is repeated twice.
- There was much debate over the wording, particularly the word “buy”. Ideally, we would like to see wording that supports an adequate social safety net or a living income for Ontarians but also upholds the important idea of equitable access. Perhaps it could read and/or the means or ‘obtain’ rather than 'buy', or 'the income to obtain’. The group reached no consensus.

2. Ontarians have the skills to support healthy eating and make healthy choices where they live, work, learn and play

Must Keep	27
Keep	9
Keep with Changes	11
Remove	2
I Don't Know	0
Blank	7

Total Responses	56
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Rationale

- Skills need to go beyond being “good” consumers and making good choices - we also need to reference citizenship skills - somehow this needs to refer to the role of eaters in determining and shaping choices.
- Add available locally and connection to the Ontario food system.
- Important, however it doesn't currently address the need for a population health approach/perspective and it can be detrimental to keep attention on individual behaviors/choices without identifying the reasons why that's not enough.
- This outcome should place additional emphasis on creating supportive environments, whereby the healthy choice is the default choice; this will align better with many of the proposed strategies and policies.
- Have mandatory service after Grade 12 - that is, working one summer as an intern on a vegetable farm.
- Building relationships between those who grow and harvest healthy food and those who eat it, leads to a sharing of skills and information on how to prepare healthy food, increased awareness of how to make healthy choices and information on the nutritional value of different foods.
- Increase in the number of farmers using low-input, organic and ecological farm practices.
- For many eaters, making healthy choices means choosing to eat food grown and raised without chemicals, genetically modified organisms or hormones.
- Efforts to increase food and nutrition education and food skills in children, youth and adults are focused on using whole, unprocessed, Ontario produced food and preparing meals from scratch.
- The lack of quality, consistent lay-peer/semi-professional services available across the province to educate and build skills seriously needs to be addressed.
- Need link to GTA Food and Farming strategy.

Wording

- Change to read: Ontarians have the knowledge and skills to support healthy eating and make healthy choices where they live, work, learn and play.
- Add “knowledge” as in “Ontarians have the knowledge and skills...”
- I would put in ‘skills and knowledge’.
- Note that your wording of #2, is different further down when you expand on the actions and strategies. I prefer this wording: Ontarians have the skills and information...
- Add: Targeted advertising of healthy food and beverages.
- Should be first since it is research, need to know the evidence from the beginning.

3. The prevalence of obesity and chronic disease in Ontario is reduced in children, youth and adults.

Must Keep	23
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Keep	11
Keep with Changes	12
Remove	4
I Don't Know	1
Blank	5
Total Responses	56

Rationale

- Does this section fit into this strategy? Getting away from a food and nutrition strategy.
- Need to focus on cause not the symptom of obesity - getting too granular.
- Reducing obesity and chronic disease - too distant a goal post (also, too many confounding factors) to demonstrate any measurable gains in the short term.
- Consider defining obesity outside of BMI/BMI-for-age alone, and including more meaningful measurements e.g. quality of life, mobility, health behaviours. (See comment about changing relevant goal to “reducing prevalence” There are many reasons why BMI/BMI-for-age are not always useful measures; this strategy has the opportunity to highlight this.
- May not be a direct result. Is this measurable?
- We have learned through school nutrition policy that framing policy around obesity set up a situation of blame and shame rather than looking at the environmental and the “bigger picture”. Instead, focusing on the benefits of healthy food choices for all is critical.
- I think focusing on obesity and chronic disease is a good way of getting buy-in, since people are so concerned about the health care system.
- More farmers growing food on labour intensive organic, ecological, low-input, fruit/vegetable and smaller-scale farms.
- Manual labour is not given value in our society but support for more labour intensive farms would increase the availability of vegetables and fruit, provide opportunities for rural employment that is healthy for the body, and decrease the negative environmental impacts of fossil fuels.
- Increase in public transportation, bike and footpaths, and neighbourhood food outlets, like farmers’ markets.
- The focus on individual automobiles for travel in Ontario has a negative impact on the health of Ontarians, leads to the loss of farmland, as more and more roads are built and allows our food system to be built around large supermarkets.

Wording

- Change to read: The prevalence of chronic disease and obesity in Ontario is reduced in children, youth, adults and seniors.
- Add “seniors” to the list.

- Remove obesity (see previous comments) and refer to only chronic disease.
- Set a specific target and deadline. For example, reduce obesity by 20% in 5 years and adhere this with the recent obesity strategy.
- Change prevalence to alarming increase of obesity.
- Add incidence.
- Any chance of proposing a target percentage for reducing obesity/chronic disease?
- Remove, as per earlier stated reasons around focus on obesity.
- Dietary related illness rather than ‘obesity and chronic diseases’.

4. There is a strong, diverse, environmentally responsible and sustainable agricultural sector in Ontario.

Must Keep	32
Keep	9
Keep with Changes	6
Remove	0
I Don't Know	1
Blank	8
Total Responses	56

Rationale

- For 4 and 5, the “agriculture sector” much larger than the food sector (i.e. horses, flowers, trees etc.). If interpreted broader than just food, should the focus be on the food agriculture sector?
- Doesn't recognize existing legislation (e.g., Green Belt, Places to Grow, provincial policy statements). Extremely expensive to do this, needs to be prioritized. Other sections are in depth but not this one; decreases credibility among sectors. Farmers would argue that they are environmental stewards for their land and want payment for such.
- Items concerning farming, agriculture and fisheries may deserve their own strategy that should be linked to the OFNS.
- Combine #4 and #7.
- Farmers have the dignity of a fair price for the food they produce.
- Net farm incomes continue to remain stagnant or decrease. If the public wishes to compensate farmers for ecological services, this should be provided after farmers receive a fair price for their produce, not as compensation for producing ‘cheap food’.
- Support supply management, it provides dairy and poultry farmers with the dignity of a guaranteed cost-of-production for their produce. Supply management

- also balances domestic production and domestic consumption of dairy, eggs and chicken, so that all Ontario eaters support Ontario farmers producing those products.
- Work with farm organizations and the farmer-run supply management marketing boards to encourage them to open up more opportunities for new entrants and direct-to-eater operations.
 - Make farmland preservation a priority over industrial and residential uses in provincial and municipal land use policies.
 - What would farmers say about it? Like the word ‘diverse’, which covers a broad range.
 - Keep farmland in the hands of farmers. Provincial land ownership restrictions, so that only individuals who reside in Ontario or incorporated farming operations owned by individuals who reside in Ontario can own farmland. Put in place differential land taxation rates to encourage ownership by farm families and other local citizens.
 - Address the power and control that a few global input suppliers and buyers have over food production in Ontario. Provide support for farmers to share skills and knowledge with each other on how to move towards farm practices that are more diverse, less reliant on profit-draining agribusiness and contribute to their local communities.
 - Legislate the right of farmers to save, reuse, exchange and sell seeds.
 - Re-direct the overall agri-food policy from trade first to domestic food first. Set targets to decrease both food exports and food imports.
 - New and young farmers are able to afford and have access to land. This requires a change from increasing farm size, and therefore fewer farmers, to decreasing farm size to create space for more farmers. It also requires policies to address the increasing debt load farmers are forced to carry and the high costs of entering farmers. Mechanisms like community-owned land trusts and land banks and community-based financing options to allow for farm family intergenerational land transfers and for new and young farmers to gain access to farmland must be explored.
 - Where does urban agriculture fit in? Is there an expected outcome that it will be perceived as just as important as rural? Does the agricultural sector include urban farming? Please include.
 - Doesn't address soil testing (to assess quality, to identify and measure contaminants) or support for implementing remediation strategies.

Wording

- I appreciate that you've moved beyond “sustainable”, but does the term “environmentally responsible” mean anything concrete? What about: a system where food is produced in ways that conserve and strengthen natural assets? I don't know what environmentally responsible means.
- Awkwardly worded with agriculture and food jobs and businesses; maybe cut the jobs?
- Needs a glossary.
- Take out the word sustainable and put in the word productive.

5. Agriculture and food jobs and businesses contribute to a prosperous economy in Ontario.

Must Keep	23
Keep	13
Keep with Changes	10
Remove	1
I Don't Know	2
Blank	7
Total Responses	56

Rationale

- Very little connection to health.
- Is already the case, what I see missing is a sense of rural community survival.
- Need to provide a living wage for those working in the agriculture sector.
- Local communities have control of decentralized local food systems that provide farm and food-related jobs and opportunities within the community, including in rural communities. The NFU's research on farm income, shows that gross farm income continues to rise, but realized net income is stagnant or dropping – farming is prosperous for agribusiness but not for farmers.
- The focus of provincial agri-food policies is on domestic food first and trade and exports are second. Trade deals, like CETA, will undermine the efforts to make local food procurement a priority in the broader public sector and will undermine farmers' rights to save seeds. Such trade deals, may be prosperous for multinational seed, chemical, food service and food processing companies, but not for farmers or for local food systems.
- Regulations and their enforcement are scale and risk appropriate. Food safety regulations are also being used to increase corporate control, for example, standards and 'food safety' regulations are used by large supermarkets to limit opportunities for Ontario farmers sell their produce in local supermarkets. Some of the regulatory changes being made by governments, and through trade deals, are for the benefit of multinational corporations, while regulations get tightened for small-scale food processors and for farmers.
- This point seems somewhat at odds with the statement before it, particularly concerning environmental responsibility.

Wording:

- Something about living wage for farmers and farm workers (adequate income for eaters seems to be covered in Outcome 1 through the use of the word “means”).

- Agriculture and food jobs and businesses contribute to a prosperous and equitable economy in Ontario.
- Consider changing “jobs” to “related employment”.
- Include regional economy.
- Businesses *of all sizes* continue to...
- Specify “prosperous for all” and possibly include “equitable”.
- Agriculture and food jobs and businesses contribute to a prosperous economy in Ontario.

6. Ontario has ongoing and consistent monitoring, measurement and evaluation of health, social, and economic indicators to inform evidence-based actions by food and nutrition system stakeholders.

Must Keep	29
Keep	7
Keep with Changes	8
Remove	3
I Don't Know	2
Blank	7
Total Responses	56

Rationale:

- Why are we not going to monitor environmental indicators also? The fact that no mention of environment here only confirms the emptiness of the term “sustainability” in this strategy. Of course we need to select and monitor food production practices for their impact on the environment too.
- Must ensure that indicators actually are valid and reliable.
- Consider highlighting the need for additional and non-traditional measurements to assess weight and health outside of BMI/BMI-for-age.
- Monitoring of health indicators; I don’t think schools are the place to weigh children for monitoring weights of this group. Working with teachers, I know that, with good intentions of course, they are often ‘policing’ students’ lunches in a not useful and potentially harmful way.
- Seems less of an outcome, and more of a must-have component to reach the outcomes.
- Too much paperwork, not enough action. Let’s spend the money where it counts - i.e. education (see below). We don't need official measurables to prove that education works. We will just know we have been successful when Kraft disappears!

- I think Ontario needs to be able to monitor and evaluate the changes - the rest of Canada (and the world) needs to see what happens after these kinds of changes come about.
- I see potential in 6 for being more specific, linking food and agriculture with health outcomes. Can health savings from preventing diabetes be invested in small farm support mechanisms?
- Tacked on the end, but should be built further into the document from the beginning. There is no language in the goals for evidence-based evaluation., which is important and must be clarified. Depending on the audience, some of the language is particular to a sector. If it's for the public, it should be made clear, specifically the term evidence-based actions.

Wording:

- Add the “environmental” indicator.
- Not sure what is meant by the words “nutrition system”?
- Ontario has ongoing and consistent *and accurate* monitoring.
- Add environmental as an indicator.
- Economic *and environmental*.

7. Ontarians are actively engaged in making and implementing decisions about their food system.

Must Keep	25
Keep	12
Keep with Changes	4
Remove	3
I Don't Know	4
Blank	7
Total Responses	55

Rationale:

- Need collaboration among stakeholder not just involving the public; looking at sustainable health approach, asking for the moon so that the messages get lost; focus on health not health care.
- Needs to talk about Ontario as whole; all sectors need to have a piece of this as do the public.
- Recognize and respect food system decisions made by those who have to live the reality.
- For a strategy such as this to be supported by the farmers in Ontario, there needs to be much broader consultation with the Farm Commodity Boards. We strongly feel that future drafts must be circulated to all Ontario Farm Commodity Boards,

whose contacts can be accessed via the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs.

- Needs more information.
- This is already the case; we do this when we shop. May need to be qualified.
- This does not need to be stated, we live in a free country.
- It is important to involve the people when they have enough information to make good decisions. Much of the rhetoric that the population uses for decision-making is based on biases and individually focused information. As long as this is the case, they may be skewed away from systems thinking and may be stuck in individualistic thinking.
- Farmers have a role and are able to actively engage with eaters in making and implementing decisions about our food system. This means working around farm schedules, as far as when meetings and discussions are held. May is a poor month to get input from farmers.
- Encouraging seeing the stated focus on community engagement.

Wording:

- Ontarians have the opportunity to be actively engaged in making and implementing decisions about their food system.
- Outcome should say, “actively engaged in opportunities in making decisions”.
- Consider adding “knowledgeable”.
- Actively engaged and informed in making.

General Feedback on Expected Outcomes

Rationale

- We need to recognize how much of the economy revolves around agriculture.
- To maintain as sustainable we need to be able to monitor.
- We need to foster relationships with farmers. We need farmers to start farming again! These are the bigger issues that need to be addressed. No more growing commodity food stuffs to be shipped overseas. We need children and communities to experience the pleasure of real food. We think we need to be creating something new, not working within the broken framework of an Ontario health strategy.
- I am not sure that I would agree about our food system being in crisis, but there are certainly lots of very serious problems. Whichever term might be most appropriate, the Ontario Food and Nutrition Strategy document (OFNS) is far too mild in tone and content. It reads as if a bunch of little tweaks is all we need to set the system on the right path. The truth is, we have a long list of Acts, regulations, policies and attitudes that are leading Ontario’s food system away from sustainable and healthy options. That is why we have an on farm crisis, a health crisis, and an access crisis.
- Under outcomes, make the outcome “skills and knowledge to support healthy eating”.

- OFNS makes many, many references to a sustainable food system, although it never defines what that would be like. This is not surprising, as no one knows what a sustainable food system for Ontario would look like. What we do know is that all of the big players in our current food system – producers, processors, retailers – use structural, technical and methodological processes that cannot be classified as sustainable. Nor is it accurate to suggest that with a few tweaks they can become sustainable, even though they are all busily green washing themselves these days. The only real examples of sustainable food practices occur at the garden level of production and exclude all large-scale production, processing and distribution units. It is quite conceivable, indeed, quite possible, that a sustainable food system is beyond the reach of Ontario, given our current economy and large and growing populations. It is certainly beyond reach if we are content with tweaks to the current system.
- Of course you may reply that this understanding of a sustainable food system simply undercuts the OFNS initiative. And maybe it does. But at least it does not radically understate the problem. In fact, I am not advocating that you drop the use of sustainable in the text, or that you abandon the “what can be done” approach. What I am suggesting is that a) you spice the document throughout with a sense of the scale of the task at hand, and b) make a consistent effort to critique each target, action and example with respect to whether it really moves the bar in the right direction as opposed to supporting existing structures and methods that, in fact, push us away from the desired goals.
- Any food and nutrition strategy document needs to acknowledge that there are many contradictory forces at work on our current food system. Such special interest clashes are built into the structure of our present food system. They can be reduced to near zero when the producer and the consumer are one and the same person. The longer the chain that separates production and consumption, the more the food system is required to meet conflicting interests. An Ontario Food Strategy must acknowledge that re-designing our food system to approach sustainable production and healthy eating will not result in even handed treatment of all the present players in the food system. There will be winners and losers, and there must be.
- Initiatives set forth in this Strategy need to be dovetailed with the proposed Local Food Act - I'm unclear about how these two initiatives will interact, work together, complement or conflict one another.
- The release of this first draft of the Strategy has come at one of the busiest times of year for the farm community. With the variety of farm products produced in Ontario, the Strategy needs the full consultation of as many farmers, and their organizations as possible. Direct contact by Sustain Ontario to all the Farm Organizations in Ontario needs to take place as future drafts are released.
- I'm very pleased to see the inclusion of farming sector in the strategy and the treatment of the problems and solutions through a food systems approach as well as how the strategy follows many of the food sovereignty pillars. There is room for a more comprehensive integration of farming sector in the Strategy. It's extremely important that the province finds a way address the gap between the current cost for food grown anywhere versus a fair price for locally grown food.

As we discussed the other day, I do not know of a single new farming operation that does not need to rely on some sort of off farm income to allow them to continue growing healthy local food for people. Without some progress on this front, efforts to scale up local food production will not be successful.

- It's a very difficult time of year to be requesting comments from the farming sector! Even though I circulated the draft to our network a month ago, many growers have not even had the time to read it, let alone pull together their comments.
- In addition to the vision, goals and outcomes SMART objectives should be identified; currently the outcome statements appear to be written as non-specific objectives.
- Regarding the use of the word safe in #1, there is concern over the meaning of the word safe for example is it safe to keep chickens outdoors where they can be exposed to wild birds or in kept indoors where lifelong antibiotics are a necessity.
- Include visuals. Share as an infographic. Is this translated into different languages, because it should be! What about print versions? Or in schools?
- People should have the freedom to choose their foods, and produce foods for distribution and sale in their own communities, where they are known and trusted (e.g. local egg, milk, and cheese producers, as well as bakers and meat producers). Small farms are an important part of true sustainability, and we should not lose sight of the necessity of maintaining local food production. Certain existing regulations need to be relaxed (like use of raw milk in cheese production, particularly in locally-produced cheeses).
- Living wage and stronger social safety net.

Additions

- We would like to recommend creating a new Expected Outcome: All Ontario students have access to at least one healthy affordable, culturally appropriate meal a day through universal student nutrition and school food literacy programs; or All Ontario students have access to at least one healthy affordable, culturally appropriate meal a day through universal student nutrition.
- Set a target for local food consumption/ production.
- Consider identification of outcomes related to food production, procurement, processing, distribution and waste management (as the current outcomes are focused on food access and consumption).
- Once again, you need to include policy development in these expected outcomes.
- Need to facilitate forums to collect, buy in, and access different groups that should be contributing.
- Accountability for those in positions of power.
- For all, especially 6 and 7, include who and how will measure and monitor outcomes. Be clear about process.
- Include mention of local food producers in here somewhere; that's part of diversity.
- In missions, elaborate on who the partners are.
- Articulate something about the unique needs of each community.
- Add a bit more focus on labour, especially migrant labour.

- Look at consultation as engagement.
- Beyond access to knowing how/what to do.
- Didn't want economy (quality of life or local, prosperous economy); will this support a trade agenda?
- How does this fit with existing strategies and charters?
- Some of the Outcomes need to be expanded on to reflect a broader sustainable agriculture perspective; I've included some suggestions under the individual Outcome headings. It would be great to see some specific targets and dates for achieving them included within the individual outcomes.
- Missing from strategy: Marketing and availability of convenient, tasty but not always healthy, snack foods are too readily available and have a positive association in many kid's minds. Less advertising and availability of pops/chips/French fries/vending machines would improve your strategy.
- All: diverse/sustainable food system and a strong food economy. Decision-making processes that are responsive to the interests of different regions (and their capacities).
- The decision-making framework for funding decisions should be done that respects the differences of the regions (North and South).
- I would like an outcome like "Ontarians have a health system that acknowledges and supports the role of healthy eating in health and well-being, disease prevention and treatment of diet related illnesses". I think some elements of this are related to obesity and chronic disease prevention but we need an additional outcome related to the acknowledgement of healthy eating as critical to health.
- Policies for places of food access that require percentage of local food.
- Regulations on food industry.
- Urban planning and access to food within a walkable distance.
- Cooking/food skills education in schools.
- Government program for funding for food research.
- Policy that supports local production and processing of local food ensuring sustainable livelihoods and affordability of local food (food subsidies, trade policy?).

Wording

- Please change the bullets to numbers so that the expected Outcomes correspond to the numbered Actions/Strategies.
- Change the bullets in the Expected Outcomes to numbers so they correspond to the numbered Actions/Strategies.
- Edit the whole document so that vegetables come before fruit so it reads: vegetables and fruit.
- Replace the word "citizens" with Ontarians throughout the whole document.
- "Healthy foods" are mentioned very frequently but are not identified. For example, if you talk to a regular dietitian and a holistic nutritionist you would get two very different perspectives on this term.
- The term "diverse" is very important to use here, which will include Ontarians actively engaged, as diversity needs to include grass roots and small producers, and concerned consumers.

- Please define “sustainable” and “local” in the context of how these words are used within the document.
- Remove nutrition.

Studies/Websites/etc.

- Feeding our Future:
http://www.tdsb.on.ca/about_us/media_room/Room.asp?show=allNews&view=detailed&self=33521
- CCO/PHO Blueprint and Healthy Kids Panel are in place so need to link to these. This is not an obesity strategy - look at FPT framework.
- “Act Now BC” was an integrated, partnership based, multi-sectoral health promotion & chronic disease prevention strategy identified by WHO as a best practice for health promotion and chronic disease prevention. Replication by Ontario was recommended in the Drummond Report.
- The NFU can provide relevant data and evaluation on the situation facing family farms.
- The Ontario Professional Planners Institute (OPPI) is pleased to provide comments on the Draft Ontario Food and Nutrition Strategy. Through the Institute’s policy initiatives, including “Healthy Communities, Sustainable Communities” and “Planning for Food” we share a great deal of common interest in the goals and actions contained in the draft strategy. Our policy documents related to this initiative can be downloaded at: www.ontarioplanners.on.ca/cont...
- Harmon AG, Gerald BL. Position of the American Dietetic Association: food & nutrition professionals can implement practices to conserve natural resources and support ecological sustainability. J Am Diet Assoc. 2007;107:1033-43.
- Explains the lack of media attention to food related eco-friendly initiatives (therefore lack of knowledge in the general public). Research indicating the need for more education on environmentally friendly food behaviors.

Section 1: Food Access

Summary of Feedback

- Define “healthy foods”.
- Different understandings of “healthy foods”; it could mean nutrient dense foods or foods that are produced in a sustainable and environmentally friendly way.
- Need to reframe accessibility of healthy foods in a broader context, rather than just focusing on affordability.
- Need to consider the unintended consequences of affordable healthy foods that people might have extra money for energy dense foods.
- Need to include references with regard to environmental degradation due to current food practices.
- Need to include specific strategies in increasing food accessibility in food desert areas.
- Consider adding in a new strategy/action in marketing/advertising healthy foods.

Wording Changes

- Consider making sentences more concise as some of them seem repetitive.
- Consider changing unclear/inappropriate wordings such as “healthy and unhealthy”, “residents with low-income” rather than “low-income residence”, “healthy” rather than “healthful”.

Additions to Make

- Add a new Actions/Strategies for Target 1.1: *Provide funds for programs for a healthy hot lunch program prepared by students.*
- Add a new Actions/Strategies for Target 1.1: *Provide funds for new kitchen facilities to accommodate healthy mid morning meal and hot lunch programs.*
- Add a new Policy for Target 1.2: *Implement bylaws to limit establishments of fast-food restaurants near elementary and secondary schools.*
- Add a reference with regard to comprehensive school health, such as Nutrition Tools for Schools.
- Add a new Actions/Strategies: *Extend uniform nutrition standards (such as PPM150) to other settings to promote uniformity across multiple settings.*
- Add a new Actions/Strategies referencing the prime farmland that is being replaced by aggregate extraction e.g. the proposed megaquarry.

Detailed Respondent Feedback

Ontarians have access to and have the means to buy safe, nutritious and culturally acceptable food.

Target

1.1 Increased availability of healthful and nutritious foods.

Must keep	18
Keep	4
Keep with changes	4
Remove	-
I don't know	-
Blank	6
Total Responses	32

- Redundancy with actions/strategies 2.4.1.
- Redundancy of words: should be either healthful or nutritious foods.
- Need to consider a broader context about foods: not just healthful and nutritious foods, but also safe and culturally appropriate foods.
- Need to include the production of healthy foods, rather than just availability of healthy foods.

Actions/Strategies

1.1.1 Increase the availability of healthy foods and food choices (i.e. food from the four food groups in Canada's Food Guide) in daycares, schools, colleges, universities, workplaces and public facilities and limit food and beverages high in calories, fat, sugar or salt.

Must Keep	15
Keep	2
Keep with changes	10
Remove	-

I don't know	-
Blank	5
Total Responses	32

- Need to be more specific about and provide examples of daycares, schools, colleges, universities, workplaces and public facilities with the possibility to add more facilities other than just schools and institutions, such as health care, long term care and recreational areas.
- More specific criteria are needed in defining healthy foods and healthy choices.
- Need to reframe the idea to emphasize on a balanced diet, rather than focusing on limiting certain unhealthy foods.
- Consider eliminating all unhealthy foods, rather than just decreasing their availability.
- Last part of the sentence should read: "...high in calories, fat, sugar AND (not or) salt".

1.1.2 Provide access to healthy and local food through public institutional procurement and food programs.

Must Keep	22
Keep	4
Keep with changes	1
Remove	-
I don't know	-
Blank	5
Total Responses	32

- Consider adding one Action/Strategy with regard to the Farm to School Program.

1.1.3 Provide a student fruit and vegetable program in all public schools as part of the proposed elementary school snack program.

Must Keep	17
Keep	6
Keep with changes	3

Remove	-
I don't know	-
Blank	6
Total Responses	31

- Need to take/adopt this action/strategy with proper education on nutrition to students; availability of healthy foods does not mean making healthier food choices.
- Need to be consistent with Canada's Food Guide terminology and rationale; use vegetables and fruit, rather than fruit and vegetable.
- Provide such program to high school students as well, rather than just elementary schools.

Policies/Policy-related activities

1.1.1.1 Continue and expand the Broader Public Sector Investment Fund to promote Ontario food.

Must Keep	10
Keep	6
Keep with changes	3
Remove	2
I don't know	2
Blank	9
Total Responses	32

- Statement is concentrated on southern Ontario institutional procurement, not reflecting the actual situation in northern Ontario.
- Need to include all possible government funding at all levels, rather than just Broader Public Sector Investment Fund.
- Need to be more specific on how funding is used to promote Ontario food such as supporting each region in the development of their food system and their infrastructure and capacity requirements.

1.1.1.2 Renew and increase funding to the Ontario Student Nutrition Program.

Must Keep	18
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Keep	3
Keep with changes	3
Remove	-
I don't know	-
Blank	8
Total Responses	32

- Need to be more specific on how funding is used to support/ensure sustainability of the Ontario Student Nutrition Program, such as ensuring adequate human resources and facilities to prepare snacks/meals, and cross-ministry communications.

1.1.1.3 Incentives for local and healthy food purchasing within the Ontario Student Nutrition Program and Ontario After School programs.

Must Keep	18
Keep	3
Keep with changes	1
Remove	-
I don't know	1
Blank	9
Total Responses	32

1.1.1.4 Support the Canadian Coalition for Green Health Care in providing healthy local food in hospitals.

Must Keep	13
Keep	3
Keep with changes	4
Remove	-
I don't know	2

Blank	10
Total Responses	32

- Need to emphasize “on-site” preparation of local foods at hospital as well.
- Need to consider possible conflicts between organizations and programs, such as hospital’s own strategies in reducing operational cost and Ministry of Health’s support of healthy local foods.

1.1.1.5 Continue to support and expand the Northern Fruit and Vegetable Program.

Must Keep	13
Keep	5
Keep with changes	4
Remove	1
I don’t know	-
Blank	9
Total Responses	32

- Need to be more specific on how to support and expand the program, such as providing adequate resources and support to ensure variety and quality of produce, and sufficient human resources to prepare and serve.

1.1.1.6 Continue to support PPM150 efforts to sell healthier foods in schools.

Must Keep	14
Keep	3
Keep with changes	5
Remove	-
I don’t know	-
Blank	9
Total Responses	31

- Consider explaining what PPM150 is.

Target

1.2 Increased availability/production of healthy foods and decreased availability of unhealthy foods.

Must Keep	17
Keep	3
Keep with changes	5
Remove	-
I don't know	1
Blank	6
Total Responses	32

- Need to avoid the polarization of healthy and unhealthy foods, there is no fine line in differentiating “healthy” and “unhealthy” foods, rather, emphasize the idea of moderation of certain foods that are perceived as unhealthy.
- Provide guidance on what kind of foods should be chosen more often, rather than eliminating unhealthy foods to avoid emotional eating.
- The concept of availability of healthy foods has redundancies with Target 1.1; need to separate the concept of availability and production.
- Consider the use of more neutral words such as “nutrient dense” vs. healthy and “energy dense” vs. unhealthy.

Actions/Strategies

1.2.1 Work with food business system stakeholders to help in the production, processing, promotion and distribution of healthy, local foods.

Must Keep	19
Keep	5
Keep with changes	2
Remove	-
I don't know	-
Blank	6

Total Responses	32
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- Should be just food system stakeholders, rather than food business system stakeholders.

Policies/Policy-related activities

1.2.1.1 Enact legislation that targets the food supply in regards to development of healthier foods (e.g. lower in saturated fats, trans-fatty acids, free sugars, or sodium) through menu labeling and taxation.

Must Keep	13
Keep	2
Keep with changes	6
Remove	3
I don't know	1
Blank	7
Total Responses	32

- Need to divide this into two points: labeling and taxation are two different things/policy approaches.
- Consider eliminating this reference due to the fact that Canada's health and safety standards are within the Federal jurisdiction, the proposed policies might be a concern of violating individual's personal choices.
- Unnecessary detail of healthier foods, consider deleting "lower in saturated fats, trans-fatty acids, free sugars, or sodium".
- Need to evaluate the effectiveness and unintended consequences of labeling and taxation on healthy eating.

Target

1.3 Increased individual and household food security.

Must Keep	20
Keep	2
Keep with changes	4
Remove	-

I don't know	-
Blank	6
Total Responses	32

- Combine Target 1.3 and 1.4 as they are within the context of food security.

Actions/Strategies

1.3.1 Reduce poverty, support policies to improve individual and household income to enable low income residents to afford healthy food e.g. adequate minimum wage and social service allotment, affordable housing, public transportation and employment.

Must Keep	18
Keep	5
Keep with changes	3
Remove	-
I don't know	-
Blank	6
Total Responses	32

- Include consideration of how built environment affects food security.
- Include elimination of food desert.
- Need to reword the last section of the sentence that states “affordable housing, public transportation and employment”; “affordable employment” is not an appropriate phrase.

Policies/Policy-related activities

1.3.1.1 Continue to strengthen and implement the Poverty Reduction Strategy, including a focus on food access.

Must Keep	17
Keep	3
Keep with changes	2
Remove	-

I don't know	-
Blank	10
Total Responses	32

- Need to define the term - food access.
- Consider including the implementation of Healthy Food Supplement.
- Consider including affordable Childcare as another policies/activities to enable people to afford healthy foods.

1.3.1.2 Implement an affordable housing strategy.

Must Keep	17
Keep	4
Keep with changes	1
Remove	-
I don't know	1
Blank	9
Total Responses	32

- Consider further developing affordable housing strategy and its relation to food access.

1.3.1.3 Review and reform social assistance programs to better enable part time and occasional work and income earning.

Must Keep	17
Keep	5
Keep with changes	-
Remove	-
I don't know	1
Blank	9
Total Responses	32

Target

1.4 Increased access to healthy foods, especially for vulnerable populations.

Must Keep	18
Keep	3
Keep with changes	6
Remove	1
I don't know	-
Blank	4
Total Responses	32

- Need to define vulnerable populations.
- Has redundancies with Target 1.3, consider combining the two.
- Need to be more specific, healthy foods only or both healthy and local foods.
- Consider increasing access to shelter, personal needs allowance and food within the context of social assistance, rather than just increasing access to food.

Actions/Strategies

1.4.1 Ensure access to nutritious food for all Ontarians by using the cost of the Nutritious Food Baskets (calculated annually by each Public Health Unit) in determining the rates for social assistance and the minimum wage and in the formation of ODSP/Social Assistance payouts.

Must Keep	19
Keep	4
Keep with changes	2
Remove	-
I don't know	-
Blank	7
Total Responses	32

- Need to rewrite to better reflect actual meaning.

1.4.1.1 Set minimum wage standards and ODSP/Social Assistance payouts at levels adequate to support healthy eating.

Must Keep	18
Keep	1
Keep with changes	3
Remove	-
I don't know	1
Blank	9
Total Responses	32

- Need to be more specific about the term “healthy eating”; does it mean affordable, culturally appropriate, healthy diets?
- Need to emphasize minimum wage standards and ODSP/Social Assistance payouts that are at a level reflecting the current inflation rate.

Target

1.5 Increased research to identify programs and policies that impact food security.

Must Keep	18
Keep	3
Keep with changes	2
Remove	1
I don't know	2
Blank	6
Total Responses	32

- Consider integrating this target with Actions/Strategies 6 as research could be part of the monitoring, measurement and evaluation process.
- A very important point that should further emphasize research on food security at both individual/household and community levels.
- Wording of the target is vague.

Actions/Strategies

1.5.1 Conduct a cost-benefit analysis of universal and targeted healthy and local food subsidies.

Must Keep	12
Keep	5
Keep with changes	5
Remove	-
I don't know	2
Blank	8
Total Responses	32

- Need to be more specific in terms of who will be benefited from the subsidies.
- Consider adding health equity impact assessment.
- Consider adding making the application of research a priority.

1.5.2 Conduct research to improve understanding of agricultural subsidies and pricing policies on costs and affordability of highly processed or less healthy food versus healthy food.

Must Keep	15
Keep	7
Keep with changes	1
Remove	-
I don't know	-
Blank	9
Total Responses	32

- Need to ensure consistency of the use of healthy vs. healthful food; choose either one throughout the document.

1.5.3 Study the impact of policies and programs aimed at reducing poverty, food insecurity, and other barriers to accessing healthy foods.

Must Keep	17
Keep	3
Keep with changes	1
Remove	1
I don't know	-
Blank	10
Total Responses	32

- More research would be redundant, as sufficient evidence has shown that poverty is the key barrier to accessing healthy foods.

Policies/Policy-related activities

1.5.1.1 Allocate funds on an ongoing basis for research on the multiple factors that influence the cost of food and that contribute to food insecurity.

Must Keep	13
Keep	3
Keep with changes	3
Remove	1
I don't know	3
Blank	9
Total Responses	32

- Need to rewrite the sentence to better reflect the fact that multiple factors influencing the cost of food and multiple factors contributing to food insecurity are two distinctive ideas.
- Research has been shown poverty is the underlying cause of food insecurity, not the cost of food; the cost of food in Canada is relatively inexpensive in comparison to other countries.
- Consider rewriting the sentence to focus on investigating the multiple factors leading to poverty that contribute to food insecurity, rather than the cost of food itself.

Target

1.6 Food access is integrated into city and regional land use policies and community planning.

Must Keep	20
Keep	3
Keep with changes	1
Remove	-
I don't know	1
Blank	7
Total Responses	32

Actions/Strategies

1.6.1 Support and fund communities to develop and enact local and regional food strategies to increase access to safe, nutritious and culturally acceptable food.

Must Keep	17
Keep	6
Keep with changes	1
Remove	-
I don't know	-
Blank	8
Total Responses	32

- Consider rewriting the sentence to emphasize supporting the Ontario Food and Nutrition Strategy itself: “Support and fund communities to develop and implement local and regional activities that support the Ontario Food and Nutrition Strategy...”.

1.6.2. Support community food access solutions that promote the availability and affordability of fresh, locally or regionally grown foods and create opportunities to scale these up throughout the province.

Must Keep	16
Keep	5
Keep with changes	4
Remove	-
I don't know	-
Blank	7
Total Responses	32

- Concerns with regard to the language around “affordability of foods”; need to reframe the issue to poverty reduction rather than price reduction as we have to ensure Ontario farmers receive a fair price of their products that reflects both the cost and labor involved in production process.
- In addition to policies to support this action/strategy, need to consider incorporating capital and infrastructure support.
- Need to define ‘locally’ and ‘regionally’, and rewrite 'to scale these up throughout the province' to better reflect its actual meaning.
- Consider including Community Centers as a source of community food access.
- Consider including an emphasis on low-income areas, such as rural areas and Northern Ontario.

1.6.3 Encourage community planning, zoning and funding that supports healthier food choices, develops and promotes the local food sector, and reduces access to unhealthy food choices particularly to low-income communities.

Must Keep	20
Keep	3
Keep with changes	2
Remove	-
I don't know	-
Blank	7
Total Responses	32

- Need to reframe this idea in a broader context, rather than just low-income communities particularly.

1.6.4 Improve governance and enforcement of treaty rights to enable and support Aboriginal communities to develop their own innovative approaches to food production and harvesting to increase access to healthier food.

Must Keep	17
Keep	7
Keep with changes	-
Remove	-
I don't know	1
Blank	7
Total Responses	32

- Consider incorporating long term planning such as zoning.
- Consider rewriting the sentence as “Support aboriginal communities to improve governance and enforcement of treaty rights to develop their own innovative approaches to food production and harvesting to increase access to healthier foods”.

Policies/Policy-related activities

1.6.1.1 Fund the development and implementation of municipal and regional food councils to advise on food access and policy development.

Must Keep	14
Keep	6
Keep with changes	2
Remove	1
I don't know	-
Blank	9
Total Responses	32

1.6.1.2 Support the replication of current municipal/regional food councils that are models for successful practices.

Must Keep	15
Keep	6
Keep with changes	-
Remove	1
I don't know	1
Blank	9
Total Responses	32

- Must keep. Need to consider strategies to tackle barriers to adequate funding and cross-ministry/cross-sector collaboration for adopting successful models, and incorporate the need of sharing best practices.

1.6.2.1 Adopt policies to support and fund community based food access programs like fresh food markets, community gardens, fresh food box programs, community kitchens, etc.

Must Keep	17
Keep	4
Keep with changes	2
Remove	-
I don't know	-
Blank	9
Total Responses	32

- Consider adding food hubs and social enterprise.
- Concerns with regard to the long-term sustainability of these projects, need to consider strategies to ensure self-sustainability.

1.6.2.2 Adopt policies to support and fund networks of community food access programs.

Must Keep	17
Keep	4
Keep with changes	1

Remove	-
I don't know	1
Blank	9
Total Responses	32

1.6.3.1 Designate food retail and affordable food access as essential planning functions to be undertaken by municipal and regional planning bodies.

Must Keep	16
Keep	4
Keep with changes	-
Remove	-
I don't know	2
Blank	10
Total Responses	32

1.6.3.2 Add specific policies to all municipal Official Plans that permit walk-able access to small and mid-scale food retail, urban agriculture and small temporary farmers markets in all residential areas.

Must Keep	16
Keep	5
Keep with changes	2
Remove	-
I don't know	-
Blank	9
Total Responses	32

- Change temporary farmers market to seasonal farmers markets.
- Need to define walk-able access; concerns with regard to the adoptability of strategy that current research indicates that a walk-able distance is usually 800-1000 m (10-15 min).

1.6.4.1 Act in accordance with First Nations Treaty Rights.

Must Keep	16
Keep	5
Keep with changes	-
Remove	-
I don't know	1
Blank	10
Total Responses	32

1.6.4.2 Allocate adequate land for the exclusive use of hunting, fishing and gathering reserves.

Must Keep	13
Keep	4
Keep with changes	4
Remove	-
I don't know	-
Blank	11
Total Responses	32

- Need to add water reserves.
- Need to change the wording to be more specific and explicit.

1.6.4.3 Set and enable, through subsidy, a standard, affordable price for nutritious staples sold in the North.

Must Keep	16
Keep	6
Keep with changes	-
Remove	-

I don't know	-
Blank	10
Total Responses	32

- Need to rewrite to emphasize all foods have to be affordable in the North, rather than just staple foods.

1.6.4.4 Advocate for expansion and enhancement of the Federal Food Mail program to ensure affordable pricing of nutritious foods across all regions of Canada.

Must Keep	15
Keep	4
Keep with changes	1
Remove	-
I don't know	1
Blank	11
Total Responses	32

- Consider adding disincentive for unhealthy foods.

1.6.4.5 Provide innovative options for food production in the North (e.g. funding greenhouses as in Whitehorse, Yukon).

Must Keep	14
Keep	5
Keep with changes	2
Remove	-
I don't know	-
Blank	11
Total Responses	32

- Consider using examples within Ontario communities such as Trout Lake, rather than non-Ontario community examples such as Whitehorse and Yukon.

Section 2: Food Skills and Knowledge

Summary of Feedback

- Some of the actions/strategies have some redundancies, weakening the impact of the overall strategy.
- Need to include local foods in 2.3, 2.4 and 2.5.
- Consider emphasizing policy development to have a better control of the sale, production and marketing of food products.
- Concerns with regard to the effectiveness of such a general campaign.

Wording Changes

- Consider rephrasing “unhealthy food advertising” to “commercial food advertising”; there is no fine line in distinguishing healthy and unhealthy foods.

Additions to Make

- Need to train health care professionals (e.g. dietitians and doctors) on eating locally and seasonal foods.
- Consider updating the Day Nurseries Act to measure both food quantity and food quality, rather than just quantity.
- Consider adding mental health, social workers and other professionals in supporting behavioral change for healthy eating.
- Consider adding a new target 2.4.4: “*Encourage employers to implement subsidized healthy lunch programs that can be cost shared by employees participating through it being a taxable benefit*”.
- Consider adding increasing collaboration with community health centers to promote healthy eating; they play an important role in working with the public at the community level.

Detailed Respondent Feedback

Ontarians have the skills and information to support healthy eating and make healthy choices where they live, work, learn, and play.

Targets

2.1 Increased public knowledge of healthy eating practices and how to make healthy food choices through the lifecycle.

Must keep	18
Keep	2
Keep with changes	4

I don't know	2
Remove	1
Blank	4
Total Responses	31

- Target 2.1 and 2.2 has some redundancies.
- Previous educational strategies have failed in changing consumers' long-term eating behaviors; consider adding strategies in standardizing current food packaging to categorize/distinguish healthier and less healthy options, such as color coding.
- The sentence seems to have the assumption that increased knowledge leads to action; consider the use of more neutral wordings: Increased public "understanding" of healthy eating practices and how to make healthy food choices through the lifecycle.
- Consider adding food skills and nutrition resources in addition to nutrition knowledge.
- Consider incorporating an understanding of existing dietary illnesses to avoid exacerbating weight bias and stigma.

Actions/Strategies

2.1.1 Promote healthy eating through a marketing campaign (in collaboration with Public Health and EatRight Ontario).

Must Keep	14
Keep	4
Keep with changes	2
I don't know	2
Remove	1
Blank	8
Total Responses	31

- Consider adding media advocacy and policy support to promote healthy eating, such as the Media Network.
- Should include collaboration with provincial sports associations in this strategy.

2.1.2 Promote breastfeeding.

Must keep	16
Keep	2
Keep with changes	4
I don't know	1
Remove	0
Blank	8
Total Responses	31

- Consider incorporating Breast Feeding Initiative (WHO) as part of the strategy.
- Need to ensure collaboration between ministries, institutions and health care professionals to promote such strategy.
- Consider rewriting the sentence in aligning with WHO standards; should read “promote exclusive breastfeeding for 6 months continued up to 2 years”.

2.1.3 Ensure widespread support for the provision of pre- and post-natal nutrition access programs.

Must keep	15
Keep	3
Keep with changes	5
I don't know	1
Remove	0
Blank	7
Total Summary	31

- Consider adding Ontario Early Years Centers and recommending registered dietitians' support.
- Consider mandating nutrition education and training.
- Consider adding, “cue based feeding training”.

Policies/Programs

2.1.2.1 Policy that officially permits breastfeeding any time, anywhere.

Must keep	18
Keep	3
Keep with changes	1
I don't know	0
Remove	0
Blank	9
Total Responses	31

- Consider adding funding to support policy implementation, increase knowledge, increase awareness, and support the implementation of International Board of Lactation Consultant Examiners (lactation consultants).

2.1.2.2 Mandate changes to hospital breastfeeding policies consistent with the WHO Code and innocent declaration.

Must keep	17
Keep	4
Keep with changes	1
I don't know	0
Remove	0
Blank	9
Total Responses	31

- Consider including other organizational breastfeeding policies such as family health teams, community health centers and public health units, rather than just hospital breastfeeding policies.

2.1.3.1 Support hospitals in their efforts to meet baby-friendly codes.

Must keep	16
Keep	3
Keep with changes	2

I don't know	1
Remove	0
Blank	9
Total Responses	31

- Consider adding other organizations such as family health teams, community health centers and public health units, rather than just hospitals.
- Change sentence to “support hospitals, health units and other community organizations in their efforts to meet baby friendly codes”.

2.1.3.2 Provincial policy that ensures on-going funding for the Healthy Babies Healthy Children program, including a nutrition component (e.g. Federal policy that ensures on-going funding for CPNP programs).

Must keep	17
Keep	3
Keep with changes	0
I don't know	1
Remove	1
Blank	9
Total Responses	31

- Consider adding registered dietitian positions to support Healthy Babies Healthy Children program at both the provincial and local level.

2.1.4.1 Fund community based and public infant and preschool nutrition programs.

Must keep	15
Keep	4
Keep with changes	2
I don't know	2
Remove	0
Blank	8

Total Responses	31
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- Need to add nutrition programs targeting parents, caregivers, teachers, etc.
- Consider adding food skills training.

2.1.4.2 Update nutrition component of Day Nurseries Act, include components around policy development and eating environment.

Must keep	16
Keep	4
Keep with changes	1
I don't know	0
Remove	0
Blank	10
Total Responses	31

- Consider adding components around feeding cues/practices in the Day Nurseries Act.
- Need to be more specific; consider rewriting the sentence: "Amending the Daycare Nurseries Act to improve the healthy eating requirements and ensure that they match the Ministry of Education School Food and beverage policy standards since many daycares operate in schools".

Target

2.2 Increased food and nutrition education and food skills in children, youth and adults.

Must Keep	1
Keep	2
Keep with changes	4
I don't know	1
Remove	0
Blank	23
Total Responses	31

- Consider adding education on urban agriculture, economic development, farming and growing, rather than just nutrition and food skills.
- Need to include seniors as part of the target audience.
- Need to be specific on how this target is to be met (e.g., through professional development and communication strategies).
- Need to emphasize the importance of food skills development, rather than just education alone; the sentence should read, “Increased food and nutrition education and food skills development in children, youth and adults”.

Actions/Strategies

2.2.1 Embed evidence-based food literacy, education about food, and food skills in the curriculum at all grade levels.

Must keep	13
Keep	1
Keep with changes	6
I don't know	2
Remove	0
Blank	9
Total Responses	31

- Consider adding education on agriculture, food marketing literacy, rather than just nutrition and food skills.
- Consider making the education mandatory at all grade levels.
- Consider mandating such education to other school curriculum (e.g., adult high school, English as a Second Language, French as a Second Language, Language Instruction for Newcomers to Canada, etc.).

2.2.2 Provide opportunities for individuals and households to develop food selection, food preparation and food safety skills in school and community settings.

Must keep	17
Keep	2
Keep with changes	1
I don't know	1

Remove	0
Blank	10
Total Responses	31

- Consider adding education about local and seasonal food.

2.2.3 Support public health and community-based healthy eating and food skills programs (planning, shopping, cooking, preparation, preservation, food storage and food safety).

Must keep	16
Keep	4
Keep with changes	1
I don't know	1
Remove	0
Blank	9
Total Responses	31

- Consider adding the need of funding and resources to local communities to support this strategy (e.g., through family health teams, local health integration network, public health units, etc.).
- Consider including Community Food Advisor program or other volunteer and paid lay educator programs.
- Consider including education about local and seasonal food.

2.2.4 Provide urban dwellers and rural gardeners with easy access to education and information about how to grow food.

Must keep	15
Keep	4
Keep with changes	2
I don't know	1
Remove	2

Blank	7
Total Responses	31

- Consider implementing Kids Can Grow Program.

Policies/Programs

2.2.1.1 Include evidence-based food literacy, food education and foods skills in mandated curriculum at all grade levels.

Must keep	15
Keep	2
Keep with changes	3
I don't know	0
Remove	0
Blank	11
Total Responses	31

- This has redundancy with 2.2.1.
- Consider including education on food marketing literacy.
- Consider mandating such education to other school curriculum (e.g., adult high school, English as a Second Language, French as a Second Language, Language Instruction for Newcomers to Canada, etc.).

2.2.1.2 Provide infrastructure grants for schools and community centers to enable them to build kitchens, buy food-processing equipment, and create on-site gardens.

Must keep	16
Keep	3
Keep with changes	3
I don't know	0
Remove	0
Blank	9

Total Responses	31
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- Need to add funding for human resources.
- Consider extending the idea of infrastructure grants to include access to commercial kitchens for farmers to produce value added products using locally grown ingredients, i.e. local food hubs

2.2.2.1 Ensure public health units/community health centers/etc. have sufficient capacity to support these programs.

Must keep	17
Keep	1
Keep with changes	2
I don't know	0
Remove	2
Blank	9
Total Responses	31

- Consider adding additional strategy to increase free access to registered dietitians through multiple settings (e.g., public health units, out patient hospital, community health centers, family health teams, etc.).
- Consider adding the concept of increasing capacity, rather than just assurance.
- Consider a collaborative approach between health units and farmers markets.

2.2.3.1 Provide funding for community kitchens infrastructure.

Must keep	14
Keep	4
Keep with changes	1
I don't know	2
Remove	0
Blank	10
Total Responses	31

- Need to be specific about who will get the support to build the infrastructure.

2.2.3.2 Provide incentives such as vouchers or credit cards to use at local farmers markets, grocery stores to buy fresh fruit and vegetables.

Must keep	17
Keep	4
Keep with changes	3
I don't know	1
Remove	0
Blank	6
Total Responses	31

- Concerns with regard to logistics; it could be difficult.

2.2.4.1 Develop an urban food and garden production extension program.

Must keep	16
Keep	3
Keep with changes	2
I don't know	0
Remove	0
Blank	10
Total Responses	31

- Consider adding provincially supported community food centers that are based in community health centers where people can learn to grow, prepare, preserve healthy food and learn about food issues.
- Consider building and resurrecting the provincial Master Gardener program.

Target

2.3 Ontarians are supported in adopting healthy eating behaviors.

Must Keep	1
Keep	4
Keep with changes	0
I don't know	0
Remove	0
Blank	26
Total Responses	31

- Need to incorporate the concept of having Ontarians increased their capacity to healthy eating, rather than just them being supported to adopt healthy eating behaviors.
- Rewrite the sentence in active voice; passive voice in the sentence doesn't inspire confidence or inspiration.

Actions/Strategies

2.3.1 Provide access to free nutrition information and education about healthy eating.

Must keep	16
Keep	3
Keep with changes	1
I don't know	1
Remove	1
Blank	9
Total Responses	31

- Need to incorporate the idea of accessing free nutrition information and education through registered dietitians.
- Concerns with regard to the fact that education alone would not result in behavioral change.

2.3.2 Expand EatRight Ontario to include more motivational behavioral counseling and tracking to assess impact on making dietary changes for healthy eating and healthy weights.

Must keep	15
Keep	3
Keep with changes	2
I don't know	2
Remove	1
Blank	8
Total Responses	31

- This action/strategy might not be practical due to the fact that motivational behavioral counseling requires ongoing follow up for effectiveness.
- Consider adding the need to track and evaluate EatRight Ontario's impact.
- Need to ensure equitable access of the service across different communities, especially for disadvantaged populations.

2.3.3 Increase access to Registered Dietitians in public health and community health centers and community programs.

Must keep	17
Keep	1
Keep with changes	3
I don't know	0
Remove	1
Blank	9
Total Responses	31

- Need to expand the service venues including family health teams, out-patient hospital clinics and mental health programs.
- Need to add Public Health Nutritionists, who are registered dietitians with a master's degree in public health nutrition primarily working in public health settings.
- Consider increasing the number of registered dietitians in the province to support the services.

Policies/Programs

2.3.2.1 Continue funding EatRight Ontario, Nutrition Resource Centre.

Must keep	17
Keep	1
Keep with changes	2
I don't know	1
Remove	0
Blank	10
Total Responses	31

- Might fit better under 2.3.1.

2.3.3.1 Ensure public health and other public health related/health promotion programs and services at both the local and provincial levels have Registered Dietitians to plan and evaluate programs, promote and support healthy eating.

Must keep	18
Keep	1
Keep with changes	1
I don't know	0
Remove	2
Blank	9
Total Responses	31

Target

2.4 Healthy eating in the workplace is supported.

Must keep	15
Keep	4
Keep with changes	2
I don't know	2

Remove	1
Blank	7
Total Responses	31

- Rewrite the sentence in active voice; passive voice in the sentence doesn't inspire confidence or inspiration.
- Consider more elaboration on how this strategy is supported.

Actions/Strategies

2.4.1 Ensure access to healthy foods at the workplace.

Must keep	14
Keep	4
Keep with changes	2
I don't know	0
Remove	0
Blank	11
Total Responses	31

- Consider emphasizing the idea of accessing to local and seasonal foods at work place.
- Consider changing the wording from ensure access to healthy foods at the workplace to increase access to healthy foods at the workplace.
- This sentence is broad and vague; consider adding specific actions/strategies.
- Consider accomplishing this target through offering subsidies/incentives to workplaces in the provision and promotion of local, fresh vegetables and fruit at work.

2.4.2 Work with private insurers to encourage health plan premium reductions for workplaces that implement healthy cafeteria strategies, food access projects and workplace nutrition education and counseling and to include Registered Dietitian counseling in insured services.

Must keep	16
Keep	4

Keep with changes	1
I don't know	1
Remove	0
Blank	9
Total Responses	31

- Consider breaking the sentence into small multiple parts, highlighting the importance of different strategies.
- Ensure that private insurers include registered dietitian counseling as an insured service and to offer reduced rates for healthy workplaces.

2.4.3 Ensure Registered Dietitians are available at workplaces to provide educational programs and counseling to employees about healthy eating and healthy weights.

Must keep	11
Keep	5
Keep with changes	2
I don't know	0
Remove	5
Blank	8
Total Responses	31

- Concern with regard to feasibility, adoptability and priority of this action/strategy due to the fact that large percentage of Ontarians working in small workplaces.
- Consider removing the words “healthy weights” to avoid stigmatization and emphasize health at every size.

Policies/Programs

2.4.1.1 Provide incentives and educational programs for workplaces to promote healthy eating.

Must keep	12
Keep	5

Keep with changes	1
I don't know	2
Remove	2
Blank	9
Total Responses	31

- Consider developing healthy food procurement policy for meetings and events at workplaces.
- Change the wording “to promote healthy eating” to “promote workplace nutrition environment”, aligning the wording used by public health dietitians.

Target

2.5 Increased access to public information about healthy eating through retailers and food service.

Must keep	10
Keep	9
Keep with changes	1
I don't know	3
Remove	1
Blank	7
Total Responses	31

- This strategy seems to be a strategy to achieve target 2.1 or 2.2.
- Need to be specific about what kind of retailers.

Actions/Strategies

2.5.1 Require that all food manufacturers, retailers and food services provide consistent, clear and visible nutrition information available about the foods they sell to enable consumers to make informed and healthy food choices.

Must Keep	12
Keep	4

Keep with changes	2
I don't know	1
Remove	1
Blank	11
Total Responses	31

- Mandate greater transparency on health & nutritional information for food retailers and food service providers.
- Consider advocating GMO labeling.
- Concerns with regard to imposing financial difficulties to small-scale food producers.
- Concerns with regard to the effectiveness of labeling in making healthier choices.
- Consider providing incentives to small-scale producers in adopting this strategy.

2.5.2 Implement a nutrition communications strategy and education program to increase awareness and educate the public on making healthier choices when eating out.

Must keep	11
Keep	9
Keep with changes	0
I don't know	1
Remove	0
Blank	10
Total Responses	31

2.5.3 Support access to nutrition information and program about food labeling and making healthy food choices through publicly available means such as Public Health, Nutrition Resources Centre, EatRight Ontario, Dietitians of Canada Tracker and EatWise.

Must keep	13
Keep	7
Keep with changes	0
I don't know	0

Remove	1
Blank	10
Total Responses	31

- Consider rewriting the sentence to better reflect the two ideas of healthy food choices education and nutrition information education.

Policies/Programs

2.5.1.1 Work with Federal government to advise on changes to the Food and Drugs Act regulations and the Consumer Packaging and Labeling Act.

Must keep	13
Keep	4
Keep with changes	1
I don't know	0
Remove	1
Blank	12
Total Responses	31

- Consider adding re-accessing the efficacy of Natural Health Product program to regulate products that may be harmful to health (e.g., energy drinks).
- Need to add labeling GMO information on food packages.

2.5.1.2 Provincial funding for nutrition education programs for the public.

Must keep	11
Keep	7
Keep with changes	0
I don't know	0
Remove	1
Blank	12
Total Responses	31

- Need to ensure the effectiveness of strategy, through research, before implementation.
- Provide rationale why operations with 15 or more outlets chosen.

2.5.3.1 Nutritional analysis services that enable accurate food labeling.

Must keep	14
Keep	5
Keep with changes	0
I don't know	2
Remove	2
Blank	8
Total Responses	31

2.5.3.2 Support foodservice operations in creating healthier menu choices.

Must keep	16
Keep	2
Keep with changes	1
I don't know	1
Remove	1
Blank	10
Total Responses	31

Target

2.6 Protect children from targeted advertising of unhealthy food and beverages (e.g. high in saturated fats, trans-fatty acids, free sugars, or sodium).

Must keep	1
Keep	1
Keep with changes	7

I don't know	1
Remove	0
Blank	21
Total Responses	31

- Consider including infant and toddler products targeting parents.
- Correct the term “free sugar”; it is unclear.
- Consider rewriting the sentence as “added sugars AND (not or) sodium”.

Actions/Strategies

2.6.1 Restrict marketing, advertising and promotion of food and beverages targeted at children and youth under 13 years of age.

Must keep	16
Keep	3
Keep with changes	3
I don't know	0
Remove	0
Blank	9
Total Responses	31

- Consider including infant and toddlers food products into the strategy.
- Need to rewrite the sentence to reflect the actual meaning in restricting advertising of unhealthy foods only, not healthy foods advertisement as well.
- Consider adding the strategy in prohibiting the use of toys/games in promoting unhealthy foods to children.

2.6.2 Continue research that clarifies the links between food advertising to children and children, food habits.

Must keep	15
Keep	5
Keep with changes	0

I don't know	1
Remove	1
Blank	9
Total Responses	31

- This action better fits in target 6.

2.6.3 Create an expert group at the provincial level that can advise on ways to regulate food advertising to children with the aim of developing provincial or federal regulations.

Must keep	16
Keep	4
Keep with changes	1
I don't know	1
Remove	0
Blank	9
Total Responses	31

- Consider defining marketing and advertising strategy that fits with Canada's Food Guide's approach for healthy eating.

Policies/Programs

2.6.1.1 Prohibit online and offline marketing, and advertising and promotion of food and beverages to children under 13 years of age in domains within provincial jurisdiction and advocate that the federal government support World Health Organization recommendations.

Must keep	17
Keep	4
Keep with changes	1
I don't know	0
Remove	0

Blank	9
Total Responses	31

- Consider requiring advertisers to spend a certain amount of their advertising budget in supporting local healthy eating campaigns.

Target

2.7 Increased research to measure changes in healthy eating knowledge, healthy eating behaviors and foods skills.

Must keep	17
Keep	3
Keep with changes	3
I don't know	3
Remove	0
Blank	5
Total Responses	31

- Consider having an evaluation plan to monitor the effectiveness of any initiative.
- Consider including this target in Target 6; has redundancy with target 6.
- Consider adding to research public's capacity for change.

Actions/Strategies

2.7.1 Support research and nutrition surveys to inform program planners and policy makers on the food choices, eating behaviors and food skills of Ontarians.

Must keep	17
Keep	4
Keep with changes	1
I don't know	0
Remove	0
Blank	9

Total Responses	31
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- Consider partnering with food manufacturers' research and development divisions to create healthy food products (e.g., less sodium, added sugar, increased fibre, etc.).
- Consider adding the concept of assessing public's capacity for change.

Policies/Programs

2.7.1.1 Provide funding for research on the food choices, eating behaviors and food skills of Ontarians.

Must keep	16
Keep	5
Keep with changes	1
I don't know	0
Remove	0
Blank	9
Total Responses	31

- Consider adding research on assessing the factors impacting the purchasing of local foods.

Section 3: Obesity and Chronic Disease

Summary of Feedback

- Some of the strategies and ideas seem to be repetitive with other strategies in the document; need to consolidate and streamline ideas.
- Consider rewarding the strategy to include other chronic disease conditions and avoid “medicalizing” obesity.
- Consider adding strategy in relation to the built environment in impacting food and nutrition, and the prevalence of obesity and other chronic disease conditions.
- Consider adding strategies in reducing processed food intake, rather than just sugar sweetened beverages intake.
- Consider proposing a “sustainable health care system” that promotes healthy eating and chronic disease prevention.
- Need to make sure registered dietitians are involved in health initiatives in order to maintain credibility.
- Consider collaborating both physical activity and nutrition professionals and programs to promote healthy living/weight.

Additions

- Consider adding a new target area to include hospitals and nursing homes to health care: *Improve the nutritional quality of meals provided by government institutions (hospitals, nursing homes, long term care, prisons).*

Detailed Respondent Feedback

The prevalence of obesity and chronic disease in Ontario is reduced in children, youth, and adults.

Target

3.1 Increased collaborative efforts to reduce obesity.

Must keep	21
Keep	2
Keep with changes	2
Remove	1
I don't know	3
Blank	4

Total Responses	33
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- Need to emphasize the need to ensure a collaborative effort from various ministries and levels of the government to tackle obesity due to the fact that obesity is multifactorial.
- Consider adding chronic disease prevention, rather than just obesity.
- Consider replacing the word “obesity” with other more inclusive words (e.g. chronic disease) to minimize stigmatization.

Actions/Strategies

3.1.1 Work across levels of governments and ministries to address the social and environmental factors that affect obesity such as socioeconomic status, and food affordability and accessibility to nutritious food.

Must keep	14
Keep	5
Keep with changes	3
Remove	2
I don't know	1
Blank	8
Total Responses	33

- Consider replacing the word obesity with chronic disease.
- Consider adding the built environment as a modifiable factor that affects obesity.

Target

3.2 Increased health promotion activities to promote healthy eating and active living (HSF).

Must keep	18
Keep	4
Keep with changes	3
Remove	-
I don't know	2

Blank	6
Total Responses	33

- Very important in addressing sedentary behaviours.
- Consider using a broader term to include both healthy eating and active living, such as “healthy lifestyle”, as many other factors other than the two could contribute to obesity/chronic disease.
- Consider rewriting the sentence to be more inclusive of chronic disease prevention, rather than just obesity prevention; healthy eating and physical activity are both important in chronic disease prevention.
- Consider working with local partners other than health professionals (e.g. YMCA) to promote healthy living.

Action/Strategy

3.2.1 Expand healthy eating and food programming across the province.

Must keep	18
Keep	4
Keep with changes	1
Remove	-
I don't know	2
Blank	8
Total Responses	33

- Need to clarify what programming means.

Policies/Programs

3.2.1.1 Increase the health promotion budget to 0.5% of the provincial budget to support programs for food access, healthy eating and active living, and food skills education.

Must keep	18
Keep	4
Keep with changes	3
Remove	-

I don't know	1
Blank	7
Total Responses	33

- This strategy is not realistic.
- Need to provide specific activities to achieve this strategy.

3.2.1.2 Provide adequate and targeted resources to meet the needs of Northern Communities.

Must keep	18
Keep	4
Keep with changes	-
Remove	1
I don't know	1
Blank	9
Total Responses	33

- A very important strategy.

Target

3.3. Identify and treat people with or at risk of obesity early.

Must keep	12
Keep	3
Keep with changes	6
Remove	1
I don't know	4
Blank	7
Total Responses	33

- Obesity prevention or any kind of health initiatives should be targeted to everyone instead of just high-risk populations.
- This point is important, we need to ensure proper training and support for health care providers to offer screening and treatment in an unbiased and non-stigmatizing manner and utilize best practices and appropriate allied health professionals.
- The sentence should be more inclusive of other chronic disease conditions, should read: “Identify and treat people with or at risk of obesity and other chronic diseases early.”
- Wording of sentence seems difficult to read; consider writing the sentence easier to read.

Actions/Strategies

3.3.1 Health care professionals provide integrated screening for early identification and treatment of overweight/obesity.

Must keep	14
Keep	4
Keep with changes	1
Remove	2
I don't know	3
Blank	9
Total Responses	33

- Need to identify the best approach for identification and treatment of obesity/overweight before implementation; current practice has low success rate.
- Consider incorporating the need to identify nutritional deficiencies or excesses; nutritional status is crucial in determining health outcome.

3.3.2 Leverage existing screening program NutriSTEP to identify children 18 months, 5 years who are increased risk of poor nutrition. Expand the screening program to include local or provincial strategies for high-risk children, or incorporate NutriSTEP into existing programs (e.g. Healthy Babies Healthy Children, 18 month expanded visit, and others) for intervention at this age.

Must keep	15
Keep	5

Keep with changes	2
Remove	1
I don't know	2
Blank	8
Total Responses	33

- Need to increase the availability of interventions to treat problems identified through NutriSTEP.

3.3.3 Develop and implement a screening and referral protocol for children (5+), youth, and adults.

Must keep	13
Keep	6
Keep with changes	2
Remove	1
I don't know	3
Blank	8
Total Responses	33

- Need to identify the best approach for identification and treatment of obesity/overweight before implementation; current practice has low success rate.
- Consider adding screening and referral program for pregnant women who are at risk of gaining too much weight during pregnancy.

3.3.4 Provide sufficient resources to access Registered Dietitians and CSEP certified personal trainers and exercise physiologists.

Must keep	15
Keep	4
Keep with changes	3
Remove	1
I don't know	1

Blank	9
Total Responses	33

- Need to specify for whom to access these health professionals.
- Consider emphasizing the need to increase the number of nutrition professionals.
- Consider emphasizing the multidisciplinary team approach consisting registered dietitians, CSEP certified personal trainers and exercise physiologists.

Policies/Programs

3.3.2.1 Adopt NutriSTEP across the province.

Must keep	14
Keep	6
Keep with changes	2
Remove	1
I don't know	3
Blank	7
Total Responses	33

- This point is important; NutriSTEP should be formally integrated into other screening programs/protocol.
- Sentence should read: "Adopt an adequately resourced NutriSTEP program that allows for interventions when screening is indicative of the need".

3.3.3.1 Adopt Screening and referral tools across the province.

Must keep	14
Keep	6
Keep with changes	3
Remove	1
I don't know	1
Blank	8

Total Responses	33
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- Need to ensure effectiveness of tools before implementation.
- Tools should consist components of screening, intervention and referral, rather than just screening and referral.

Target

3.4 Health care professionals provide healthy eating and healthy weight strategies.

Must keep	14
Keep	6
Keep with changes	5
Remove	-
I don't know	2
Blank	6
Total Responses	33

- Consider increasing the number of registered dietitians in the province as part of the strategy.
- Consider providing training to practitioners, and using a balanced approach that also addresses mental health.
- Need to specify what kind of health care professionals to be involved.
- Need to emphasize strategies that are for long-term lifestyle modifications and should be evidence-based.
- Consider rewording the sentence to be more inclusive of chronic disease prevention and not just obesity prevention.

Actions/Strategies

3.4.1 Work with professional organizations to identify effective strategies for prevention and treatment of obesity and chronic disease and transfer this knowledge.

Must keep	14
Keep	6
Keep with changes	2
Remove	1

I don't know	1
Blank	9
Total Responses	33

- Consider removing the word obesity; chronic disease is an inclusive term that includes obesity already.

3.4.2 Support primary healthcare teams to identify roles of each team member in screening, assessment, referral, and reinforcement of healthy eating messages.

Must keep	14
Keep	7
Keep with changes	-
Remove	2
I don't know	1
Blank	9
Total Responses	33

Target

3.5 Increased intake of fresh fruits and vegetables.

Must keep	19
Keep	3
Keep with changes	3
Remove	-
I don't know	2
Blank	6
Total Responses	33

- Consider adding a strategy to reduce the availability of processed foods.

- Should not limit this strategy to fresh vegetables and fruit only, frozen vegetables and fruit have similar health benefits, and fresh foods are less accessible in the north.
- Consider changing “fruits and vegetables” to “vegetables and fruit”, aligning the wording used in Canada’s Food Guide.

Actions/Strategies

3.5.1 Make fresh fruits and vegetables more accessible.

Must keep	19
Keep	5
Keep with changes	-
Remove	-
I don’t know	1
Blank	8
Total Responses	33

- Consider changing “fruits and vegetables” to “vegetables and fruit”, aligning the wording used in Canada’s Food Guide.

Target

3.6 Reduced intake of sugar sweetened beverages.

Must keep	18
Keep	3
Keep with changes	3
Remove	1
I don’t know	2
Blank	6
Total Responses	33

- Reconsider this strategy; restriction/taxation of junk foods and sugar-sweetened beverages has not been proven successful in reducing the prevalence of obesity.

- Consider switching the focus to educating the public with regard to the health impact of consuming junk foods and sugar-sweetened beverages and the key of moderate consumption of those foods.
- Consider including other non-nutritious, processed and high calorie foods in the strategy, instead of just sugar sweetened beverages.

Actions/Strategies

3.6.1 Tax sugar sweetened beverages.

Must keep	3
Keep	8
Keep with changes	2
Remove	3
I don't know	8
Blank	9
Total Responses	33

- Need to ensure effectiveness, through research, of this strategy before implementation.
- Include other unhealthy foods in this strategy, instead of just sweetened beverages.
- Consider adopting a strategy that increases healthy foods availability and affordability.

3.6.2 Conduct research that looks into the effect of taxing nutritionally disadvantageous food.

Must keep	14
Keep	5
Keep with changes	3
Remove	1
I don't know	2
Blank	8
Total Responses	33

- This point is important; need to ensure effectiveness of taxation on nutritionally disadvantageous foods before implementation.

Policies/Programs

3.6.1.1 Tax imposed on sugar sweetened beverages.

Must keep	6
Keep	7
Keep with changes	-
Remove	3
I don't know	10
Blank	7
Total Responses	33

- Minimal evidence supports this strategy in affecting the public's eating behaviour.
- Need to ensure effectiveness, through research, of this strategy before implementation.
- Subsidizing healthy foods might be more effective in preventing obesity and other chronic diseases.

Section 4: Ontario's Food Production Sector

Summary of Feedback

- Stewards should be included; may be better equipped to support certain policies.
- The livelihood of farmers should be a goal/target.
- Support the transition from export focused food production to food production for local consumption.
- Concern that the reduction of chemical pesticides and fertilizers will negatively impact the productivity of farms and food prices down the line, making purchasing local foods less feasible.
- Composting should include full food composting/green bin programs.
- Farmers' rights to save seed should be protected; support farmers in fighting for this right.
- Call for support of farmers and their expertise.
- Connect farmers to local citizens.
- More comprehensive water protection.

Recommendations

- Federal government funding to ensure that Ontarian farmers can compete with producers from the United States and Quebec.
- Programs that support farmers transitioning to sustainable practices or entirely new crops (cash crops to fresh produce).
- Secure more land for farmers; ensure that land from retiring farmers goes to farmers entering the business.
- Train non-farming landlords in environmental stewardship.
- Encourage crop diversity and sustainable agricultural system.
- Wilds lands should be defined as natural rather than wild.
- Discourage foreign land ownership and investment.
- Compensate farmers for contributions to ecological goods and services; consider adoption of Adoption Land Use Services (ALUS).

Detailed Respondent Feedback

There is a strong, diverse, environmentally responsible and sustainable food production sector in Ontario.

Target

4.1 A protected farmland base with farmland available to farmers.

Must keep	10
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Keep	3
Keep with changes	-
Remove	-
I don't know	-
Blank	1
Total Responses	14

- Previously existing farmland protection policies unsuccessful.
- Best approach is to encourage repopulation of rural Ontario.
- Separation of food and farming practices from society is not beneficial; food system, agriculture should be accessible to citizens.
- Furthermore agricultural production that requires separation from people is unlikely to be environmentally friendly processes; again separation of farming and citizens not beneficial.
- Concern that growth in the green energy sector is removing productive agricultural land; solar and wind farm development requiring large tracts of land
- Strong policies are needed at the provincial level for farmland protection, however these policies should be delivered at the municipal level.
- Policies developed in this section should align with policies developed from 5.3; preferential treatment should be given to small and medium sized operations.
- Assistance with infrastructure development and regulatory compliance are crucial as well.

Actions/Strategies

4.1.1 Work with municipalities to create development restrictions.

Must keep	6
Keep	3
Keep with changes	3
Remove	1
I don't know	0
Blank	1
Total Responses	14

- Although it is important to restrict development in order to ease farmland conversion, consider methods for converting land back to farmland.
- Move beyond the focus on urban/rural separation.
- Ensure that development restrictions do not prevent farmers from making their farm viable (economically?).
- Noted that farm expansion can be a threat to forests and wetlands.
- Add that the purpose is to protect farmland.

4.1.2 Support the development of new approaches to farmland ownership, tenure and preservation.

Must keep	6
Keep	4
Keep with changes	-
Remove	2
I don't know	-
Blank	2
Total Responses	14

Policies/Programs

4.1.1.1 Strengthen provincial policies on agricultural land protection to slow the rate of conversion to non-food uses.

Must keep	7
Keep	4
Keep with changes	-
Remove	1
I don't know	-
Blank	2
Total Responses	14

- Provincial policies should also strengthen community ties to local food systems and infrastructure.

- Encouraging citizen participation in the food system is essential to approaching a sustainable system; separation of citizens from farmland suggests that agriculture is something done elsewhere.

4.1.2.1 Implement tax changes for land easements and donations.

Must keep	4
Keep	3
Keep with changes	-
Remove	5
I don't know	-
Blank	2
Total Responses	14

Target

4.2 Conversion of non-prime farmland into ecological goods and services uses.

Must keep	6
Keep	2
Keep with changes	1
Remove	4
I don't know	-
Blank	1
Total Responses	14

Actions/Strategies

4.2.1 Develop quantification protocols to measure the value of on-farm ecological services such as carbon sequestration sites, groundwater recharge areas, vegetative filter strips, and wildlife habitat.

Must keep	2
-----------	---

Keep	6
Keep with changes	-
Remove	3
I don't know	-
Blank	2
Total Responses	13

- Concern for the current endangered species legislation's impact on farmers and their operations.

4.2.2 Develop market mechanisms to allow farmers to be compensated for the ecological goods and services they provide.

Must keep	6
Keep	4
Keep with changes	-
Remove	2
I don't know	-
Blank	2
Total Responses	14

- Needed; currently the goal of ALUS and OFA.

Target

4.3 Farmers are better supported to contribute to endangered species preservation.

Must keep	8
Keep	2
Keep with changes	1
Remove	2
I don't know	-

Blank	1
Total Responses	14

Actions/Strategies

4.3.1 Work with farmers and conservationists to identify strategies that will enable farmers to be conservation partners.

Must keep	6
Keep	4
Keep with changes	1
Remove	1
I don't know	-
Blank	2
Total Responses	14

- Wording: "...identify *and enact* strategies that will enable....".

Policies/Programs

4.3.1.1 Enact safe harbor legislation.

Must keep	3
Keep	1
Keep with changes	2
Remove	7
I don't know	-
Blank	1
Total Responses	14

- Give brief explanation of the safe harbor legislation.

Target

4.4 A more diversified agricultural system.

Must keep	8
Keep	3
Keep with changes	1
Remove	1
I don't know	0
Blank	1
Total Responses	14

- A diverse food system is essential.
- Suggested additional support for open source seed production and research on nutritional rather than productive varieties.

Actions/Strategies

4.4.1 Work with farmers to identify opportunities to better support transitions to more diverse and ecological growing methods.

Must keep	7
Keep	3
Keep with changes	1
Remove	1
I don't know	0
Blank	2
Total Responses	14

- Give support to farmers to become organic.
- Introduce incentives for ecological practices.
- Ensure that the wording does not emphasize one growing method over others; the goal of achieving a diversified agricultural system should be inclusive of various growing methods.

4.4.2 Provide extension services, training, incentives, disincentives, and support that enable farmers to grow more ecologically.

Must keep	5
Keep	3
Keep with changes	2
Remove	2
I don't know	0
Blank	2
Total Responses	14

- Extension services should be facilitated by farming organizations with expertise, such as Ecological Farmers, COG, NFU.
- Concern that the wording preferences one growing method over others.
- Concerned about the use of disincentives, suggested to be removed.
- Suggested wording, *“Provide extension services, training, incentives, and support that enable farmers to adopt diverse growing methods”*.
- Concern over the use of the term ecological as it is not defined, potentially shows a bias and a preference for one growing method over others.

Policies/Programs

4.4.1.1 Adapt agricultural support systems to better support new and re-strategizing farmers.

Must keep	6
Keep	2
Keep with changes	1
Remove	3
I don't know	0
Blank	2
Total Responses	14

4.4.1.2 Change provincial legislation governing supply management to require a range of new entrant programs (e.g. small flock licensing, temporary quota loan programs).

Must keep	3
Keep	4
Keep with changes	0
Remove	5
I don't know	0
Blank	2
Total Responses	14

- Suggested involvement of Supply Management Commodity Boards; the wording should read “*Discuss with Supply Managed Commodity Boards the opportunities for a range of new entrant programs*” to reflect this.
- New entrant programs in Supply Management agriculture already implemented in this sector (?); suggests consultation with leaders of those groups on further opportunities.
- Wording should include protection of existing benefits of supply management system.

4.4.1.3 Implement a tax on synthetic pesticides, and fertilizers.

Must keep	2
Keep	0
Keep with changes	1
Remove	6
I don't know	3
Blank	2
Total Responses	14

- Overall suggestion that there should not be a tax on synthetic pesticides or fertilizers.
- Suggested that incentives be used for farmers using natural fertilizers or organic farming rather than disincentives.
- Suggested that if a tax is implemented, the funds be used to offset environmental impacts of the use of synthetic fertilizers and pesticides.

4.4.1.4 Continue and expand the Environmental Farm Plan program and boost the Integrated Pest Management elements of it.

Must keep	4
Keep	2
Keep with changes	1
Remove	5
I don't know	0
Blank	2
Total Responses	14

- Complete reworking of the Environmental Farm Plan to have stronger end goals.

4.4.1.5 Support regionally based research and extension centers to provide regionally appropriate information on seeds and breeds to both households and urban agricultural communities that meet the interests within those communities, and supports diverse food choices.

Must keep	4
Keep	5
Keep with changes	-
Remove	3
I don't know	0
Blank	2
Total Responses	14

- Wording: renew support for regionally based research...

Target

4.5 Fisheries are sustainable and seafood is safe.

Must keep	6
-----------	----------

Keep	4
Keep with changes	2
Remove	1
I don't know	0
Blank	1
Total Responses	14

- Define the terms “sustainable” and “safe”.

Actions/Strategies

4.5.1 Protect and clean watercourses to ensure sustainable and safe fisheries.

Must keep	9
Keep	3
Keep with changes	-
Remove	-
I don't know	-
Blank	2
Total Responses	14

Target

4.6 Waste is reduced throughout the food system.

Must keep	9
Keep	2
Keep with changes	1
Remove	-
I don't know	1
Blank	1

Total Responses	14
------------------------	-----------

- Suggested that the wording be changed from waste reduction to a move to a closed food system.
- Support composting programs at the municipal level in order to reduce waste and improve soil fertility.
- Concerned that the wording does not suggest the endorsement of an ecological approach to farming.

Actions/Strategies

4.6.1 Provide education and incentives to reduce waste in food growing, processing, distribution, retail, and food service.

Must keep	7
Keep	3
Keep with changes	2
Remove	-
I don't know	-
Blank	2
Total Responses	14

- Waste reduction through composting, recycling, or reducing waste.

4.6.2 Support composting.

Must keep	9
Keep	1
Keep with changes	-
Remove	2
I don't know	-
Blank	2
Total Responses	14

Policies/Programs

4.6.2.1 Require municipalities to develop composting programs.

Must keep	8
Keep	2
Keep with changes	-
Remove	2
I don't know	-
Blank	2
Total Responses	14

4.6.2.2 Support amendments to composting regulations to permit small-scale community based composting.

Must keep	8
Keep	1
Keep with changes	-
Remove	3
I don't know	-
Blank	2
Total Responses	14

Target

4.7 Wild lands are a sustainable source of food.

Must keep	7
Keep	3
Keep with changes	-
Remove	2

I don't know	1
Blank	1
Total Responses	14

- Concern that foraging for wild edibles will overwhelm resources.

Actions/Strategies

4.7.1 Protect existing wild lands from development and degradation for the purpose of enabling wild foods procurement.

Must keep	7
Keep	2
Keep with changes	1
Remove	1
I don't know	1
Blank	2
Total Responses	14

- Unsure of the logic of preserving wild lands for the purposes of procuring wild foods (4.7).
- Add protection of water.
- Strategy should recognize the significance of wild foods to rural/remote/northern communities.
- Define clearly what wild lands are, who owns the land.

Section 5: Agriculture and Ontario's Economy

Summary of Feedback

- Government programs such as Ontario Fresh, Public Investment Fund, etc. must also provide clear definition of *sustainable*.
- Clearly define *local food*.
- Concern that a focus on the promotion of local food procurement does not necessarily promote healthy eating.
- Concern that promoting local food consumption may impact food security, as the cost can be elevated.
- Provide rationale for the link between local food and health.
- More focus on nutritious foods than on local foods, the two are not necessarily the same.

Suggested Additions

- Ongoing research into sustainable farming practices, small-scale farm technology, the effects of climate change on Ontario agriculture, and potential new crops. This should be government supported.
- Programs that allow farmers to access relevant research.
- Address provincial policies that result in closures of small and medium scale food processors; research opportunities to restore on-farm processing facilities
- Incentives for new farmers to enter the industry; address the shortage of experienced farmers.
- Review municipal bylaws that restrict farmers from selling directly to public i.e. roadside stands, sales directly to restaurants, etc.
- Review municipal bylaws restricting street vendors to allow wider variety of foods to be sold; potential opportunity to sell local food cooked on carts, as well as more fruit and vegetable mobile carts.
- All levels of government should promote local food procurement through all government programs.
- Support a local food processing industry.
- Additional support for cooperative initiatives; possible new point 5.8.
- Support community food hubs and farmer distribution coops in order to provide infrastructure for small, sustainable farms.
- New target: protect and expand the Ontario Food Terminal at its current location (opportunities to strengthen local food sector).
- New target: Support small-scale abattoirs through developing a set of scale appropriate regulations for small abattoirs.

Detailed Respondent Feedback

Agriculture and food jobs and businesses contribute to a prosperous economy in Ontario.

Target

5.1 Increased procurement of local Ontario foods by Municipalities, Universities/Colleges, Schools, and Hospitals.

Must keep	8
Keep	2
Keep with changes	3
Remove	-
I don't know	-
Blank	-
Total Responses	13

- Essential to procure local foods that do not contribute to environmental degradation; suggests promoting public procurement of Foodland Organic.
- Further research regarding the capacity of Ontario to rely on its own food production, possible farmland v. farmland currently in use.
- Wording: procurement of local and sustainably produced food.
- Include child care centers and after school programs.
- Include provincial procurement as well as local.

Actions/Strategies

5.1.1 Develop local and sustainable food procurement targets for public sector institutions.

Must keep	6
Keep	4
Keep with changes	2
Remove	-
I don't know	-
Blank	1

Total Responses	13
------------------------	-----------

- Essential to define what we mean by sustainable.
- Suggests revision of other relevant legislation that would require publicly funded institutions to provide healthy local food; specifically amending the Broader Public Accountability Act.

5.1.2 Provide incentives, supports, and tracking requirements to enable public sector institutions to meet the local and sustainable procurement targets.

Must keep	6
Keep	3
Keep with changes	3
Remove	-
I don't know	-
Blank	1
Total Responses	13

- Consider the Ontario Market Investment Fund and the Greenbelt Fund.

Policies/Programs

5.1.1.1 Require public institutions to track and report on local and sustainable food procurement, to set improvement goals, and to report on improvements.

Must keep	6
Keep	2
Keep with changes	1
Remove	2
I don't know	1
Blank	1
Total Responses	13

- Provincial institutions should also be required to procure local and sustainable foods.

5.1.2.1 Continue and expand the Broader Public Sector Investment Fund.

Must keep	5
Keep	1
Keep with changes	1
Remove	3
I don't know	2
Blank	1
Total Responses	13

5.1.2.2 Continue the Ontario Fresh website.

Must keep	3
Keep	2
Keep with changes	2
Remove	3
I don't know	1
Blank	2
Total Responses	13

- Remove support for Ontario Fresh website.
- Wording: continue and expand the Ontario Fresh website.

Target

5.2 Increased consumer awareness of, demand for, and access to local and sustainable food.

Must keep	9
Keep	2

Keep with changes	1
Remove	-
I don't know	-
Blank	1
Total Responses	13

- Define the term sustainable.
- Local does not always equal healthy.

Actions/Strategies

5.2.1 Market and promote local and sustainable food.

Must keep	9
Keep	1
Keep with changes	2
Remove	-
I don't know	-
Blank	1
Total Responses	13

- Local does not always equal healthy.
- Define the term local.

5.2.2 Support programs that make local and sustainable food more available including CSAs, food boxes, farmers markets, and grocery store programs.

Must keep	8
Keep	1
Keep with changes	1
Remove	-
I don't know	-

Blank	3
Total Responses	13

5.2.3 Market, promote, and support culinary tourism.

Must keep	9
Keep	2
Keep with changes	-
Remove	1
I don't know	-
Blank	1
Total Responses	13

- Consider ramifications; potential increased cost of food, decreased availability for local citizens, increased farmer income.
- Potential incentives for restaurants providing local food .

Policies/Programs

5.2.1.1 Continue the Foodland Ontario Program.

Must keep	4
Keep	2
Keep with changes	4
Remove	2
I don't know	-
Blank	1
Total Responses	13

- There is confusion between Foodland Ontario and the retail store of a similar name, Foodland.
- Support regional local food over provincial local food.
- Wording: continue and *expand* the Foodland Ontario Program.

5.2.1.2 Support other programs that identify and market local and sustainable food.

Must keep	7
Keep	2
Keep with changes	2
Remove	1
I don't know	-
Blank	1
Total Responses	13

- Not enough emphasis on improving economic returns for farmers overall. Ensure mechanisms are in place to help farmers get better returns on the food they are already selling.

5.2.1.3 Report trends data for local and sustainable food purchases.

Must keep	5
Keep	5
Keep with changes	1
Remove	-
I don't know	-
Blank	1
Total Responses	13

- More Canada-specific research is needed.

5.2.2.1 Continue to support farmers' markets.

Must keep	6
Keep	5
Keep with changes	1

Remove	-
I don't know	-
Blank	1
Total Responses	13

- Support for Farmers Markets Ontario as well as the Kids Can Grow program and their expansion.
- Suggested addition of a coupon/gift certificate program for farmers markets, in the future extending these to low income citizens.

5.2.2.2 Provide support for other local and sustainable food distribution initiatives.

Must keep	8
Keep	3
Keep with changes	1
Remove	-
I don't know	-
Blank	1
Total Responses	13

- Accomplish this by developing existing hubs; existing facilities, underutilized facilities in rural areas, etc.

5.2.3.1 Report number of restaurants involved in promoting local Ontario products.

Must keep	2
Keep	5
Keep with changes	1
Remove	3
I don't know	1
Blank	1
Total Responses	13

- Develop a system of checks to ensure that local Ontario products are being used.
- Conduct Ontario-specific research to measure the economic impacts of supporting and encouraging the growth and consumption of local food.

Target

5.3 Desirable employment opportunities in food and farming sector is increasing.

Must keep	8
Keep	4
Keep with changes	-
Remove	-
I don't know	-
Blank	1
Total Responses	13

- Remove barriers to entering farming industry.

Actions/Strategies

5.3.1 Create dedicated economic development strategies for food system jobs to enhance the existing economic multipliers in the sector for better job creation.

Must keep	8
Keep	2
Keep with changes	1
Remove	1
I don't know	-
Blank	1
Total Responses	13

5.3.2 Focus on food as a priority area for small business development and employment training.

Must keep	5
Keep	4
Keep with changes	1
Remove	2
I don't know	-
Blank	1
Total Responses	13

5.3.3 Preferentially support small and medium enterprises and cooperatives.

Must keep	5
Keep	2
Keep with changes	2
Remove	2
I don't know	-
Blank	2
Total Responses	13

5.3.4 Ensure agricultural and food service workers have just, fair, and healthy working conditions and rights.

Must keep	6
Keep	4
Keep with changes	-
Remove	1
I don't know	-
Blank	2
Total Responses	13

- Concern for the cost of implementation to agricultural and food service workers.

Policies/Procedures

5.3.3.1 Review policies and regulations for scalability and potential for inequitable impacts on small and medium enterprises.

Must keep	4
Keep	4
Keep with changes	1
Remove	1
I don't know	-
Blank	3
Total Responses	13

- At minimum provide easy access to small enterprises about food regulations.

5.3.4.1 Ensure seasonal agriculture workers have access to the same rights and services as permanent residents.

Must keep	6
Keep	2
Keep with changes	1
Remove	2
I don't know	-
Blank	2
Total Responses	13

- Consult farmers on the state of fair wages.

5.3.4.2 Ensure that minimum wage levels enable food service workers earn a livable wage.

Must keep	7
-----------	---

Keep	2
Keep with changes	2
Remove	1
I don't know	-
Blank	1
Total Responses	13

Target

5.4 There is a skilled workforce able to meet the needs of the food and farming sector.

Must keep	7
Keep	4
Keep with changes	1
Remove	-
I don't know	-
Blank	1
Total Responses	13

- Wording change: *ensure that...*

Actions/Strategies

5.4.1 Develop a comprehensive food systems labour force development strategy.

Must keep	5
Keep	5
Keep with changes	1
Remove	-
I don't know	-
Blank	2

Total Responses	13
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Policies/Programs

5.4.1.1 Implement partial student loan forgiveness for those going into farming.

Must keep	3
Keep	-
Keep with changes	1
Remove	5
I don't know	2
Blank	2
Total Responses	13

5.4.1.2 Enhance collaboration between the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities, the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, and the Ministry of Economic Development and Innovation to foster new training opportunities.

Must keep	7
Keep	2
Keep with changes	1
Remove	1
I don't know	-
Blank	2
Total Responses	13

- Add Ministry of Education; ensure high school programs that support agri-food sectors, consider farm internships for various programs e.g. culinary arts students, dieticians.

Target

5.5 Improved financing for the food and farming sector.

Must keep	7
Keep	3
Keep with changes	-
Remove	2
I don't know	-
Blank	1
Total Responses	13

Action/Strategy

5.5.1 Work with farmers, food businesses, and financial institutions to develop social financing approaches, shared savings plans, pension plans, and grants, loans, and operating capital for new and established farmers.

Must keep	5
Keep	4
Keep with changes	-
Remove	2
I don't know	-
Blank	2
Total Responses	13

Target

5.6 Adequate infrastructure to support the continued growth of the food and farming sector.

Must keep	8
Keep	3
Keep with changes	-
Remove	1

I don't know	-
Blank	1
Total Responses	13

- Local food distribution is the main challenge, it is important to build such a system without duplicating the present system; the goal is to create a diverse, dispersed food system.

Strategies/Actions

5.6.1 Facilitate the building of regional food processing, storage and distribution capacity.

Must keep	8
Keep	2
Keep with changes	1
Remove	-
I don't know	-
Blank	2
Total Responses	13

Policies/Programs

5.6.1.1 Provide Grants, Loans, and business planning support for regional processing, storage and distribution and local food marketing.

Must keep	8
Keep	2
Keep with changes	-
Remove	1
I don't know	-
Blank	2
Total Responses	13

Target

5.7 Regulations and their enforcement support a safe, environmentally sound, healthy, robust, and growing food and farming sector.

Must keep	9
Keep	1
Keep with changes	-
Remove	2
I don't know	-
Blank	1
Total Responses	13

- Current regulations represent a barrier to small enterprises.

Actions/Strategies

5.7.1 Work with food businesses to identify challenges within regulations and their enforcement and to develop solutions.

Must keep	6
Keep	2
Keep with changes	3
Remove	1
I don't know	-
Blank	1
Total Responses	13

- Consult with food inspectors.
- Strength-based approach to improve regulations and enforcement.
- Wording change: food businesses and farms.

5.7.2 Support food providers in meeting regulations.

Must keep	7
Keep	1
Keep with changes	2
Remove	2
I don't know	-
Blank	1
Total Responses	13

- Consult with food inspectors.

5.7.3 Enable on-farm value adding.

Must keep	7
Keep	3
Keep with changes	1
Remove	1
I don't know	-
Blank	1
Total Responses	13

- Concern for the effects on prices.

Policies/Programs

5.7.1.1 Conduct ongoing reviews of regulations that impact on food and how they are enforced.

Must keep	7
Keep	2
Keep with changes	2
Remove	1

I don't know	-
Blank	1
Total Responses	13

- Be more specific.

5.7.1.2 Food safety inspectors trained to ensure consistency in regulatory implementation.

Must keep	7
Keep	3
Keep with changes	2
Remove	-
I don't know	-
Blank	1
Total Responses	13

- Be more specific.

5.7.2.1 Provide training and easy access to advice and information for food providers to facilitate regulatory compliance.

Must keep	7
Keep	2
Keep with changes	2
Remove	1
I don't know	-
Blank	1
Total Responses	13

5.7.3.1 Provide relief from municipal taxation and zoning restrictions for on-farm value-added enterprises.

Must keep	5
Keep	2
Keep with changes	1
Remove	3
I don't know	1
Blank	1
Total Responses	13

- Relief should target smaller, more ecologically friendly operations.

Section 6: Monitoring Health, Social, and Economic Indicators

Summary of Feedback

- Need to include environmental indicators in the monitoring plan.
- The way of organizing target, actions/strategies and policies/program seems redundant and unclear.
- Need to support research evaluating the effectiveness of policies, such as the School Food and Beverage Policy.

Detailed Respondent Feedback

Ontario has ongoing and consistent monitoring, measurement and evaluation of health, social, and economic indicators to inform evidence-based actions by food and nutrition system stakeholders.

Target

6.1 Common indicators and baseline data is tracked consistently.

Must keep	11
Keep	1
Keep with changes	3
Remove	-
I don't know	1
Blank	-
Total Responses	16

- An example indicator could be the percentage of local food sale in comparison to non-local food.
- Should include environmental indicator in addition to health, social, and economic indicators.

Actions/Strategies

6.1.1 Identify measurable and robust indicators.

Must keep	7
Keep	4
Keep with changes	2
Remove	-
I don't know	1
Blank	1
Total Responses	15

- Consider removing the word “robust”; it is not appropriate here or it needs more clarification.

6.1.2 Measure the health of the population using common indicators.

Must keep	10
Keep	3
Keep with changes	-
Remove	1
I don't know	-
Blank	2
Total Responses	16

- Need to ensure selecting the valid and reliable indicators.

6.1.3 Measure the health of the agricultural sector by farm income, rather than export volume.

Must keep	7
Keep	4
Keep with changes	-
Remove	3

I don't know	-
Blank	2
Total Responses	16

- Consider measuring multiple indicators to measure the health of the agricultural sector, rather than just farm income.

Policies/Programs

6.1.1.1 Fund development of indicators and system to measure these

Must keep	11
Keep	2
Keep with changes	1
Remove	-
I don't know	-
Blank	2
Total Responses	16

6.1.2.1 Set health targets to be measured consistently.

Must keep	10
Keep	1
Keep with changes	1
Remove	-
I don't know	2
Blank	2
Total Responses	16

6.1.2.2 Support access to these measures by researchers and policymakers.

Must keep	11
-----------	-----------

Keep	2
Keep with changes	1
Remove	-
I don't know	-
Blank	2
Total Responses	16

6.1.2.3 Support research evaluating the effectiveness of policies.

Must keep	11
Keep	2
Keep with changes	1
Remove	-
I don't know	-
Blank	2
Total Responses	16

6.1.3.1 Set net income targets for farmers, craft strategies to attain those targets, and report on success.

Must keep	7
Keep	4
Keep with changes	1
Remove	2
I don't know	-
Blank	2
Total Responses	16

Target

6.2 Adopt a health in all policies approach.

Must keep	9
Keep	2
Keep with changes	3
Remove	1
I don't know	-
Blank	1
Total Responses	16

- Need to define “health in all”.
- Need to be more specific; the sentence is too broad.

Actions/Strategies

6.2.1 Collaborate with government and stakeholders to create a framework to use to review decisions that will have an impact on health and wellbeing (use lessons from other jurisdictions that have successfully implemented health impact assessment and health in all policies approach).

Must keep	10
Keep	4
Keep with changes	-
Remove	-
I don't know	-
Blank	2
Total Responses	16

6.2.2 Provide tools and support for decisions-makers to enable policies and decisions to be reviewed using a health-impact lens.

Must keep	10
Keep	4

Keep with changes	-
Remove	-
I don't know	-
Blank	2
Total Responses	16

- Consider adding the idea of future policies and decisions should be informed and supported by scientific evidence.

Policies/Programs

6.2.1.1 Require health impact assessment and health in all policies approach similar (e.g. Quebec).

Must keep	7
Keep	3
Keep with changes	1
Remove	1
I don't know	-
Blank	4
Total Responses	16

- The use of Quebec example is unclear; need to be more specific.

6.2.2.1 Health impact assessment tools.

Must keep	9
Keep	3
Keep with changes	1
Remove	-
I don't know	1
Blank	2

Total Responses	16
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- Wording: “Utilize” health impact assessment tools?

Target

6.3 Adopt a food systems approach to policy development.

Must keep	11
Keep	2
Keep with changes	1
Remove	1
I don't know	-
Blank	1
Total Responses	16

- This target should be integrated with 7.3.

Actions/Strategies

6.3.1 In all food policy decision-making ensure that the decisions are grounded in an integrated analysis of the food system, and not siloed thinking.

Must keep	10
Keep	3
Keep with changes	1
Remove	-
I don't know	-
Blank	2
Total Responses	16

Policies/Programs

6.3.1.1 Require food systems approach to policy development.

Must keep	10
Keep	3
Keep with changes	-
Remove	-
I don't know	1
Blank	2
Total Responses	16

- Consider suggesting the development of a provincial food policy council.

Section 7: Engagement in the Food System

Summary of Feedback

- Consider adding support for citizens to access safe, healthy, nutritious and culturally appropriate food as a basic human right.

Detailed Respondent Feedback

Ontarians are actively engaged in making and implementing decisions about their food system.

Target

7.1 Citizens are aware of and engaged in food system planning in their communities.

Must keep	5
Keep	3
Keep with changes	2
Remove	1
I don't know	-
Blank	2
Total Responses	13

- It might be difficult for citizens to be involved in food system planning.
- Consider rewriting the sentence to emphasize the key for citizens to have the knowledge and to be aware of the opportunities and importance in engaging in planning their communities' food system.
- Consider replacing the word "citizens" with "Ontarians".

Strategies/Actions

7.1.1 Support community outreach and engagement initiatives that focus on food system planning and action.

Must keep	6
Keep	4
Keep with changes	-
Remove	-
I don't know	-
Blank	3
Total Responses	13

- Consider suggesting the collaboration between provincial ministries, local governments, local and provincial stakeholders on the development of educational resources and campaigns to raise public awareness about the importance of a sustainable food system.

Target

7.2 Municipalities have policies and legislation that advance sustainable food systems.

Must keep	6
Keep	2
Keep with changes	2
Remove	-
I don't know	1
Blank	2
Total Responses	13

- Both 7.2 and 7.3 are not related to citizen engagement; consider having them as a separate strategy.

7.3 All relevant ministries and stakeholders collaborate to support a sustainable and environmentally sound food system.

Must keep	5
Keep	2

Keep with changes	1
Remove	1
I don't know	1
Blank	3
Total Responses	13

- Need to include representatives from all stakeholders, such as farmers, producers, citizens groups and nutrition professionals, in the collaboration strategy.
- This strategy should be the first strategy within Target 7; a very important point.
- Perhaps a better representation of stakeholders.

Actions/Strategies

7.2.1 Support regional and municipal efforts to bring stakeholders from across the food chain together to promote food systems linkages.

Must keep	7
Keep	3
Keep with changes	-
Remove	-
I don't know	-
Blank	3
Total Responses	13

- Consider coordinating and encouraging municipalities to have policies to develop sustainable food systems.

7.3.1 Bring all ministries that relate to food together along with community members to identify opportunities to create a stronger economy and a healthier province through food.

Must keep	6
Keep	4
Keep with changes	-

Remove	-
I don't know	-
Blank	3
Total Responses	13

- Consider rewriting the sentence to: “Provincial ministries, local governments and provincial and local stakeholders create opportunities and allocate resources that make it easy for citizens to participate in decision-making about their food system”.

Policies/Programs

7.3.1.1 Create a Provincial Food Secretariat or Food Policy Council.

Must keep	5
Keep	4
Keep with changes	2
Remove	-
I don't know	-
Blank	3
Total Responses	13

- Consider rewriting the sentence to make it more specific: “Create a Provincial Food Secretariat to monitor internal government progress and a multi-stakeholder independent Ontario Food Policy Council”.
- This action/strategy should be revised from “the goal of creating a stronger economy and a healthier province through food”, to “to create a healthier province through food”.

Summary: Overall Feedback on Strategy

- Cannot separate food and physical activity.
- We are pleased to support the OFNS's Mission, Vision, Values, and Goals. A whole-of-government and health-in-all-policies approach is essential for a healthy food system and healthy Ontario. Cross-ministry and cross-sector collaboration are key to making Ontario healthier.
- My dominant sense is that we have no idea how to speak about the way in which food is produced, so we use the term sustainable because everyone likes it. The problem is that everyone likes it because it means nothing and is “safe”. So we aren't any further ahead. I think change happens by drawing lines in the sand and inviting people to step over them. If we don't do something different today than we did yesterday, change has not happened. Of course in public processes the difficulty is that someone feels alienated by such an approach, usually because they are quite content with the status quo and don't want to have to do anything differently. This is exactly why we need to raise our bar and find challenging words to replace sustainable when we talk about food production. There are lots of words: organic (which has the benefit of clear globally accepted definition as well as growing consumer interest), ecological (which is vague, but more clear than sustainable), and low-input (which is pretty clear, but disliked because it is almost as exclusive as organic). So really, what do we want?
- I feel the tone does not reflect the complexities in the current food system. The assumption seems to be that we can teach our way out of where we are. But, our lack of teaching is not what got us to this place. We have the kind of food system we have due to neoliberal policies. I don't think we can educate our way out of these. For sure the focus needs to be on policy and strong government role. But, I worry we are a little naive about the economic forces at play.
- We agree with the promotion of evidence-based policy and collaboration of multiple stakeholders to improve the food and nutrition of Ontarians. It is imperative that all stakeholders are consulted and allowed to review and provide comments on any proposed policies to ensure feasible and effective outcomes.
- In areas, the strategy seems quite vague and perhaps too ambitious. The strategy would benefit from having more focused actions that are most likely to deliver meaningful activities to support the expected outcomes. Some actions are not in keeping with the definition of healthful food and are not in keeping with a mission that works with partners to support a health food system (e.g. 1.2.1).
- The term local food has not been defined and is open to a narrow definition that will not support the mission and definition of healthful food. More in keeping with the strategy would be use of the term local food system, a concept that is somewhat incorporated in the definition of healthful food. A local food system is a broader and more inclusive term that reflects the nature of Canada and Ontario's food supply. A focus on local food is too narrow and may suggest that all food

can be produced and processed locally. A local food system can promote locally grown foods and local food processing but also food exports and food and ingredient imports where they contribute to that sustainable food system. Refined sugar production and distribution in Ontario is an excellent example. Ontario cannot grow sugar cane because of our climate and so imports raw cane sugar from South and Central America for processing into refined sugar Ontario. Refined sugar is an accessible and affordable ingredient incorporated into a wide variety of Ontario processed food products, many of which may contain locally produced ingredients, such as sweetened dairy products, breads and cereals and processed fruit products. All of the elements of this food chain contribute collectively to a sustainable food system.

- It's a good first attempt at a monumental task. With some careful editing, you can remove some of the redundancies and realign certain actions so that everything is lined up with the appropriate target. You can also press your contributors to ask where the strategy can afford to be stronger, perhaps more aggressive/provocative (e.g. how/where can we expose existing weaknesses in food production/marketing/accessibility standards that will spark righteous indigence for the status quo? How can advocacy groups use tactics of Big Food companies to their advantage, or to counteract Big Food's agenda?).
- Formatting: the numbering system doesn't quite work for the third column. The existing numbering system implies that the Example Policies/Activities are aligned with specific Actions in the second column. Not the case.
- The questions asked are vague.
- While it is understood that this is a caption of an entire, documented and detailed Strategy, it proves difficult to provide a thorough opinion and make choices on the wording; meaning and importance of the statements above, without being aware of how these goals/mission/visions are to be met. The statements are vague and showcase an ideal in how food and nutrition should be viewed, accessed and utilized, across all facets of education; awareness; socioeconomic factors, etc.
- Use existing resources and tools; successful programs and strategies do not always need to be new and innovative.
- One of the biggest holes noticed in this strategy is an emphasis on education. Mass marketing strategies are not enough to reach out to the core, fundamental knowledge of food and nutrition in this province and to then, in turn improve and/or change the elements as listed above. This knowledge needs to be taught, practiced, and ingrained into our public education system; it needs to become who we are. We require an all-encompassing paradigm shift in the way we truly know about food, on all levels. A Food and Nutrition Strategy is necessary; is vital, but without true alterations to the ways in which food is created, sold, marketed, taught, and accessed, these goals will not be attained.
- This is a very comprehensive well-written strategy. The Ontario Public Health Standards support the ideas and actions articulated in this document. Suggestions:
 - Number the expected outcomes to correspond with the Actions/Strategies.
 - Identify (color-code) actions that can be changed immediately without additional costs and develop a 5-year plan for the rest

- We have encouraged various partners to participate in this consultation. It has been challenging to engage partners who feel that nutrition is outside of their scope of practice or area of influence. We would encourage you to find new ways to engage appropriate partners and more importantly supporters. Additionally the forms provided for group feedback were challenging to complete, although necessary when doing consultative/consensus group feedback.
- Comments about language/terminology:
 - Ensure that acronyms are written out in full or referenced.
 - There were some typos, American spelling and incorrect/incomplete numbering errors in the draft, which we have not commented on. Please ensure future versions have Canadian spelling.
 - Healthful and healthy seem to be used interchangeably. Since healthful food has been defined, we would suggest it consistently be used throughout the document.
 - Education does not necessarily translate into knowledge. This should be considered when making statements about public education and knowledge.
- Too little focus on whole foods and processed whole foods.
- Excellent definitions of healthful food and food system. We recommend that sustainable is defined as well (e.g. in this strategy, what does sustainable encompass? Is a sustainable food system both environmentally and economically sustainable?).
- I believe this strategy is something that is long overdue. It encompasses all areas that have been duly noted as key to creating a healthy and sustainable Ontario.
- We support your many efforts to put key vision points into accurate wording, and like the goals and actions you've included in support of farmers, including recognition and development of ecological services provision, partial student loan forgiveness, work on pensions, etc.
- It is incredibly comprehensive and approaches the broader goals from many different activity and policy angles.
- One overall comment we had was that it might be more strategic to present the various elements of the strategy in a way that prioritizes certain key action items or policy change goals (e.g. temporally). This might make it easier for different audiences (e.g. government) to wrap their heads around. Also, if a select number of actions/strategies and corresponding policies were selected as most strategic and urgent to begin with, a strategic advocacy and communications plan could be created to push the key strategy items forward, which would hold a great deal of clout given the number and importance of the groups who worked on creating the strategy.
- Ontario needs a strategy given the size of the province and the need to preserve agricultural land.
- The overall organization of the document made it difficult to provide feedback.
 - It would be beneficial to have a visual diagram or framework to capture the strategy.
 - It was easy to get lost in the details of the strategy due to large number of multiple-choice questions.

- Although the strategy is a good step in the right direction, it is very ambitious and may be trying to be too much to too many people; is it really feasible and realistic?
- Is the strategy too broad? Are there too many goals to achieve?
- The strategy appears to have more of a nutrition/health focus however this is easily lost as it is such a large strategy and aims to address health, nutrition and agriculture/farming all in one. It appears that the strategy is trying to be/do all things for all people and therefore is lacking a key focus. This strategy will be competing with other agricultural documents such as municipal plans for food and farming (which often have a stronger agricultural focus).
- As the strategy aims to focus on health, nutrition and agriculture/farming, it should directly include all related stakeholders from start to finish.
 - Although health and nutrition stakeholders appear to be actively engaged, it appears that other key agriculture, industry, and farming stakeholders are only listed as potential players however they may not have been involved from the inception of the strategy.
 - All sectors and stakeholders need to be equally involved in order to ensure adequate buy in and support for the strategy.
- The Ontario Food and Nutrition Strategy should aim to align with and/or support other relevant municipal, provincial or federal strategies (e.g. the draft Canadian Food Strategy, F/P/T Childhood Obesity Action Plan), as a coordinated and consistent approach is needed for food and nutrition across the province.
- Research and key references should be provided for all strategy and policy statements throughout the document. The process by which evidence was reviewed and appraised in order to inform the development of this strategy (i.e., methods) should also be provided in order to add transparency and credibility to the strategy. For example:
 - Is there adequate high-quality research to show that the promotion of local food is best for the health of humans and the environment?
 - Is there adequate high-quality research to show benefits of student nutrition programs and community gardens for improving food security and diet quality?
 - Is there adequate high-quality research to suggest that there should be taxes imposed on sugar-sweetened beverages?
- Clarify goals and visions (e.g., improve health and productivity AND lower healthcare costs?).
- Priority areas and/or phases of the strategy should be described.
 - What will we start with first?
 - Short-term versus long-term objectives (e.g. what is achievable in the next 5 years? 10 years? 20 years?).
- Strategy areas that are in-scope and out-of-scope should be identified; this will help to narrow the focus and make it clear as to why certain pieces aren't addressed.
- The strategy should include specific indicators that will be monitored and measured to determine progress and success.

- For the policy statements, the document should suggest who (i.e. what organization or body) would be likely or most suited to move the policy or action forward.
- General Feedback on logistics:
 - It may be beneficial and more strategic to get buy-in for the general strategy first and to omit details such as targets/actions and policies; remove details regarding specific programs and once buy-in for the general strategy is received, then these can be added.
 - There is no clear distinction made between the following areas: targets, actions/strategies and policy examples; these should be clear and more well-defined
- For next round of strategy revision:
 - Spell out all acronyms in the strategy.
 - Add hyperlinks to websites/funds/etc. (e.g. link to the Broader Sector Investment Fund).
 - Identify who the target audience(s) is for strategy.
- Some of the terminology is confusing and needs to be clarified or further defined so all readers are clear of how each term is being used: social costs; sustainable and just; functional areas of capacity (e.g. what is functional versus nonfunctional); healthy eating (is it just what people are eating or is it also the factors that influence why people eat the way they do and how they go about eating); food systems (does marketing and advertising fit into this definition? If not, where are they addressed?); local food (e.g. within: certain number of km? municipality? Ontario); local and sustainable food (these two concepts are not necessarily inclusive of each other and this association should not be implied as it is misleading).
- Job well done.
- Focus on food and nutrition is critical. Do not expand focus to wider aspects of health and health care or to other relevant priorities for agriculture, food processing, food service, etc.
- A lot of ideas but what are the costs, time to develop and staff required for each proposal.
- Overall, our agency feels the strategy is quite comprehensive and presents an ideal description of the pieces that will need to come together across the province to achieve nutritional health and well being.
- After discussion with several staff at our agency, there were some themes that we identified:
 - Several areas of the draft strategy use terms and/or words that are not general knowledge and they require definition or context for both our staff and potentially other audiences.
 - The action column on the strategy chart is not used consistently throughout the document. Some sections have actual actions, and some sections state additional outcomes. We prefer this column contain actions that are tangible and specific and that they clearly identify WHO will do the action.

- Generally we find many of the strategies and actions are very vague and we are not sure exactly what the tangible activity or action will be.
 - We are hoping that a future step is to define measurable indicators because currently it would be hard to measure in order to ensure accountability. We suggest that there be targets set and defined for each outcome in order to assist with making it measurable.
- I think that it is an excellent idea to create a food and nutrition strategy, as we need to improve the health of Canadians and the health of the food system. I think the creation of this strategy helps to make people aware that the production, procurement, processing, distribution, sales, cooking and eating of food are all related to the populations health.
- The Food and Nutrition Strategy was very well written with clear objectives and goals. It has the potential to reach a broad audience, which is essential to have success with this strategy.
- This is a huge undertaking and it is shaping up nicely. I found it very comprehensive. However I think that it is missing or lacking sufficient emphasis on the importance of healthy eating to growth and development, overall health as well as preventing disease. Several outcomes relate to the agricultural system but only one relates to health - reduction of obesity and chronic disease. It does not adequately engage healthcare professionals.
- Covers all of the ideas that we are trying to incorporate in our Food Charter for Hamilton. If this Strategy is accepted, then there will not be a need for a City food charter.
- Pure food does not lend itself to trade, only commercial de-naturalized products do. Food can, and should, be an integral part of a sustainable environment.
- A local food policy, controlled by local eaters and growers will almost certainly evolve sustainably. Whereas commercial products sold as food and controlled by corporations, whose only objective is maximum profit with no pretense to improve the health of eaters, have invaded and conquered our pantries.
- These are two different products and perhaps each should be distinctly labeled. For example food, if it is pure and edible if it has been technologically or chemically adjusted.
- This may be a tall order but at times I found the three columns Targets; Actions/Strategies; and Examples unclear. Some are worded as actions, others as outcomes.
- Targets often suggest “increases” or “decreases” but no percentages are given. In some cases this would be difficult but in others it would give the document more weight.
- I wonder if in the next iteration the second and third columns could be merged (each with a hierarchy of policy, program, example) and the third column could illustrate the HOW, WHO would need to be engaged, and WHAT actions each would need to pursue.
- The strategy is very comprehensive - well done on this!
- It should be made explicit in the strategy that all actions will be considered in rural, remote and urban settings - recognizing that interventions may look very different depending on the context.

- There is some inconsistency in language – ‘healthful’ vs. ‘healthy’ vs. ‘nutritious’ food. Should use one term throughout.
- Include in applicable actions and strategies that registered dietitians should perform them wherever possible.
- I feel the draft is thorough and comprehensive in nature. Definitely a great starting point.
- A very small point perhaps, but the document speaks to the government and partners. To be more inclusive I may suggest the word stakeholders, and perhaps a little more a direction that “encourages and engages stakeholders participation throughout the food system”. Not sure if this makes sense but to me partners are already ‘on board’, stakeholders include the people we have to challenge to get on board.
- We were not asked to comment on the Mission. The mission includes a reference to ‘healthful’ food, which immediately takes you to a footnote. I think it is very important to keep these documents as simple as possible, not sure that the reference to ‘healthful’ enables that.
- You have not prioritized actions/ strategies. They are all wonderful ideas but will require a huge amount of political will and money to move forward. Is it not more strategic to just pick a few and move forward with them rather than getting feedback and working on all of these areas? Most of the actions have financial asks attached to them; where will this funding come from?
- I do not fully understand the context of this strategy. Are you bringing this to the Ontario Legislature? What are your timelines? Do you have many political/media advocates?
- Do you have municipal support for this? Are you working with AMO to gain municipal political support?
- It is time that we work to create a strategy that can be comprehensive and is supported by all sectors of the food system and by government. There should only be one strategy rather than different ones being done by different agencies.
- Make sure that the objectives section clearly includes protected land base and skilled workforce.
- The strategy is extremely broad, more so with respect to nutrition. Would like to see it tightened up more to focus on food and environmental approach.
- I feel concerned that an emphasis on local foods only may adversely affect cost, availability and nutritional variety in institutions. While I personally support the principle of using locally grown foods to meet our nutritional needs, the importance of good nutrition in a global economy should take preference. Education regarding the nutritional contribution of seasonal foods may be helpful, e.g. local cabbage vs. imported fruits/ vegetables.
- I found this document amazing and very detailed. It is a little overwhelming, especially when I'm wondering where the money will come from to make sure that all the points listed in the document will happen.
- Will you be putting in time goals for these or placing them in some kind of timeline order?
- It is good to get ongoing feedback from all sectors, throughout implementation as well as in planning the strategy.

- The Strategy is good but too long. I cannot imagine how this will be achieved or by whom.
- Who will pay for many of these strategies?
- How will people access the promotion of healthy eating if they have no computer? Can you get newspapers like the Toronto Star, especially on Saturdays every week, to stop devoting so much advertising to cars? Can you try to get them to devote at least a small section to healthy eating, and not just recipes?
- I worry that the strategy isn't focused enough. It goes off in so many different directions that if I were the ED of the organization that is tasked with implementing this strategy, I wouldn't know where to start.
- The strategy contains a lot of vague motherhood and apple pie statements that are easy to get people to agree on but impossible to implement. "Sustainable food production" and variants thereof are used throughout the document but "sustainable" is never defined. We do not have any sustainable food systems in Ontario. Creating one will require a completely new paradigm. Some of the changes will require environmental, political and food activists to get out of the way. For example, our food production will not be sustainable until phosphorus and potassium from sewage are returned to farmland.
- The strategy seems to blend concepts of healthy, sustainable and local with an inference that they are somehow interconnected. There is also a heavy emphasis on poverty policy blended in. I have trouble with an argument that concludes Ontarians do not eat healthy because they do not have access to healthy food. I eat healthy food every day. If the average Ontario consumer wants to eat healthy, they have no barriers to eating healthy. Those at the margins struggling to purchase enough calories to stay alive have a significant challenge procuring enough calories and protein in a healthy form within their budgets.

What potential barriers and bottlenecks are created by the strategy?

- Human Resources capacity to support policies and programs.
- Public health nutrition professional capacity at local health units.
- Nutrition support at the provincial level.
- Need for public and political support and understanding of population health approach.
- It's extremely important that the province finds a way to address the gap between the current cost for food grown anywhere versus a fair price for locally grown food. Without some progress on this front, efforts to scale up local food production will not be successful.
- Barriers include:
 - Cost / funds.
 - Lack of scientific evidence to support the desired outcome from certain proposed strategies (e.g. 1.2.1.1 and 3.6.3 should not be imposed prior to 3.6.2).
- Defining foods as healthy or unhealthy may not be consistent with the definition of healthful food and an overall healthful food system what is a healthy food.

- Infrastructure (e.g. 1.6).
- Decision-making, especially around funding and prioritization of strategies/actions.
- Public awareness and engagement: Public Service Announcements generally appeal to the left-brain, but how much of human behaviour is determined by rationale thought? It's a personal feeling that people don't generally respond well to others telling them what's good for them. We need a new approach. We need to involve experience designers/design thinkers - especially in this digital media age.
- Depending on how the government proposes to do this, there could be any number of barriers including financial, social, economical, etc.
- Policy regimes are predominantly oriented in southern Ontario. It is common practice for policy-makers to seek consultation, but to not take seriously the importance and regional significance of Northern communities. Funds that pour into major southern urban centers are utilized and then trickle down what is left to Northern communities. Northern communities do not have the same market for fundraising capabilities that the GTA and other major centers have, so the reliance on funding agencies is of greater importance but very little long-term sustainable funding comes from this and institutional capacity suffers.
- One barrier is that the strategy may represent an expert perspective on what we think people want as opposed to what they actually want. At a Japan-Canada Food Resilience Symposium concerning risk communications - the communications are often relayed by expert's opinions and do not reflect the ideals of the consumer as they are referred to in Japan, otherwise known as citizens. The government prepared communications concerning risks to public, but also held a public forum with citizens with relatively no facilitation, which included the citizenry from all walks of life. It was shown that what experts had prepared to inform citizens, some expected public concerns were not consistent with what citizens were actually concerned about. If we start this strategy off first by targeting the concerns of the citizenry with the current food system in place then they will be more responsive and support programs and policy that the experts know need to change in the future.
- There are financial costs associated with some of the actions. This will require thoughtful redistribution of available dollars.
- Addressing the current system that has resulted in food and nutrition related work occurring in silos that do not effectively or efficiently work together.
- We feel that greater education and awareness (particularly in schools) in food skills and food and agriculture careers are necessary to create a healthier and sustainable food system.
- I think the danger may very well be that the average citizen may be demobilized by some of what is noted under policies. The active engagement, participation and grassroots mobilization of the citizenry is absolutely necessary for the success of this very needed strategy. Governments at any level and citizens do not communicate in the same way or use the same language.
- Citizens are quite good at implementing if the appropriate incentives/encouragement is provided.

- The policy of promoting a cheap price of food - people will need to pay more for a more sustainable food system; the farmer needs to be paid for their work and investment in order to have a profitable and sustainable food system
- Insufficient government will at all levels.
- Lack of genuine opportunities for input and participation by all Ontarians in creating a healthier and sustainable food system.
- A need for a full review of current social assistance rates that takes into account the real cost of living.
- Barriers: availability, marketing challenges with tastier, less healthier foods on the market that are more accessible and cost competitive.
- Will need to identify process for implementation at local, regional and provincial levels i.e. identify leads.
- Overall, many competing interests and agendas of the various sectors and stakeholders.
- If there was no buy-in and engagement of all relevant stakeholders from the initial development of this strategy (e.g. those in agriculture and farming sectors), then there may not be good uptake of the strategy).
- Potential for this to contradict the national food strategy and other local strategies (e.g. municipal farming/agricultural strategies).
- Even if a strategy is created and accepted, it does not guarantee that actions and policies will actually happen; it will be essential to maintain momentum and to task various bodies and organizations with actions in order to ensure the strategy is realized.
- The idea of a food secretariat/council is supported, however it would be complicated and likely controversial in regards to which sector this group would come from and what organizations would be directly involved.
- Who are Ontario's future farmers? We need to provide monetary incentives to new farmers and to existing farmers to mentor future farmers; secondary schools need to talk to kids about a career in agriculture and food processing.
- Municipalities and city planners need to be part of the consultation process in order to preserve prime agricultural land (e.g. Brampton has lost much of it's prime agricultural land to urban development).
- Lack of clear and recognized mandate to develop the strategy.
- Who will lead the strategy and how will it be resourced.
- Too broad a focus will make it less practical and meaningful to implement.
- Support the current programs, are they cost effective, if working continue, if not remove and trail another idea. The program requires support at all levels and funding both with the government and private sources.
- Which branch or government will be responsible? Too many leaders and the end results will take longer.
- Overwhelmingly comprehensive strategy that may be dismissed in its entirety. Recommend to prioritize and phase in strategies/actions in order to make them more politically and economically acceptable and manageable.
- Multi-sector collaboration will be required (i.e. need to align varying goals and priorities).

- I think it will take a lot of money to create all the programs and policies suggested in the strategy. I also think that it will take some work to get farmers on board to use fewer pesticides and to grow more diversified crops. However I also think there are a lot of farmers that are open to new technology and that supporting them financially as they make changes will increase the number willing to make changes.
- I think that implementing this policy will take a long time and that many people will need to be educated about why these suggestions are important. I think all the regulations about food safety and grading may make it difficult for farmers to produce local food and still make a living off the profit. Producing organic food takes more effort so farmers need to be paid for the work.
- I think it will be challenging to change people's behaviours around eating, especially when they see so many commercials for McDonald's and other fast food companies.
- There may be barriers in regards to people not being able to afford the cost of local food.
- Government funding, time, and manpower are needed to put recommendations into action.
- Student nutrition program. The number of schools needing it is growing. The price is about the same. Need increased funding for programs to grow. Belief that community orgs/foundations (non-government) will support but there are limits. Non-sectoral government support is needed.
- Incentives for local and healthy food purchasing. Transportation is biggest challenge. If the food is there it still needs to get to the school. Volunteer based help. Busses and couriers could transport. Policy on provincial level would be helpful.
- Incentives for the kids to eat properly?
- Fundamental problem with having a profiting company. 'Incentives' is a good word because it can have multiple meanings, as the policy is refined.
- Diversity of schools also makes it difficult.
- Municipal and regional planning. PCFSC supports that and is actively working to create that model. Should be active in other communities.
- Distribution systems seem to be missing if you are talking about access. Particularly in rural areas, that is an issue. Rural and remote economies. No language about food hub or distribution center. Should be specifically mentioned.
- Food system is based on profits for private industry, not on creating a healthier and sustainable food system. Changing the whole economic system is a bottleneck.
- Barriers: teens may think that it is cheaper and taste better to buy lunch out than the cafeteria. Environment in the cafeteria may deter kids from eating in there.
- If food vouchers are given for accessibility to choosing more produce, this may be seen as a stigma ("or those who can't afford").
- Bottlenecks: not enough venues/kiosks that sell produce in the schools - backlog and limited time to eat.
- A lot needs to be done and changed over time Priorities will need to be developed
- Budget and politics.

- The market - money.
- The separation between health and food + agricultural thinking, budgeting, measuring.
- Do not focus on trade at all. Focus on local production and consumption of food. This is where it would help to still have local abattoirs around without having overly stringent regulations for them that were never a problem (except for very the large/ powerful) in the first place.
- Cross-disciplinary/ministerial collaboration and competing interests in, for example, health and business sectors.
- Who will take the lead on putting the strategy into action? Need high-level government support and leadership.
- Resources (e.g. human, monetary) and time needed to bring the actions, strategies and outcomes to fruition.
- Is there a plan for widespread dissemination of the strategy?
- Ontario has a large landmass, which may bring challenges - e.g. transportation costs, infrastructure, rural and remote needs.
- Timeline for implementation once a government agency takes responsibility for the strategy.
- Political will and new funding.
- Corporate culture (City of Ottawa has just signed a deal with Coke).
- Supportive environment - people do not like change, feel threatened by changes to their food but are unwilling to make healthy changes or are unable to make healthy changes because our environment doesn't make it the easy choice. We need to look at changing our environments to be supportive of health, food and local to allow the population to adapt and make the changes that it requires.
- Most of Ontario cannot grow the necessary food for year round healthy eating, what to do about that situation.
- Relies on securing funding sources or direction for a number of strategies. What happens if the funding isn't secured? Should a strategy be tied to finding funding?
- I'm concerned about the different organizations that are working on these, and similar, strategies. Sometimes I think that the available government money is going in too many directions to support the same goals and the result is a watered down effect of what the groups would be able to achieve if they worked together instead of separately.
- I know that Dietitians of Canada was involved several years ago in developing the course curriculum for healthy eating at all levels of school, from JK up to Grade 12. I think this is our best way of educating people over the long term. Children can have a strong and powerful influence over family buying.
- Food service contracts.
- Relying on dietitians or other well-meaning medical personnel to define health. We are regularly invited over to friend's houses for dinners. Most of our friends are either MDs or farmers. I can tell you that we wince when we see what the people in "health care" feed us. Everything is processed with no thought to where food comes from. It's the meals with our farmer friends that are always the most nourishing. We are looking for direction on health care from people that are truly clueless.

- How do we get around the power of big business over government decisions? All the wisdom and the word crafting that we can manage will have no effect whatever unless we can find some way of discounting the power of big business in decision-making.
- You need lots of money and lots of direction in many areas-schools, hospitals, doctors' offices etc. How can you supervise so many places?
- The primary barrier is the market distortion caused by government interference in agriculture. Feed grains are much more highly subsidized than vegetables. Thus, we get an inversion in pricing between healthy and unhealthy foods. This food strategy is focused on hanging air fresheners without working on removing the dead stinking moose from the room.
- The biggest challenge is not overcoming a dearth of healthy food, or basic knowledge of what healthy eating is, it is changing lifestyles that value convenience above health and palates that have been conditioned to high salt and sugar levels in food. Our household drinks a lot of water and eats mostly home cooking. Our children find most pops too sweet and most fast food too salty. We've trained their palates to enjoy foods and beverages that are healthy. Getting society from where it is to where it needs to be is going to be the most challenging.

What elements support the work of the strategy and its supporters?

- Attention to food security, physical and social environments, and population health approach.
- Increased access to registered dietitians.
- Improved access/utilization of existing programs/tools (e.g. NutriSTEP).
- Improved evaluation and monitoring of food and nutrition programs, policies and indicators.
- The use of scientific evidence to inform policy.
- Conducting good quality research to inform program planners and policy makers.
- Promoting cooking and food skills in schools.
- Collaborative approach to develop and advance strategies.
- Supporting knowledgeable and well-informed organizations such as EatRight Ontario.
- Starting early (i.e. with children). Addressing much-needed improvements to the Day Nurseries' Act. Enforcing stricter policies for food vendors in public institutions.
- The elements that most advance or support the work we do are:
 - Promote and support healthy eating and access
 - Improve health and reduce healthcare costs
 - Each of these elements is vital to a healthful food and nutrition strategy and in turn supports advancements in specific workplace projects.
- Working with partners in a way that supports regional diversity, having representation from Northern partners
- This strategy understands food and nutrition within the food system that definitely supports the work we are doing.

- Policy around income and housing would greatly help our work.
- Working with local farmers to have easier access to their produce, from field to table.
- Working with school boards to incorporate more teaching, more access and more positive support to encourage healthier choices and availability.
- Teaching cooking classes in the school system, at a young age, to encourage more hands on cooking rather than fast foods.
- Availability to parents to help encourage and be a resource to encourage families to eat together and prepare meals together.
- Increased availability and production of healthy foods and decreased availability of unhealthy foods.
- The actions and policies that focus on creating supporting environments for healthy eating (e.g. in workplaces) are essential as we know that increasing awareness and education alone is not enough to change health behaviours.
- Outcomes related to food access, food skills, monitoring/measurement/evaluation and sustainable food production support our work in public health.
- Access to RDs and ensuring information and programs are provided by RDs.
- Promoting nutrition is important to our work in public health.
- Food security may be improved in our communities.
- Increased consumer awareness of demand for and access to local and sustainable food. As a dietitian, this information would educate clients and make us all more aware of the journey ahead with food.
- Increased access to Registered Dietitians (RD) in the province, increased RD workforce, and increased RD profile as reliable source of nutrition information.
- Having qualified teachers in nutrition at all levels of education (preschool, elementary, secondary).
- Nutrition Resource Centre, managed and staffed by Registered Dietitians.
- Provincial strategies or 'Expert Panels' that involve healthy eating strategies require public health, government, or academic RDs at the table.
- I think the policy suggestions under helping Ontarians develop their knowledge and skills with healthy eating section and the suggestions for reducing the rates of obesity and chronic disease will have the biggest effect on my work. As a future dietitian these are the areas that I will be working in as I assist people with their behaviour change and teach them about healthy eating and cooking skills.
- 'Increased health promotion activities to promote healthy eating and active living' will most advance the work of the Biosphere and Local Flavours.
- I am excited by so many elements of this plan. I work with low-income families and strategies to improve income earning/ ODSP and access to healthy foods in grocery stores and farmers markets are especially interesting to me.
- I am now retired but have worked throughout my career advocating for strategies to increase and retain individual food skills within the community, as these are essential for healthy eating. So I am glad to see policy and activities that support development of food skills.
- I worked extensively on the Student Nutrition Program at the City of Toronto and would like to see the funding and support for that program enhanced.

- It's a system and when a part of it is out of balance it affects the whole, so actually all parts I think will benefit food security.
- Ability to have seeds saved without fear of cross contamination from GM plants. Ability to sue seed companies if their seed contaminates my organic crops - for full and true compensation, not just seed cost, and not to be harassed by Monsanto for then using "their" seeds.
- Outcomes 1-3 will directly support our work at the public health unit level. These outcomes are also ones that we can help move forward through our own regional work. Other outcomes will have indirect effects.
- Good to know that there is a wider organization working in Ontario that we can fall back upon, which will support our work and is saying similar things.
- I think the elements that work with access, food skills and reduction in health related illnesses would have the biggest impact on my work.
- Action 1.6.3 will help develop the local food sector (at the municipal level). We need more unused land within city boundaries to be accessible for urban agricultural projects because growing food should not be limited to rural areas, and our work is limited to private backyards for the time being.
- Action 2.2.3.1 will create more community kitchens. We would like to run cooking/preparation/preservation workshops in community kitchens throughout the city.
- Action 5.2.2 will support our CSA program, though it's unclear what that support will look like.
- Environmental approach, indicators, planning, community and municipal opportunities.
- Policies in municipalities, daycares, schools, hospitals, local community organizations, conservation authorities, food banks, that indicate that a certain percentage of sustainable local food must be purchased.
- Making funding available for our study of ecology, the health of ecosystems, and of species indicators of the health of the environment.

What elements undermine the work of the strategy and its supporters?

- Any strategies that do not address barriers (e.g. determinants of health), the need for adequate resources for implementation or cross-ministry opportunities.
- Lack of definition and clarity, particularly around the word "sustainable" only serves to further confuse an already confused public. We need to say what we mean and not use green-washing terms that serve to perpetuate the current food system.
- 5.1.2.2 I do not support the continuance of the Ontario Fresh website as it functions now. It does not consult or collaborate with similar regional initiatives and by promoting a broad province wide system, the consumer's interest and connection with growers in their own communities tends to get watered down. Reasons for buying locally grown food become dulled and "corporatized".
- I'm in production agriculture, producing healthy and almost sustainable food. Stay out of my way and keep the government out of my way. In my experience,

government is rarely the answer. In this case, government is the largest culprit in creating the problems.

- 5.2.1.1 Our experience over the past 14 years is that support for locally grown food is very regionally based - consumers are interested in purchasing and eating food grown within their own communities and are often willing to pay a premium for this. Purchasing regionally grown local food as a way of supporting your community does not hold true to the same degree with provincial Foodland Ontario program.
- If the Foodland Ontario program becomes recognized as the official vehicle to promote locally grown food, this will result in the loss of end markets for growers and producers in areas outside of the Greenbelt with less favourable climatic or soil conditions. As an illustration, here in Eastern Ontario, there are currently three small commercial market gardeners that supply all the salad greens during the growing season to an independent grocery store. By expanding the accepted/official definition of local food from a regional to a provincial level, it would smooth the way for the grocery store to purchase all its salad greens from one single larger scale grower located in Southern Ontario and displacing the three area market gardeners.
- Imposing policies and legislation that have not been proven to be effective/not supported by scientific evidence and that do not promote informed decision-making.
- Not certain what an urban food and garden production extension program is. However if it takes decision-making and learning out of the hand of the individual citizen completely it will greatly undermine what we do.
- Climate / drought / too much rain / poor return on investment / poor crop prices.
- Marketing of less healthier foods that are competitively priced.
- Will need to be very careful that obesity prevention takes an evidence-based healthy weights approach that includes mental health and reduces weight stigma.
- Suggestion throughout document that economic prosperity is required for improved health.
- The emphasis on economics in the document may undermine the focus on improving the health of Ontarians, as health may be improved exclusive of an improved economy.
- Added value products may be processed thereby reducing nutritional value. Also increasing the cost.
- Unqualified practitioners, teachers, or other unqualified individuals in a position to make provincial decisions about nutrition.
- Competing priorities.
- Lack of long-term commitment (i.e. political desire to see short term changes and gains).
- Section 3.2 describes having activities that promote healthy active living and eating local foods. The Frontenac Arch Biosphere Network currently does this with the Local Flavours program, as well as the Trails Strategy project that we have been working on. It would be beneficial for the Health Unit in Brockville to collaborate with FABN, so that the 'wheel is not reinvented'.
- Canada and Ontario governments.

- There is the possibility that local needs will not align with the target outcomes and actions of a provincial strategy. Flexibility to tailor components at the local level may be beneficial.
- Willingness of government to stand behind many of these objectives and recommendations.
- Action 5.6.1.1 doesn't exactly undermine our work, but I feel that business planning for urban agricultural organizations looks quite different from business planning for the conventional farming sector. We need access to consultants and mentors who understand our unique needs.
- Advertising unhealthy food in general.
- Lack of sufficient social assistance income levels.
- Lack of food literacy and preparation skills.
- Not securing adequate and timely funding may undermine and push the food agenda to the shelf.
- I'm afraid that we will push food manufacturers to do stupid things to their foods. For example, Sunny Delight passes itself off as orange juice to many people, just watch when you go grocery shopping, because they've added thiamine (of all nutrients) and Vitamin C, people think this product is healthy. I'm guessing that shoppers don't look at the ingredient list and see that vegetable oil is an ingredient. I don't want potato chips and other snack food companies to think they are redeeming themselves in the public's eye (and in your wonderful strategy) by adding plant sterols or some other additive to their chips and thereby marketing them as healthy. Having said that, I also don't want to mark every snack food as evil and poisonous. That's why the education piece is so important. A focus on vegetables, fruits and whole grains that can be easily prepared and financially manageable is so much more important. A consistent and positive, rather than negative, message is important. I read somewhere recently that people believe they are cooking food at home 'from scratch' when in fact they are doing more combining and reheating of prepared foods (for example cooking frozen pasta and serving it with tomato sauce from a can or jar). This organization is developing recipes that can be made at home with a maximum of 3 ingredients, because most people getting dinner on the table have limited time to prepare foods as well as limited skill in preparing foods.
- Lack of funding for on-the-ground research in ecology and natural systems, and the species that indicate environmental health.
- Increased labeling requirements favour large multi-national food producers and processed food. The larger the volume and the more highly processed the food is, the less costly per item nutrition labels are and the more advantage the company can take of the minutiae of the rules to obfuscate the truth about the lack of nutrition in their products. The larger the company is, the more talented their compliance people are at getting labels that are filled with bullshit approved.

What is missing from the strategy?

- Terminology should be consistent throughout the document and with supported national/provincial resources (Canada's Food Guide, e.g. 3.5 vegetables and fruit preferred vs. fruit and vegetables).
- Importance of additional nutrition and health measures beyond BMI/BMI-for-age and vegetable and fruit intake.
- Need for additional provincial level support for nutrition.
- Design thinking (as mentioned before), to better incorporate how people interact with: food brands, food vendors (in institutions, work, school, etc.) and grocery stores, farmer's markets, etc., health promotion groups and campaigns, etc.
- Addressing the allure of unhealthy food (why we buy it) and exposing our societal enslavement to certain “super corporations”, products, ingredients (corn, soy), etc. Imagine a social media campaign comparing a local Ontario farmer's life to that of the CEO of PepsiCo Canada: compare their cars, their annual salaries, their overseas travel, their houses, etc.
- A stronger push for disincentives for food manufacturers’ whose products are not considered “healthful” (taxes, ingredient bans, marketing standards, etc.).
- Including food regions as a way that strengthens economies in a sustainable system.
- Any mention of poverty reduction or other health concerns (how would mental health factor in?).
- Including First Nation Peoples as a separate and valued partner that work with federal and provincial as well as non-governmental public sector organizations to ensure food security. Ontario government should encourage cooperative partnerships between the federal Canadian government and Ontario provincial government to initiate and maintain this strategy with First Nation Peoples band/tribal governments and communities.
- Access to healthy food and being healthy is linked to poverty reduction and other health determinants.
- Promoting food as a way of life with regional socio-cultural significance. A strategy in the Far North of Ontario within the Arctic Circle will look different then a strategy for Southern Ontario as well as Northern Ontario from Southern Ontario. People of Far North Ontario typically eat higher protein and carbohydrate diets, as it is the necessity for the lifestyle in that area, which may not be found in typical Southern Ontario health food diets.
- Water (including rivers and lakes).
- Consider adding reference to the triple bottom line for business, which reflects the importance of profit, people and plant. All business (not just agriculture and food production) has a role in influencing the health of Ontarians and the environment.
- This strategy is very limited in its focus on whole foods and processed whole foods.
- The voice of farmers seems to be missing. How many farmers did you have on the Committee?
- Education of the public is so important. Make healthy/good food a way of life, a habit for Ontarians!
- How involved was the ‘grocery’ business in the conversation around this Food Strategy? There is food available from local farmers, yet the grocery store does

not often provide a 'local' food option. I will NOT buy lamb from New Zealand or garlic from China. I prefer buying Ontarian grown food. It tastes better and is of higher quality!

- Objectives for the strategy are needed (which would then link to the outcomes).
- Evidence and research for each policy recommendation and the process used to review and appraise the research.
- A more detailed focus on the why and the how of healthy eating (i.e. moving beyond what people eat but also the physiological, social and contextual factors that influence food choice).
- Mention of weight bias and discrimination (body image) unless out-of-scope?
- Consultation with consumers about their issues and struggles relating to food and nutrition.
- Accessibility to food is missing.
- As discussed labour to develop, implement and costs of the strategies.
- Marketing and availability of convenient, tasty but not always healthy, snack foods are too readily available and have a positive association in many kid's minds. Less advertising and availability of pops/chips/French fries/vending machines would improve help your strategy.
- I think that the Health and Nutrition section needs to be enhanced.
- Business, i.e. grocery stores - if they had policies to re-direct their close dated food to food banks instead of disposal, food banks could safely distribute such food quickly to those in need.
- Create a centralized hub where provincial nutrition communications material (e.g. handouts) can be produced and disseminated. This will help with consistent messaging and reduce duplication at the local level in addition to freeing up time to work towards other initiatives.
- What is the role of corporate food (Loblaw's etc.)?
- Is there some way to link actions 2.4 (healthy eating in the workplace) and 4.6.2 (support composting) to encourage composting in all cafeterias and food courts, on both sides of the counter?
- I think that the strategy has been well thought out and researched. More emphasis on affordability might be helpful.
- Alignment with local and municipal directions, policy, strategies. Leverage from current successes.
- I see that you have wording on public education and nutrition education. I would like to see 30-second commercials on how to read a food label. This information is sadly lacking and the public could benefit from just a few bits of knowledge, such as: ingredients are listed in order by weight; there is sodium in foods that do not taste salty; low trans fat is not the same as no fat at all. I can think of many more messages that would really benefit the public. Information about the Nutrition Facts table would be very helpful. Knowing the difference between a true nutrient or health claim and a marketing advertisement would also be helpful. I'm tired of seeing blueberries on the front of a food package where the ingredients contain no blueberries at all. This is deceptive marketing practice that should be illegal.

- A mention of seeking balance with ecology and the environment in order to achieve sustainability. Sustainability must involve ecological balance, because narrowing the strategy to focus on health and economics is not sustainable. In the long run we depend on the environment. Our economic actions should mirror ecological stability.
- How will you get people who are in the know to conform? Lots of laws have been passed in the past and not everyone has adhered to them. And now with more underfunding, how will you get all this to work.
- You've got to remove the influence of Coke and their brethren on the Registered Dietitians. That Coke can provide courses that are certified CE credits for Dietitians is a joke. Most Dietitians are inadequately trained to see the inherent bias in the providers of information.

In an ideal scenario, what policies or programs should be implemented?

- A coordinated whole-of-government approach to addressing and supporting health and nutrition. All ministries are engaged in the process. There is a particularly strong relationship between the ministries of health, children and youth services, education and agriculture.
- Adequate public health nutrition, registered dietitian and nutrition program human resources.
- Validated screening tools (e.g. NutriSTEP) and successful evaluated programs (e.g. peer nutrition workers, Community Food Advisors, other) will be funded across the province.
- There would be programs that privilege the production, processing, distribution and access of foods that are produced in ecological ways where the farm is valued as a closed loop, low input system. It would be possible to pick a handful of definitional elements for this, for example soil is not fumigated, non-GMO in seed or feed, antibiotics are not used, legume cover crops are used etc.
- Prior to the policies being in place, the required research be completed to better inform the policy makers and nutrition programs to ensure the desired outcomes. Nutrition education and cooking skills be integrated in the school curriculum. Improved infrastructure to promote physical activity for Ontarians of all ages be planned and/or constructed, e.g. walkways, parks, and recreational facilities.
- Policies on transparency in food marketing.
- Farmer's Market or grocery store produce/staple vouchers for low-income families.
- Increase taxation on sugary soft drinks. Warnings on labels.
- Revamped Day Nurseries Act that includes standards for food quality not just food quality.
- Provincial School Lunch Program.
- Programs to renovate school cafeterias; design them for cooking food, not just reheating food.
- Food literacy, with a heavy push on food marketing literacy, in elementary and secondary schools.

- Reward grocery stores for sales of fresh, unprocessed foods.
- Tax break program for farmers using sustainable practices (e.g. certified by Local Food Plus).
- More partnerships between the province's leading Experience Designers/Marketing Agencies and community health organizations.
- A province-wide fresh food strategy for hospitals.
- Mandatory harmonized nutrition education/food literacy training for Teachers, School Administrators, and Early Childhood Education workers.
- Local committees comprised of local citizens that govern the implementation of these policies and programs that ensure long-term and sustainable policy and programming for the proposed initiatives in the strategy. A local/municipal commitment to put citizen's health before big business and for the Ontario government to assist local and municipal governing bodies to ensure a healthy productive and sustainable food system in the face of big business.
- It would be great to see a 5-year plan to have all policies and procedures identified in the Strategy accomplished or in progress.
- Urban agriculture in all its varied forms would be considered infrastructure and be planned into urban centers, i.e. all high rises would have to have green roofs, spaces for community gardens would be identified so interested citizens could easily begin a project (zoning would be in place).
- Affordable housing would be increased and be beginning to fill the demand.
- I would see in the school system:
 - Offering vegetable type snacks to all kids for their break time.
 - Older students involved in preparing foods such as chili, soups, fruit type baked goods to other students at lunch as fund raising events.
 - Kids are in school at least an extra hour-1 1/2 hours where the time is spent on sports/extra curriculum activities, homework, cooking in the schools before going home.
- Incentives for the food industry to increase healthy food production and decrease unhealthy food production.
- Incentives for grocery stores to provide and promote healthier food.
- Federal regulation of trans fat and sodium; related task forces in place and plans for transparent monitoring of progress.
- Programs and policies related to food served and sold in workplaces.
- Menu labeling (with at least calories and sodium) in sit-down and quick-service restaurants.
- Having policies related to food in place at the provincial or federal levels.
- Increased availability of healthy foods where Ontarians live, work, learn and play.
- Opportunities for all Ontarians to have secure and sufficient means to acquire with dignity and self-reliance adequate safe personally/culturally acceptable health promoting foods.
- Opportunities for acquiring adequate levels of food and nutrition knowledge, literacy and skills for all Ontarians to choose, prepare, plan, consume and store food that is safe and healthy for promoting growth and development, active living and prevention of diseases and risk factors.

- Prosperous and sustainable food system/sector that is both profitable and good for the public.
- It is a challenge to look forward with the current issues on budget and funding. Of them all I would hope to see outcome 1.
- Provincial leadership in nutrition by Registered Dietitians is essential.
- Change the price structure of healthy foods (i.e. taxation). All Ministries lead by example by having a Healthy Food and Beverage policy, for their workplace and their spending. Action 2.6 - marketing to children; Action 6.1-3; Action 4.1.
- Strengthen existing Acts that protect farmland.
- Mandatory Food & Nutrition Curriculum for all grades (including hands-on education).
- An ideal situation for me in 5 years would be:
 - Having vouchers and credit cards given out for access to local fruits and vegetables.
 - A tax imposed on sugar-sweetened beverages to discourage their consumption.
 - No advertising to children under 13 about food and beverages.
 - Schools and community centers with the infrastructure and money to run education programs to teach about healthy food and cooking skills.
 - Adjustment of infrastructure and policies to make it easier for farmers to sell their food locally.
 - Research done on the eating behaviours, food choices, and food skills of Ontarians.
- Policies to subsidize purchasing local food for lower income households as well as a policy that taxes pesticide use, though that will be a very difficult one to put in place.
- A healthy food voucher program.
- Developed farmers' markets that are easily accessible in major cities.
- Healthy Food in Schools program with nutrition education a mainstay for all students in the curriculum.
- Further developed health promotion programs in communities for children and adults that are sustained to promote and help facilitate healthy eating.
- Healthy foods available in government run facilities e.g. daycares, LTC, schools, recreation centers, hospitals, and the employees' food service at these worksites, etc.
- Private worksites are supported in offering healthy foods in their cafeterias.
- Schools offer skill development throughout the curriculum for all students.
- Dietitians trained in community nutrition are employed in sufficient numbers by community health centers and public health.
- The public has access to diet counseling by a dietitian in health care settings and worksites.
- Ontario farmers are supported in producing food for consumption by Ontarians.
- Prime Ontario farmland is preserved.
- Infrastructure is in place to allow farmers to supply local markets e.g. distribution and processing facilities.
- Government run facilities use Ontario produced food.

- Consumers have easy access to Ontario produced food.
- More action on poverty reduction to ensure that people have enough money to buy food.
- A Fully funded and administered student nutrition program for school aged children.
- A revised day nurseries act.
- More locally grown foods available throughout the year (less imported).
- Reduced use of fertilizers and pesticides in agriculture.
- Farmland protected against sale for non-farm purposes.
- NutriSTEP implemented through the school system province-wide.
- Everyone has easy access to RDs through OHIP.
- Social assistance rates are adjusted annually based on inflation and housing and food costs.
- Communities know where to turn to for accurate and credible nutrition information.
- Mandatory nutrient policies for food producers and restaurants (i.e. zero trans-fat, reduced sodium, etc.).
- Workplace incentives for implementing healthy nutrition environments.
- Consistent nutrient standards used in schools, workplaces and public facilities (i.e. PPM150).
- Food skills and nutrition education embedded throughout the jk-12 curriculum.
- Zoning by-laws to prevent fast food outlets near schools.
- Ontario-wide Student Nutrition Programs.
- Public health units have dedicated funding to support hands-on food skills training and other capacity building initiatives (e.g. community gardens).
- All hospitals should receive BFI designation and be mandated to do so. More lactation consultants available for breastfeeding support in the community would also be beneficial.
- Increased access to healthy food, especially for children and families.
- Culture shift for local politicians, that they understand the linkages and connections of the food system
- Policies that create municipal composting programs, community gardens (and related support to fund them), local procurement policies (for purchasing i.e. hospitals but also in grocery stores) so that there is less food available from outside Ontario during peak growing seasons, local branding of food grown in our communities, increased funding for RD's to be in workplaces and communities so that they are the main source of nutrition information.
- Social assistance levels will be tied to food prices.
- No advertising “junk” food to kids.
- Caloric labeling in all fast food restaurants.
- Food literacy and preparation will be mandatory in schools.
- Our institutions will serve only healthy options.
- A “sin” tax on all junk food not just sugary beverages. These taxes should then be poured back into the system to augment healthy eating.
- Mandatory regulations on food processors.
- A real curriculum of nutrition and food education in every grade level.

- Wow, wouldn't it be nice to see home economics come back to high school, for both girls and boys?
- Some control over what food companies are allowed to put into food would be wonderful. I show my nutrition class the approved food additive list from the Canadian government and it is somewhat scary to know that all those chemicals are allowed.
- There should be more control over what goes into food, other than what is necessary to keep food clean and safe.
- Why do chocolate bars need artificial flavour? Why is food colouring used in so many foods when it is totally unnecessary?
- The problems with trans fats were not known for 30 years after they were created. I expect this will be the same story with many of the additives that are allowed in our foods today.
- Mandatory gardening/farming education in schools (e.g. school visits to farms, school gardens); farming is seen as a viable career option by young people - programs/policies in place to encourage this.
- Schools, hospitals, municipalities, etc. must source a certain percentage of local sustainable food in their food services.
- People would know who the farmers were in their area. There would be central depots for food collection and distribution from local farmers. We would stop relying on dietitians and western medical personnel and start drawing in experts from other healing modalities.
- A culture of healthy eating will have been embraced by society in general, guided and stimulated by taxation of harmful activities, for example a “health tax” on refined and manufactured foods, as well as a “distance tax”, to encourage people to buy local and cook for themselves. This will benefit everyone and everything, from the land to farmers to gardeners to small businesses to the health and wellbeing of the people of Ontario, as well as our economy and our health care programs.
- No junk foods sold in schools or hospitals.
- External forces are much more important to solving this problem than anything we can do in Ontario. I would focus on getting cooking skills back into schools, that is the single most important task in the strategy. A good cook can make very inexpensive healthy meals. If your cooking skills are limited to recipes that start with “Open the package and microwave on high for...”, no amount of information or subsidy will improve your diet.
- Legislating new labeling requirements is a waste of time and counterproductive. More regulation favours the large enterprises that are largely spewing processed crap.

Comments on Strategy Title

- Supportive.
- I think it will give us limited mileage because of the health focus. While I understand health in the broadest sense, most of the province does not. So, the

- title conveys a public health strategy. We need an interdisciplinary, cross-sectoral food and agriculture strategy.
- Since a large portion of the strategy focuses on the food production sector in terms of the economy, environment and sustainability, a more inclusive title would be appropriate.
 - No issues.
 - Good Title.
 - The current title seems to deter groups and agencies that do not have a direct nutrition focus from participating in consultations and understanding/advocating for this strategy.
 - We're pleased with the title.
 - Not certain that it needs to have nutrition in the title. Nutritious food is defined in the vision and throughout the document.
 - I like that the subtitle says, 'A Plan for Health, Food and Farming'.
 - Remove the term nutrition in the title.
 - The term nutrition leads to a focus on nutrients (versus food) and is more clinical in nature.
 - Focus on food because that is what the strategy is really about; if the food system is healthy then everything else will fall into place and the food will be nutritious.
 - Recommended title (that better describes the broad scope): Ontario Food Strategy.
 - Clear, concise.
 - Good title.
 - We support this title.
 - There was some discussion with our internal stakeholders regarding the title including the word nutrition. Some felt that it should simply be an Ontario food Strategy because nutrition is simply a component or factor of food. Others felt it should include the word nutrition. We did not come to consensus but felt it was interesting to raise the point.
 - I think it is a great title!
 - I think it is a good title because it covers the entire province and clearly shows what the strategy is about, food and nutrition for all of Ontario.
 - Sounds good to me.
 - Fine with me.
 - Wonder if the word healthy should be in the title?
 - Love it! Keep it flowing and mentioned in the media, supermarkets, schools, television, etc.
 - I think we should keep both food and nutrition but maybe it should be called Ontario Food and Health Strategy.
 - Quite a good title.
 - I think this is a wonderful effort and my comments are meant as constructive inputs.
 - Not realistic or helpful.
 - Consider "Ontario Food System and Nutrition Strategy".
 - I love it! More importantly, we need it.
 - Is it accurate? Can you call something Ontario if the province hasn't adopted it? Or before there is buy-in from all stakeholders?

- I think it is well done.
- Love it.
- I think it is pretty broad topic and could be tighter focused.
- I think it's great. It would be nice if you could also include “sustainable”.
- Perhaps adding sustainable before food? I think we need to increase awareness of this term.
- Good.
- A bit stiff.
- It's bland. The name should focus on the intended outcome - Healthy Food - Healthy Ontarians. If you want the word “strategy” in the title it could be “A strategy for Healthy Food and Healthy Ontarians”.

Additional Studies, Links, and Websites

- OSNPPH has concerns about the provincial Childhood Obesity Strategy. Some of our concerns were highlighted and shared with OPHA. We will continue to advocate for these issues to the Healthy Kids Panel.
- <http://www.osnpph.on.ca/communications/2012-Ontarios-Obesity-Council-response.pdf>
- Based on the data available on dental caries, behavior, cancer, risk of obesity, and risk of hyperlipidemia, there is insufficient evidence to set a UL for total or added sugars.
- Dietary Reference Intakes for Energy, Carbohydrate, Fiber, Fat, Fatty Acids, Cholesterol, Protein, and Amino Acids (Macronutrients).
- Institute of Medicine, Washington, DC: National Academies Press, 2005: <http://www.nap.edu/openbook.php?isbn=0309085373>
- Dietary Reference Intakes for Sugars, Canadian Sugar Institute, 2011: <http://www.sugar.ca/english/pdf/carbohydratenews/CarboNews2004.pdf>
- Is Sugar Consumption Detrimental to Health? A Review of the Evidence 1995-2006.
- Ruxton CH, Gardner EJ, McNulty HM. Critical Reviews in Food Science and Nutrition 2010; 50:1-19. <http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/10408390802248569>
- No one macronutrient is uniquely responsible for the rise in obesity rates.
- Diet composition and obesity among Canadian adults. Langlois K, Garriguet D, Findlay L. Health Rep 2009; 20:11-20. <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/82-003-x/2009004/article/10933-eng.pdf>
- Sugars (naturally occurring and added) are found in a wide variety of foods, which individually contribute very little to total energy intake- Sugar consumption among Canadians of all ages. Langlois K, Garriguet D. Health Rep 2011; 22:3. <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/82-003-x/2011003/article/11540-eng.pdf>
- Further analysis of Statistics Canada Health Report: Sugar consumption among Canadians of all ages. Canadian Sugar Institute, 2011: http://www.sugar.ca/english/pdf/Sugar_Consumption_2011.pdf
- Sugar plays a vital role in many sensory and food safety aspects of food. Sugar contributes to the texture, flavour, and appearance of foods, acts as a natural

- preservative, enables the fermentation process to occur, and exhibits antioxidant functions.
- Sucrose: From Field to Table Canadian Sugar Institute, 2011
 - <http://www.sugar.ca/english/pdf/carbohydratenews/CarboNews2010.pdf>
 - Real Food for Real Kids has proven that you can change eating norms and create demand for healthy, natural food: www.rfrk.com
 - Research by McIntyre on student nutrition programs (doing research to determine if student nutrition programs increases food security).
 - Research by Tarasuk on charity vs. programs vs. policy.
 - Metaphor with supporting the building of a sustainable forest: 25 year plan with steps taken every year to reach the goal.
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pxG3YiBMMZE>
 - Local Flavours website: www.localflavours.org
 - Our Trails website: www.explorethearch.ca
 - The Frontenac Arch Biosphere's website: www.fabn.ca
 - <http://www.wrfoodsystem.ca/> has written some blogs and such on this issue.
 - The notion of participatory indicator development is worth considering. See paper by Reed et al.
 - It just takes thinking from first principles, or “common sense”, but it works entirely contrary to the practices of big business and that will be the major challenge to this vision.
 - <http://blog.fooducate.com/2012/04/15/4-examples-of-marketing-through-nutrition-labels/>
 - The CBC TV show ‘Village on a Diet’ about Taylor BC was an awesome show! Loved it! Real people struggling with trying to develop healthier eating habits in a settlement area that had few current choices PLUS trying to be more active in a northern climates

Annotated Bibliography

This annotated bibliography was compiled from documents submitted by participants in the Ontario Food and Nutrition Strategy consultation. Documents were received from online survey submissions as well as through email submissions. The authors of background papers for the Local Food Act supplied additional resources, which are also included.

Some of the common themes found among the submitted resources include:

- Human health, obesity, and diet
- Access to healthy food in schools and other public facilities
- Food access in general
- The current state of farms and farming in Ontario
- The environmental effects of farming and the current food system
- The Greenbelt; ecosystem services and protection
- Farmers' rights and autonomy
- Local farming
- Public engagement and awareness

Academic Alliance for Agriculture. (2010). *A bright agricultural future for ontario and canada: ensuring the economic viability of farming in markham's whitebelt*. The Academic Alliance for Agriculture.

The report makes several suggestions for the preservation and reinforcement of agriculture and related enterprises in the Town of Markham, which is necessary due to increased residential and commercial construction. The report proposes the creation of a Markham Farmland trust, integration of agricultural support into official planning practices, and a commitment to work in partnerships in order to build a future for local agriculture and related enterprises.

Anderson, L.M., Quinn, T.A., Glanz, K., Ramirez, G., Kahwati, L.C., Johnson, D.B., et al. (2009). The effectiveness of worksite nutrition and physical activity interventions for controlling employee overweight and obesity: A systematic review. *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*, 37(4). 340-357.

The report reviews the effectiveness of worksite nutrition and physical activity programs that promote healthy weight in among employees. Most programs focused on informational and behavioral strategies, while others modified the work place in order to promote healthy choices, and it was noted that programs of this sort achieve modest improvements in employee weight. Also discussed are the barriers, costs, and cost effectiveness of such interventions.

Angell, S.Y., Silver, L.D., Goldstein, G.P., Johson, C.M., Deitcher, D.R., Frieden, T.R., & Bassett, M.T. (2009). Cholesterol control beyond the clinic: New York City, trans fat restriction. *Annals of Internal Medicine*, 151, 129-134.

The article discusses New York City's phase out of artificial trans fats in its restaurants. The restriction was in full effect by November 2008, and preliminary analysis showed that artificial trans fats had been replaced with products with healthier fatty acid profiles. The article concludes that public health efforts that change food content allow consumers to meet their dietary recommendations and to reduce cardiovascular risk.

Alvaro, C., Jackson, L.A., Kirk, S., McHugh, T.L., Hughes, J., Chircop, A., & Lyons, R.F. (2010). Moving governmental policies beyond a focus on individual lifestyle: Some insights from complexity and critical theories. *Health Promotion International*, 26(1), 91-99.

Canadian governmental policies consistently focus on promoting individual lifestyle changes, particularly in relation to obesity. This is in spite of the evidence showing that change in environment and conditions of poverty are essential in addressing poverty. The article discussed opportunities for moving away from a focus on individual lifestyle interventions.

Association pour la Sante Publique du Quebec. (2012). *The school zone and nutrition: courses of action for the municipal sector*.

This report focuses on the obesity epidemic as it pertains to children and youth. The report identifies the health problems as well as the associated costs of obesity and offers suggestions for municipalities to improve the food environment for children. The objective is to promote health and well being through land-use planning and appropriate spatial distribution of commercial uses near schools.

Bacon, L., & Aphramor, L. (2011). Weight science: evaluating the evidence for a paradigm shift. *Nutrition Journal*, 10(9).

This paper discusses concerns in focusing on weight loss as an indicator of health for individuals who are "overweight" or "obese". A weight-focused approach is successful in achieving weight loss in the short term but individuals are often unable to maintain weight loss in the long term. The focus on weight is not only unsuccessful in making people thinner and healthier, it has some unintended adverse effects such as cycles of weight loss and gain, it distracts from other personal health goals, reduces self-esteem, produces eating disorders, weight stigmatization, discrimination, and so on. The paper evaluates a movement called Health at Every Size (HAES) as a potential solution to the consequences of conventional weight focus and the potential for a paradigm shift to HAES.

Barry, C.L., Brescoll, V.L., Brownell, K.D., & Schlesinger, M. (2009). Obesity metaphors: how beliefs about the causes of obesity affect support for public policy. *The Milbank Quarterly*, 87(1), 7-47.

This study examines whether individuals' beliefs about the causes of obesity affect their support for policies aimed at stemming obesity rates. The study found that the metaphors that people use to help understand rising obesity in the United States are strong predictors of support for public policies.

Bor, J. (2010). The science of childhood obesity. *Health Affairs*, 29(3), 393 – 397.

This paper discusses current understandings of obesity and weight gain. Discussed are the effects of an overabundance of calorie-rich foods that enable calorie intake that can overwhelm the body's weight-regulatory system, the effects of genetic variation in causing some people to be more vulnerable than others to weight gain, and the growing understanding of the deleterious biological and physiological consequences of accumulating too much fat.

Brownell, K.D., Kersh, R., Ludwig, R.C., Post, R.C., Puhl, R.M., Schwartz, M.B., & Willet, W. (2010). Personal responsibility and obesity: a constructive approach to a controversial issue. *Health Affairs*, 29(3), 378-386.

This paper discusses the language of blame in resigning obesity to a lack of personal responsibility. This is often the basis for inadequate government efforts, despite the importance of environmental conditions that can affect the individual's ability to avoid weight gain. The paper states that personal responsibility can be embraced as a value if priority is placed on legislative and regulatory actions that support responsible behaviour.

Canadian General Standards Board. (2006). *Organic production systems general principles and management standards*. Gatineau.

A document from the Government of Canada outlining the principles and standards of organic farming practices.

Canadian Obesity Network. (2012). What's the really driving the childhood obesity epidemic? Retrieved from:
<http://www.obesitynetwork.ca/page.aspx?page=2714&app=209&cat1=579&tp=12&lk=no&menu=50>

This article looks at the various contributing factors to childhood obesity besides the generally accepted explanation of too much food and too little activity. The article discusses the factors that lead to pediatric weight gain (environmental as well as cultural differences, parenting style, socioeconomic status, etc.) and the reasons why children are not equally susceptible to weight gain.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2011). Health effects of childhood obesity. Retrieved from <http://www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth/obesity/facts.htm>

This web page gives information and resources related to the health effects of obesity, immediate and long-term, as well as ways of preventing childhood obesity.

Chapman, K. (2010). Can people make healthy changes to their diet and maintain them in the long term? A review of the evidence. *Appetite*. 54, 433-441.

This study examined evidence for long-term successful dietary changes in the daily intake of fat, fruit, vegetables and fiber. It found that most participants were able to achieve some change, however the magnitude of the change diminished for each year following the intervention.

Creating a Healthy School Nutrition Environment. (2007). *Nutrition Tools for Schools*.

This handbook for schools outlines the steps to be taken to improve school nutrition programs to engage the entire school community. The purpose of the handbook is to support elementary schools in creating a healthy nutritional environment.

Daniels, S.R., Arnett, D.K., & Eckel, R.H. (2005). Overweight in children and adolescents: pathophysiology, consequences, prevention, and treatment. *Circulation*, 111(15), 1999 - 2002.

This paper suggests that the best approach to preventing the adverse health outcomes of childhood and adolescent obesity is to prevent abnormal weight gain. The paper presents several prevention strategies including behavioral, pharmacological, and surgical treatment.

Darmon, N., & Drewnowski, A. (2008). Does social class predict diet quality? *American Journal of Clinical Nutrition*, 87(5), 1107 – 1117.

The purpose of this review was to explore the possible causal relationship between socioeconomic status and diet quality. The review demonstrates that whole grains, lean meats, fish, low-fat dairy products, and fresh vegetables and fruit are more likely consumed by groups of higher socioeconomic status, whereas the consumption of refined grains and added fats is associated with groups of lower socioeconomic status. The various causal mechanisms for this are explored in this review.

David Suzuki Foundation. (2008). *Otarior's wealth, canada's future: appreciating the value of the greenbelt's eco-services*. Vancouver: David Suzuki Foundation.

This report discusses the estimated value of various land cover types in Ontario's Greenbelt, which is substantial at approximately \$2.6 billion annually in total. The David Suzuki Foundation makes several recommendations for further protection of ecologically significant land in Ontario.

Dietz, W.H. (2004). Overweight in childhood and adolescence. *New England Journal of Medicine*, 350(9), 855-857.

This article provides a common case of childhood obesity, followed by evidence supporting various treatment strategies. These strategies, including routine assessments of body mass index, are recommended to identify modest excesses of weight as well as communication strategies that avoid blame and encourage concern and interest in change on the part of the patient and their families.

Ducks Unlimited Canada, Earthroots, Ecojustice, and Ontario Nature. (2012). *Protecting greenbelt wetlands: how effective is policy?*

A study that examines the strengths and weaknesses of the Niagara Escarpment Plan, the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan, and the Greenbelt Plan and how they intersect with other laws and policies relevant to wetland protection.

Elbel, B., Gyamfi, J., & Kersh, R. (2011). Child and adolescent fast-food choice and the influence of calorie labeling: a natural experiment. *International Journal of Obesity*, 35(4), 493-500.

This study examined children and adolescents' fast-food choices and the influence of calorie labels in low-income communities. The results demonstrated that although adolescents noticed calorie information, they were less influenced by it than adults. No evidence was found that demonstrated that labeling influenced adolescent food choice or parental food choices for their children.

Epstein, L. H., Dearing, K. K., Roba, L. G., & Finkelstein, E. (2010). The influence of taxes and subsidies on energy purchased in an experimental purchasing study. *Psychological Science*, 12 (3), 406-414.

The authors of this article completed a study in which the price of high-calorie-for-nutrient foods was increased while the price of low-calorie-for-nutrient foods was reduced. Subsidizing more healthful foods with high nutrient density increased energy intake, without changing the macronutrient profile of foods purchased. The results demonstrate that taxes are effective in reducing caloric intake.

Freedman, D.S., Khan, L.K., Dietz, W.H., Srinivasan, S.R., & Berenson, G.S. (2001). Relationship of childhood obesity to coronary heart disease risk factors in adulthood: the Bogalusa Heart Study. *Pediatrics*, 108(3), 712-718.

This paper reports on a longitudinal study aimed at assessing the association of the age at which obesity develops with adult levels of lipids, lipoproteins, blood pressure, and insulin.

Garriguet, D. (2009). Diet quality in Canada. *Health Reports*, 20(3), 41-52.

This report discusses the benefits of evaluating diet quality, in addition to making recommendations about what foods to eat or avoid, in order to prevent or control various illnesses. A number of countries, not including Canada, have developed indexes for evaluating diet quality. The authors adapted the American Healthy Eating Index to conform to Canada's Food Guide and scored the diet quality of respondents to the 2004 Canadian Community Health Survey. The author concludes that the American Healthy Eating Index can be adapted for use in Canada.

Giesen, J., Havermans, R. C., Nederkoorn, C., & Jansen, A. (2012). Impulsivity in the supermarket: responses to calorie taxes and subsidies in healthy weight undergraduates. *Appetite*, 58, 6-10.

The authors studied the effect of taxing high-energy dense products and subsidizing low-energy dense products on changes in calorie consumption. The results demonstrated that 'more impulsive' individuals adjusted their calorie consumption with regard to price changes whereas 'less impulsive' participants were less influenced by price changes. Furthermore, taxing high-energy dense products was more successful in reducing calorie consumption than subsidizing low-energy dense products.

Goldman, R. (2010). Ecosystem services: how people benefit from nature. *Environment Magazine*, 52 (5), 15-23.

The author discusses ecosystem goods and services and their implications for everyday life. Goldman looks specifically at water funds as a means of long-term fresh water conservation.

Grain. (2011, May 6). *Food safety for whom? Corporate wealth vs. people's wealth*. Retrieved from Grain: <http://www.grain.org/article/entries/4231-synopsis-food-safety-for-whom-corporate-wealth-versus-people-s-health>

The briefing examines corporate emphasis on food safety as a tool to increase corporate control over food and agriculture. Food safety is recognized as a global issue as the risks of corporate food and farming are concentrated and large-scale. This briefing questions the motivations of the "food safety" agenda, asserting that the interest is directed at increasing the profits of supermarkets and the food service industry rather than a genuine interest in consumer safety.

Harcombe, Z. (2010). *The Obesity Epidemic*. United Kingdom: Columbus Publishing

Ltd.

The book discusses the causes of the obesity epidemic, mainly the turning points in the history of public health and diet advice and the impact that this has had on obesity.

Harvard School of Public Health. (2012). The Nutrition Source: Vegetables and Fruits: Get Plenty Everyday. Link: <http://www.hsph.harvard.edu/nutritionsource/what-should-you-eat/vegetables-full-story/>

Resources and research provided on the health benefits of consuming vegetables and fruits.

Huffpost Living. (2009). Canadian daily sugar intake measured at 26 teaspoons: statscan. Link: http://www.huffingtonpost.ca/2011/09/21/statscan-measures-canadia_n_973709.html

This article discusses a new report from Statistics Canada that indicate that one in every five calories that Canadians consume comes from sugar, amounting to approximately 21% of the daily calorie intake.

Institute of Medicine; HBO Documentary Films (Producers). *The Weight of the Nation* [Motion Picture]. Link: <http://theweightofthenation.hbo.com/films>.

A documentary film discussing the obesity epidemic in the United States as an urgent national problem.

Jackson, L. E., Pascual, U., & Hodgkin, T. (2007). Utilizing and conserving agrobiodiversity in agricultural landscapes. *Agriculture, Ecosystems & Environment*, 121, 196-210.

The authors suggest a biodiversity-based paradigm for sustainable agriculture in order to solve to problems associated with intensive agriculture. The paper considers the ways in which collaboration between different disciplines can help to determine the functions and value of agrobiodiversity as well as the actual value associated with the goods and services provided by agrobiodiversity.

Kushi, L.H., Doyle, C., McCullough, M., Rock, C.L., Demark-Wahnefried, W. Bandera, E.V., et al. (2012). American Cancer Society guidelines on nutrition and physical activity for cancer prevention: reducing the risk of cancer with healthy food choices and physical activity. *CA: a cancer journal for clinicians*, 62(1), 30 -67. Link: <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.3322/caac.20140/full>

These Guidelines, published by the American Cancer Society, were developed by a national panel of experts in cancer research, prevention, epidemiology, public

health, and policy. The guidelines reflect the most current scientific evidence related to dietary and activity patterns and cancer risk.

- Leatherdale, S.T., & Ahmed, R. (2011). Screen-based sedentary behaviors among a nationally representative sample of youth: are Canadian kids couch potatoes? *Chronic diseases and injuries in Canada*, 31(4), 141-146.

The purpose of this study was to determine the percentage of Canadian youth that meet screen-time guidelines and to identify characteristics associated with different screen-time behaviours. The results showed that 50.9% of youth from grades 6-12 that were studied spent more than two hours per day in screen-based behaviour, and the average daily screen time was 7.8 hours. The authors concluded that a better understanding of the factors associated with more hours of screen time is required in order to develop interventions.

- Lenihan, D. (2012). *Rescuing public policy: the case for public engagement*. Ottawa: Public Policy Forum.

This is the final report of the Public Engagement Project. The purpose of the project was to discover ways in which governments, stakeholders, communities, and citizens can collaborate to find and implement solutions to complex policy problems. Lenihan supports public engagement, saying that the leading approach to politics at the moment, “the consumer model”, results in political parties avoiding larger issues and instead focusing on more easily deliverable benefits in exchange for support.

- Li, C., Ford, E.S., Zhao, G., & Mokdad, A.H. (2009). Prevalence of pre-diabetes and its association with clustering of cardiometabolic risk factors and hyperinsulinemia among US adolescents: National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey 2005 – 2006. *Diabetes Care*, 32(2), 342-347.

This study explored the prevalence of impaired fasting glucose (IFG) and/or impaired glucose tolerance (IGT) (or “pre-diabetes”) in U.S. adolescents. The results showed that pre-diabetes is highly prevalent among adolescents.

- Lowe, M.R., & Timko, C.A. (2004). Dieting: Really harmful, merely ineffective or actually helpful? *British Journal of Nutrition*, 92(suppl 1), S19-22.

This paper discusses the various ways in which the term “dieting” is used. Depending on the definition of “dieting”, who is doing it, and why, diets can be helpful, harmful, or ineffective.

- Ludwig, D.S., Peterson, K.E., & Gortmaker S.L. (2001). Relation between consumption of sugar-sweetened drinks and childhood obesity: a prospective, observational analysis. *Lancet*, 357(9255), 505-8.

The study examined the relation between the prevalence of obesity in children and the consumption of sugar sweetened drinks. The results showed that for each additional serving of sugar-sweetened drink consumed, both body mass index and frequency of obesity increased.

Malik, V.S., Schulze, M.B., & Hu, F.B. (2006). Intake of sugar-sweetened beverages and weight gain: a systematic review. *American Journal of Clinical Nutrition*, 84(2), 274-288.

A review of studies and literature from 1966 through May 2005 showed that there is a positive association between greater intakes of sugar-sweetened beverages with weight-gain and obesity in children and adults. Although more research is needed, the authors concluded that there is sufficient evidence to support the development of public health strategies to discourage the consumption of sugary drinks as part of a healthful lifestyle.

Millennium Ecosystem Assessment. (2005). *Ecosystems and human well-being: synthesis*. Washington D.C.: Island Press.

United Nations Secretary General Kofi Anna called for the Millennium Assessment in 2000. The objective of the report was to assess the consequences of ecosystem change for human wellbeing and to determine actions needed to conserve ecosystems and use them sustainably in order for them to continue to contribute to human well being.

Murphy, P. (2012). *Food survey at a community college*. Obesity Thunder Bay.

This report explores the availability of good quality, affordable, and healthy foods that support healthy eating in a community college. Surveys were completed randomly and the vast majority of respondents were students at the college. Generally, respondents said the food that was available was overpriced and unhealthy, with few alternative options such gluten-free, vegetarian, sugar-free, etc.

National Farmers Union. (2010). *Losing our grip: how a corporate farmland buy-up, rising farm debt, and agribusiness financing of inputs threaten family farms and food sovereignty*. Retrieved from National Farmers Union: http://www.nfu.ca/press_releases/2010/06-07-losing_grip.pdf

The family farm model is under threat of extinction, the core issue of which is farmer autonomy and control. According to this report, this is threatened by three factors: non-farmer foodland buy-up (also known as “land grabbing”), farmer debt, and input financing by investors and agribusiness. Stability and long-term thinking for farming will result in environmental benefits, prosperous communities, and encourage inter-generational farm transfers, which are essential to the

maintenance of the family farm model. The National Farmers Union discusses the threats to the family farm model with specific examples from across Canada

National Farmers Union. (2011). *Farms, farmers, and agriculture in ontario - an overview of the situation in 2011*. National Farmers Union.

This paper provides an overview of the current situation of farming in Ontario, examining such things as farming in the larger context of Canada, the exact numbers, sizes, and types of farms in Ontario as well as their trade and processing numbers, gross revenues, expenses, etc.

National Farmers Union. (2011, April). *NFU briefs and policy*. Retrieved from National Farmers Union: http://www.nfu.ca/briefs/2011/farm_income_exports_imports.pdf

This graph plots the total net farm income and total agri-food exports and imports in Canada from 1970-2009. The figure demonstrates that Canada's agriculture economy has become focused on trade.

National Farmers Union. (2011, April). *NFU briefs and policy*. Retrieved from National Farmers Union: http://www.nfu.ca/briefs/2011/farm_income_debt.pdf

This graph plots the realized farmer net income, gross farm income, and gross debt in Canada from 1970-2009. The figure demonstrates that while realized net farm income in Canada has changed little, the value of the products has increased. The cost of production has increased resulting in increased farmer debt.

National Farmers Union. (2012, March). Under attack - again: farmers' rights to save, re-use, exchange and sell seeds. *NFU fact sheet #7*. Saskatoon, Saskatchewan: National Farmers Union.

This fact sheet from the National Farmers Union discusses farmers' right to re-use, exchange and sell seeds, which is under threat of being removed following the implementation of CETA.

Neff, R. A., Chan, I. L., & Clegg Smith, K. (2008). Yesterday's dinner, tomorrow's weather, today's news? US newspaper coverage of food system contributions to climate change. *Public Health Nutrition*, 12 (7), 1006-1014.

The authors of this paper completed a study of top US newspapers in order to examine the extent of media coverage of how the food system contributes to climate change. The study reported that this content increased over time, however the authors concluded that the increase did not reflect the mounting evidence of the food system's effects on climate change.

Niederdeppe, J., & Frosch, D.L. (2009). News coverage and sales of products with trans

fat: effects before and after changes in federal labeling policy. *American Journal of Preventive Medicines*, 36, 395-401.

The US Food and Drug Administration introduced a policy mandating that food products list the amount of trans fat per serving. This paper assessed the influence of news coverage on the sales of products containing trans fats both before and after the introduction of the policy. Results demonstrated that the combination of product labeling and news coverage influenced consumer behaviour in the short term, but this may not be sufficient to promote long-term changes in trans-fat purchases.

Norfolk ALUS. (2009). Retrieved July 26, 2012, from Alternative land use services: growing a healthier environment: www.norfolkalus.ca

The Norfolk Alternative Land Use Services Pilot Project is a voluntary, incentive based project. It provides payments to farmers for returning marginal, environmentally sensitive, or inefficient farmland into native vegetative cover and wetlands.

Ogilvy's TRUTH anti-smoking campaign targeting teens in the US. www.thetruth.com

This website is a source of information about the tobacco industry; it uncovers leaked documents and research to the public. The site is geared to teenagers in order to discourage smoking through dissemination of information.

Olds, T.S., Tomkinson, G.R., Ferrar, K.E., & Maher, C.A. (2010). Trends in the prevalence of childhood overweight and obesity in Australia between 1985 and 2008. *International Journal of Obesity*, 34(1), 57-66.

This study examined trends in the prevalence of Australian childhood overweight and obesity since 1985. The goals of the study were to determine whether there have been (a) overall increases in average body mass index (BMI), (b) differential patterns of change within age groups and (c) increases in BMI within each weight-status category. The results demonstrated that there has been a plateau in the percentage of children classified as overweight or obese, although the levels of pediatric overweight remain high in Australia.

Ontario Nature. (2011). *Safe harbour stewardship agreements*. Retrieved July 5, 2012, from Ontario Nature: http://www.ontarionature.org/protect/campaigns/safe_harbour.php

The webpage gives an overview of Safe Harbour Agreements, which is an example of stewardship agreements that are made possible by the Ontario Endangered Species Act.

Puddister, M., & Koveshnikova, T. (2011). *The value of ecological goods and services in*

the credit river watershed: the implications for greenbelt restoration.

The presentation reviews the importance of ecosystems services in the Credit Valley watershed. The authors support the valuing of ecosystem goods and services in the watershed for the purposes of informing decision making, educating and building awareness, and preserving ecosystem health and by extension human health.

Public Health Agency of Canada. (2012). Curbing childhood obesity: a federal, provincial, and territorial framework for action to promote healthy weights. Link: <http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/hp-ps/hl-mvs/framework-cadre/index-eng.php>

This report discusses the state of the childhood obesity epidemic in Canada as well as possible action strategies for tackling the epidemic.

Puhl, R.M., & Brownell, K.D. (2003). Psychosocial origins of obesity stigma: Toward changing a powerful and pervasive bias. *Obesity Reviews*, 4(4), 213-227.

This paper explores the social and psychological origins of bias and discrimination based on weight. New directions are discussed in both understanding and preventing weight bias.

Rennie, S. (2012, Mar 13). Sodium campaign a flop? Study uncertain on change in eating habits. *Thespec.com*. Retrieved from <http://www.thespec.com/news/canada/article/686466--sodium-campaign-a-flop-study-uncertain-on-change-in-eating-habits>

This article discusses the results of a governmental review of a 2009 ad campaign that was aimed at discouraging the consumption of sodium. The results showed no significant difference in eating habits in either the control group or the participating group.

Rivard, C., Smith, D., McCann, S.E., & Hyland, A. (2012). Taxing sugar-sweetened beverages: a survey of knowledge, attitudes, and behaviours. *Public Health Nutrition*, 1-7.

The purpose of this study was to determine current patterns of sugar-sweetened beverage consumption and the potential reaction to a 20% tax on these items. The results showed that an added tax could influence some to cut down their consumption of the beverages; thirty-six percent said that they would support the tax and over one third of respondents said that they would cut back on their consumption in the event of a tax being added.

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. (2009). The sugar-sweetened beverage and childhood obesity connection. Link: <http://www.rwjf.org/childhoodobesity/product.jsp?id=36512>

This report reviews the trends in consumption of sugar-sweetened beverages in children and its role in increasing obesity. The report recommends that children consume mainly water and other unsweetened beverages such as milk.

Rolls, E.T. (2011). Taste, olfactory and food texture reward processing in the brain and obesity. *International Journal of Obesity*, 35(4), 550-561.

This paper discusses the relationship between overeating and obesity to an increased reward value of the sensory inputs produced by food. It is proposed that control of all rather than one or several of the factors that influence food reward and eating may be important in the prevention and treatment of overeating and obesity.

Romm, J. (2011, September 28). *An illustrated guide to the science of global warming impacts: how we know inaction is the gravest threat humanity faces*. Retrieved July 25, 2012, from Think Progress: <http://thinkprogress.org/climate/2011/09/28/330109/science-of-global-warming-impacts/?mobile=nc>

An article summarizing the impacts of global climate change according to scientific literature. These include increased extreme weather events, food insecurity, sea level rise, species loss, etc.

Royall, D. (2009). A systematic review of the effectiveness of nutrition counseling interventions by dietitians in outpatient and in workplace settings. *Dietitians of Canada*, Consulting Dietitians Network.

A report by Dietitians of Canada that reviews the effectiveness of health interventions by dietitians in the workplace, and the effectiveness of dietitian intervention in an outpatient setting for the prevention and treatment of chronic conditions.

Sedentary Behavior Research Network. (2012). Standardized use of the terms sedentary and sedentary behaviors. *Applied Physiology Nutrition Metabolism*, 37, 540,542.

This letter addresses two definitions of the term “sedentary”, which are inconsistent and result in confusion among researchers. The Sedentary Behaviour Research Network proposes that journal editors adopt a consistent definition of the term “sedentary”.

Sharkey, J. R., Horel, S., & Wesley, D. R. (2012). Neighborhood deprivation, vehicle ownership, and potential spatial access to a variety of fruits and vegetables in a large rural area in Texas. *International Journal of Health Geographics* , 9 (26), 27.

Figure 1 is a conceptual model of food access, which demonstrates that “access to healthful food is the result of the relationship between the retail food environment and potential consumers”.

Slater, A. (2012, April). A view of sustainability. *The Ontario Farmer* .

Ann Slater comments on sustainable farming, the topic of the keynote speaker John Ikerd’s speech at the annual meeting of the Organic Council of Ontario (OCO), March 2012. Slater notes the failures of the industrial farming system and argues for a more focused definition of what it means to farm sustainably in order to effectively meet our present nutritional needs while leaving opportunities for future generations to grow and enjoy food.

Slater, A. (2012, April 25). Letter to Dalton McGuinty from NFU coordinator Ann Slater. Guelph, On: National Farmers Union.

A Letter written to Premier Dalton McGuinty from Ontario NFU coordinator Ann Slater regarding the Canada Europe Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) and its implications for Farmers in Ontario.

The Ecosystem Marketplace. (2006). Retrieved July 5, 2012, from Ecosystem Marketplace: <http://www.ecosystemmarketplace.com>

The Ecosystem Marketplace is a source of news, data, and analytics on markets and payments for ecosystem services. The project hopes to incite development of new ecosystem service markets and the infrastructure that supports them by making accessible information on policy, finance, regulation, science, business, and other market-relevant factors.

The Peterborough Social Planning Council in partnership with Farms at Work. (2011). *The future of Peterborough food & farming: a call for reflection & discussion*.

This report discusses evolution of Peterborough’s farm community in the context of local food production. The authors hope to increase awareness among the public about the social and economic importance of local food production. The report looks at how to plan for the growth of Peterborough county and the city and how this will continue to effect farming in the area and how this could be mitigated.

The Stop community food center. (2012). *Green barn farmers' market vendor survey 2012*. The Stop community food center.

This report details the results of a survey completed in March 2012 of all vendors at The Stop’s Green Barn Farmers’ Market. The purpose of the survey was to understand how selling at market impacts vendors.

Toronto District School Board. (2012). *Feeding our future: the first- and second-year evaluation*. Toronto District School Board.

This report evaluates the progress of the Feeding our Future program run through the Toronto District School Board in seven schools in the Jane and Finch neighborhood. The program is designed to provide nutritious meals to all students regardless of their ability to pay.

Trakas, K., Lawrence, K., & Shear, N.H. (1999). Utilization of health care resources by obese Canadians. *Canadian Medical Association Journal*, 160(10), 1457-1462.

This study determined the prevalence of obesity among Canadians and the associated comorbidities and the patterns of resource utilization by obese people, based on data from the National Population Health Survey. The results demonstrated that 35.2% of men and 25.8% of women in Canada were obese in 1994. The authors concluded that obesity represents a substantial burden on the health of Canadians and on Canada's health care resources.

U.S. Department of Agriculture. (2012). Retrieved from Your Food Environment Atlas: <http://ers.usda.gov/FoodAtlas/>

The Food Environment Atlas assembles statistics on food environment indicators to stimulate research on the determinants of food choices and diet quality. It also provides a spatial overview of a community's ability to access healthy food and its success in doing so.

Van Hook, J., & Altman, C. E. (2012). Competitive food sale in schools and childhood obesity: a longitudinal study. *Sociology of Education*, 85 (1), 23-29.

This study examines the association between the exposures of children to competitive foods (soft drinks, candy bars, and chips) in schools in relation to unhealthy weight gain. The study found that children's weight gain between grades five and eight was not associated to an exposure to competitive foods in school. The authors posit some explanations for this, including the possibility that eating patterns are established before adolescence. Another possible explanation is that eating times and opportunities are highly structured in middle school.

Wang, Y.C., Coxson, P., Shen, Y.M., Foldman, L., & Bibbins-Domingo, K. (2012). A penny-per-ounce tax on sugar-sweetened beverages would cut health and cost burdens of diabetes. *Health Affairs*, 31(1), 199-207.

This report examined the potential impact on health and health spending of a nationwide penny-per-ounce excise tax on sugar-sweetened beverages. The authors found that the tax would reduce consumption of these beverages by 15 percent among adults aged 25–64 and that a modest tax could reduce the

adverse health effects and cost burdens of obesity, diabetes, and cardiovascular diseases.

Waynforth, D. (2010). Evolution, obesity, and why children so often choose the unhealthy eating options. *Medical Hypotheses*, 74(5), 934-936.

The author offers a new model for eating behaviour that is more relaxed and less regulated. The new model encourages individual choice under the reasoning that parents and public policy that aim to control and over-regulate children's diets unwittingly encourage unhealthy diets.

Weis, T. (2010). The accelerating biophysical contradictions of industrial capitalist agriculture. *Journal of Agrarian Change*, 10 (3), 315-341.

There are many negative outcomes lying ahead due to the dependence on industrial capitalist agriculture, which is central to the dominant development narratives. Weis argues that the contradictions within the industrial capitalist structure, while potentially catastrophic, have not yet begun to change the logic of the dominant actors and that we may expect that those actors will attempt to maintain some form of the status quo even as "biophysical problems and inequalities intensify".

White, M. (2007). Food access and obesity. *The International Association for the Study of Obesity*, 8, 99-107.

Figure 1 visualizes the hypothesized causal model for relationship between socioeconomic factors and dietary intake, mediated by food retailing.

Wilson, E. D. (2011). Environmentally friendly health care food services: a survey of beliefs, behaviours, and attitudes. *Canadian Journal of Dietetic Practice and Research*, 72 (3), 117-122.

Wilson states that hospitals and health care food service facilities consume large amounts of resources. This report outlines the results of research done to examine the beliefs, attitudes, and behaviours about environmentally friendly practices in hospitals and health care food services. The author concludes that more education on the environmental impacts of food choices is needed, and that further research be done to determine the barriers and limitations of implementing environmentally friendly strategies in health care.

Appendix 1: OFNS

Ontario Food and Nutrition Strategy: A Plan for Healthy Food and Farming

Mission

An Ontario Food and Nutrition Strategy that works across government and with partners to promote and support healthy eating and access to healthful food*, improve health and reduce health care costs, and strengthen the economy through a sustainable and environmentally sound food system.

* Our definition of healthful food is not limited to the nutrients that a food contains. Our definition recognizes that healthful food comes from a food system where food is produced, processed, transported, and marketed in ways that are environmentally sound, sustainable and just¹.

Vision

Option A: An Ontario that supports health and well being through a productive and sustainable food system**.

Option B: Healthy Ontarians, a sustainable food system** and a prosperous and equitable economy.

Option C: A productive and sustainable food system** that supports the health and wellbeing of Ontarians.

Values

Healthy Ontario land, soil, water and forests provide healthy food.

Healthy food nourishes healthy Ontarians.

Healthy Ontarians live, work, learn and play in healthy communities.

Healthy communities support food and agriculture businesses that contribute to economic prosperity.

**A food system includes wild and cultivated food production and procurement, food processing, food distribution, food access, food consumption, food education and waste management.

Goals

1. To promote health through healthy eating and access to healthful food for all Ontarians.
2. To reduce the burden of obesity and chronic disease on Ontarians and the Ontario health care system.
3. To strengthen the Ontario economy and environment through a sustainable food system.

¹ Prevention Institute, Setting the Record Straight – Nutrition and Health Professionals Define Healthy Food
<http://www.preventioninstitute.org/component/jlibrary/article/id-58/127.html>

Expected Outcomes

- Ontarians have access to and have the means to buy safe, nutritious and culturally acceptable food
- Ontarians have the skills to support healthy eating and make healthy choices where they live, work, learn and play.
- The prevalence of obesity and chronic disease in Ontario is reduced in children, youth and adults.
- There is a strong, diverse, environmentally responsible and sustainable agricultural sector in Ontario.
- Agriculture and food jobs and businesses contribute to a prosperous economy in Ontario.
- Ontario has ongoing and consistent monitoring, measurement and evaluation of health, social, and economic indicators to inform evidence-based actions by food and nutrition system stakeholders
- Ontarians are actively engaged in making and implementing decisions about their food system

Actions/Strategies

1. Ontarians have access to and have the means to buy safe, nutritious and culturally acceptable food**

Targets	Actions/Strategies	<i>Examples of Policies and policy- related activities that would support these actions</i>
1.1 Increased availability of healthful and nutritious foods	<p>1.1.1 Increase the availability of healthy foods and food choices (i.e. food from the four food groups in Canada's Food Guide) in daycares, schools, colleges, universities, workplaces and public facilities and limit food and beverages high in calories, fat, sugar or salt. (OCDPA evidence-informed messages, 2010)</p> <p>1.1.2 Provide access to healthy and local food through public institutional procurement and food programs</p> <p>1.1.3 Provide a student fruit and vegetable program in all public schools as part of the proposed elementary school</p>	<p>1.1.1.1 Continue and expand the Broader Public Sector Investment Fund to promote Ontario food</p> <p>1.1.1.2 Renew and increase funding to the Ontario Student Nutrition Program</p> <p>1.1.1.3 Incentives for local and healthy food purchasing within the Ontario Student Nutrition Program and Ontario After School programs</p> <p>1.1.1.4 Support the Canadian Coalition for Green Health Care in providing healthy local food in hospitals</p> <p>1.1.1.5 Continue to support</p>

	snack program (as per Liberal platform).	and expand the Northern Fruit and Vegetable Program 1.1.1.6 Continue to support PPM150 efforts to sell healthier foods in schools
1.2 Increased availability/production of healthy foods and decreased availability of unhealthy foods	1.2.1 Work with food business system stakeholders to help in the production, processing, promotion and distribution of healthy, local foods.	1.2.1.1 Enact legislation that targets the food supply in regards to development of healthier foods (e.g. lower in saturated fats, <i>trans</i> -fatty acids, free sugars, or sodium) through menu labeling and taxation
1.3 Increased individual and household food security	1.3.1 Reduce poverty – support policies to improve individual and household income to enable low-income residents to afford healthy food e.g. adequate minimum wage and social service allotment, affordable housing, public transportation and employment.	1.3.1.1 Continue to strengthen and implement the Poverty Reduction Strategy, including a focus on food access. Implement an affordable housing strategy 1.3.1.2 Review and reform social assistance programs to better enable part time and occasional work and income earning
1.4 Increased access to healthy foods, especially for vulnerable populations	1.4.1 Ensure access to nutritious food for all Ontarians by using the cost of the Nutritious Food Baskets (calculated annually by each Public Health Unit) in determining the rates for social assistance and the minimum wage and in the formation of ODSP/Social Assistance payouts. (OCDPA evidence-informed messages, 2010)	1.4.1.1 Set minimum wage standards and ODSP/Social Assistance payouts at levels adequate to support healthy eating
1.5 Increased research to identify programs and policies that impact food security	1.5.1 Conduct a cost-benefit analysis of universal and targeted healthy and local food subsidies Conduct research to improve understanding of agricultural subsidies and pricing policies on costs and affordability of	1.5.1.1 Allocate funds on an ongoing basis for research on the multiple factors that influence the cost of food and that contribute to food insecurity.

	<p>highly processed or less healthy food versus healthy food. (HSF, 2009)</p> <p>Study the impact of policies and programs aimed at reducing poverty, food insecurity, and other barriers to accessing healthy foods. (HSF, 2009)</p>	
1.6 Food access is integrated into city and regional land use policies and community planning	1.6.1 Support and fund communities to develop and enact local and regional food strategies to increase access to safe, nutritious and culturally acceptable food.	1.6.1.1 Fund the development and implementation of municipal and regional food councils to advise on food access and policy development. Support the replication of current municipal/regional food councils that are models for successful practices.
	1.6.2. Support community food access solutions that promote the availability and affordability of fresh, locally or regionally grown foods and create opportunities to scale these up throughout the province	<p>1.6.2.1 Adopt policies to support and fund community based food access programs like fresh food markets, community gardens, fresh food box programs, community kitchens, etc.</p> <p>Adopt policies to support and fund networks of community food access programs</p>
	1.6.3 Encourage community planning, zoning and funding which supports healthier food choices, develops and promotes the local food sector, and reduces access to unhealthy food choices particularly to low-income communities. (OCDPA evidence-informed messages, 2010)	<p>1.6.3.1 Designate food retail and affordable food access as essential planning functions to be undertaken by municipal and regional planning bodies</p> <p>1.6.3.2 Add specific policies to all municipal Official Plans that permit walkable access to small and mid-scale food retail, urban agriculture and small temporary farmers markets in all residential areas</p>
	1.6.4 Improve governance and enforcement of treaty rights to enable and support Aboriginal	1.6.4.1 Act in accordance with First Nations Treaty Rights

	communities to develop their own innovative approaches to food production and harvesting to increase access to healthier food.	<p>1.6.4.2 Allocate adequate land for the exclusive use of hunting, fishing and gathering reserves.</p> <p>1.6.4.3 Set and enable, through subsidy, a standard, affordable price for nutritious staples sold in the North</p> <p>1.6.4.4 Advocate for expansion and enhancement of the Federal Food Mail program to ensure affordable pricing of nutritious foods across all regions of Canada.</p> <p>1.6.4.5 Provide innovative options for food production in the North (e.g. funding greenhouses as in Whitehorse, Yukon)</p>
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2. Ontarians have the skills and information to support healthy eating and make healthy choices where they live, work, learn and play.

Targets	Actions/Strategies	<i>Examples of Policies and policy- related activities that would support these actions</i>
2.1 Increased public knowledge of healthy eating practices and how to make healthy food choices through the lifecycle	2.1.1 Promote healthy eating to all through a marketing & promotion campaign (collaboration with Public Health and EatRight Ontario and Nutrition Resource Centre)	
	2.1.2 Promote Breastfeeding	<p>2.1.2.1 Policy that officially permits breastfeeding any time, anywhere.</p> <p>2.1.2.2 Mandate changes to hospital breastfeeding policies consistent with the WHO Code and innocent declaration;</p>

	2.1.3 Ensure widespread support for the provision of pre- and post-natal nutrition access programs	<p>2.1.2.3 Support hospitals in their efforts to meet baby – friendly codes</p> <p>2.1.3.1 Provincial policy that ensures on-going funding for the Healthy Babies Healthy Children program, including a nutrition component (e.g. Federal policy that ensures on-going funding for CPNP programs)</p>
	2.1.4 Promote healthy eating for infants and young children - at home and daycares, etc. through parent and daycare provider nutrition education and food skills training	<p>2.1.4.1 Fund community based and public infant and preschool nutrition programs</p> <p>2.1.4.2 Update nutrition component of Day Nurseries Act, include components around policy development and eating environment</p>
2.2 Increased food and nutrition education and food skills in children, youth and adults	2.2.1 Embed evidence-based food literacy, education about food, and food skills in the curriculum at all grade levels.	<p>2.2.1.1 Include evidence-based food literacy, food education and foods skills in mandated curriculum at all grade levels.</p> <p>2.2.1.2 Provide infrastructure grants for schools and community centres to enable them to build kitchens, buy food-processing equipment and create on-site gardens.</p>
	<p>2.2.2 Provide opportunities for individuals and households to develop food selection, food preparation and food safety skills in school and community settings. (OCDPA evidence-informed messages, 2010)</p> <p>2.2.3 Support public health and community-based healthy eating and food skills programs (planning, shopping, cooking, preparation, preservation, food storage and food safety)</p>	<p>2.2.2.1 Ensure public health units/community health centres and community programs have sufficient capacity to support community based food skills programs.</p> <p>2.2.3.1 Provide funding for community kitchens infrastructure.</p> <p>2.2.3.2 Provide incentives such as vouchers or credit cards to use at local farmers markets, grocery stores to buy fresh fruit and vegetables.</p>

	2.2.4 Provide urban dwellers and rural gardeners with easy access to education and information about how to grow food.	2.2.4.1 Develop an urban food and garden production extension program.
2.3 Ontarians are supported in adopting healthy eating behaviours	<p>2.3.1 Provide access to free nutrition information and education about healthy eating</p> <p>2.3.2 Expand EatRight Ontario to include more motivational behavioural counseling and tracking to assess impact on making dietary changes for healthy eating and healthy weights</p> <p>2.3.3 Increase access to Registered Dietitians in public health and community health centres and community programs.</p>	<p>2.3.1.1 Continue funding EatRight Ontario, Nutrition Resource Centre</p> <p>2.3.1.2 Ensure public health and other public health related/health promotion programs and services at both the local and provincial levels have Registered Dietitians to plan and evaluate programs, promote and support healthy eating.</p>
2.4 Healthy eating in the workplace is supported	<p>2.4.1 Ensure access to healthy foods at the workplace (see 1.1.1 above)</p> <p>2.4.2 Work with private insurers to encourage health plan premium reductions for workplaces that implement healthy cafeteria strategies, food access projects and workplace nutrition education and counseling and to include Registered Dietitian counseling in insured services</p> <p>2.4.3 Ensure Registered Dietitians are available at workplaces to provide educational programs and counseling to employees about healthy eating and healthy weights</p>	2.4.1.1 Provide incentives and educational programs for workplaces to promote healthy eating.
2.5 Increased access to public information about healthy eating through retailers and food service	<p>2.5.1 Require that all food manufacturers, retailers and food services provide consistent, clear and visible nutrition information available about the foods they sell to enable consumers to make informed and healthy food choices</p> <p>2.5.2 Implement a nutrition communications strategy and</p>	<p>2.5.1.1 Work with Federal government to advise on changes to the Food and Drugs Act regulations and the Consumer Packaging and Labeling Act.</p> <p>2.5.1.2 Provincial funding for nutrition education programs for the public</p>

	<p>education program to increase awareness and educate the public on making healthier choices when eating out.</p> <p>2.5.3 Support access to nutrition information and program about food labeling and making healthy food choices through publicly available means such as Public Health, Nutrition Resource Centre, EatRight Ontario, Dietitians of Canada's eatracker and eatwise.</p>	<p>2.5.1.3 Policy/standard for mandatory menu labeling in food service operations with 15 or more outlets nationally. <i>(CCO/PHO Blueprint recommendations, Feb 2012).</i></p> <p>2.5.1.4 Nutritional analysis services that enable accurate food labeling</p> <p>2.5.1.5 Support foodservice operations in creating healthier menu choices</p>
2.6 Protect children from targeted advertising of unhealthy food and beverages (e.g. high in saturated fats, trans-fatty acids, free sugars, or sodium)	<p>2.6.1 Restrict marketing, advertising and promotion of food and beverages targeted at children and youth under 13 years of age</p> <p>2.6.2 Continue research that clarifies the links between food advertising to children and children's food habits.</p> <p>2.6.3 Create an expert group at the provincial level that can advise on ways to regulate food advertising to children with the aim of developing provincial or federal regulations</p>	<p>2.6.1.1 Prohibit online and offline marketing, and advertising and promotion of food and beverages to children under 13 years of age in domains within provincial jurisdiction and advocate that the federal government support World Health Organization recommendations</p>
2.7 Increased research to measure changes in healthy eating knowledge, healthy eating behaviours and foods skills	<p>2.7.1 Support research and nutrition surveys to inform program planners and policy makers on the food choices, eating behaviours and food skills of Ontarians.</p>	<p>2.7.1.1 Provide funding for research on the food choices, eating behaviours and food skills of Ontarians.</p>

3. The prevalence of obesity and chronic disease in Ontario is reduced in children, youth and adults.

Targets	Actions/Strategies	<i>Examples of Policies and policy- related activities that would support these actions</i>
3.1 Increased collaborative	3.1.1 Work across levels of governments and ministries to	

efforts to reduce obesity	address the social and environmental factors that affect obesity such as socioeconomic status, and food affordability and accessibility to nutritious food. (see sections 1 and 2 above)	
3.2 Increased health promotion activities to promote healthy eating and active living	3.2.1 Expand healthy eating and food programming across the province (see sections 1 and 2 above)	3.2.1.1 Increase the health promotion budget to 0.5% of the provincial budget to support programs for food access, healthy eating and active living, and food skills education. 3.2.1.2 Provide adequate and targeted resources to meet the needs of Northern Communities
3.3. Identify and treat people with or at risk of obesity early	3.3.1 Health care professionals provide integrated screening for early identification and treatment of overweight/obesity 3.3.2 Leverage existing screening program NutriSTEP® to identify children 18 months to 5 years who are increased risk of poor nutrition. Expand the screening program to include local or provincial strategies for high-risk children, or incorporate NutriSTEP into existing programs (e.g. Healthy Babies Healthy Children, 18 month expanded visit, and others) for intervention at this age. 3.3.3 Develop and implement a screening and referral protocol for children (5 and over), youth and adults 3.3.4. Provide sufficient resources so that individuals identified by screening can access Registered Dietitians and CSEP certified personal trainers and exercise physiologists (see 2.3 and 2.4 above)	3.3.3.1 Adopt Screening and referral tools across the province 3.3.2.1 Adopt NutriSTEP across the province
3.4 Health care professionals provide healthy	3.4.1 Work with professional organizations to identify effective strategies for prevention and	

eating, healthy weight and physical activity strategies	treatment of obesity and chronic disease and transfer this knowledge. 3.4.2 Support primary healthcare teams to identify roles of each team member in screening, assessment, referral, and reinforcement of healthy eating messages	
3.5 Increased intake of fresh fruits and vegetables	Make fresh fruits and vegetables more accessible (see section 1 above)	
3.6 Reduced intake of sugar sweetened beverages	3.6.3 Tax sugar sweetened beverages 3.6.2 Conduct research that looks into the effect of taxing nutritionally disadvantageous food.	3.6.1.1.Tax imposed on sugar sweetened beverages

4. There is a strong, diverse, environmentally responsible and sustainable food production sector in Ontario.

Targets	Actions/Strategies	<i>Examples of Policies and policy- related activities that would support these actions</i>
4.1 A protected farmland base with farmland available to farmers	4.1.1 Work with municipalities to create development restrictions	4.1.1.1 Strengthen provincial policies on agricultural land protection to slow the rate of conversion to non-food uses Example: Region of Waterloo Official Plan (2009) that delineates the countryside line.
	4.1.2. Support the development of new approaches to farmland ownership, tenure and preservation	4.1.4.1Implement tax changes for land easements and donations
4.2 Conversion of non-prime farmland into ecological goods and services uses	4.2.1 Develop quantification protocols to measure the value of on-farm ecological services such as carbon sequestration sites, groundwater recharge areas, vegetative filter strips, and wildlife habitat.	
	4.2.2. Develop market mechanisms	

	to allow farmers to be compensated for the ecological goods and services they provide.	
4.3 Farmers are better supported to contribute to endangered species preservation	4.3.1 Work with farmers and conservationists to identify strategies that will enable farmers to be conservation partners	4.3.1.1 Enact safe harbour legislation
4.4 A more diversified agricultural system	4.4.1 Work with farmers to identify opportunities to better support transitions to more diverse and ecological growing methods	<p>4.4.1.1 Adapt agricultural support systems to better support new and re-strategizing farmers</p> <p>4.4.1.2 Change provincial legislation governing supply management to require a range of new entrant programs (e.g. small flock licensing, temporary quota loan programs)</p>
	4.4.2 Provide extension services, training, incentives, disincentives, and support that enable farmers to grow more ecologically	<p>4.4.2.1 Implement a tax on synthetic pesticides, and fertilizers</p> <p>4.4.2.1 Continue and expand the Environmental Farm Plan program and boost the Integrated Pest Management elements of it</p> <p>4.4.2.2 Support regionally-based research and extension centres to provide regionally-appropriate information on seeds and breeds to both households and urban agricultural communities that meets the interests within those communities, and support diverse food choices.</p>
4.5 Fisheries are sustainable and safe	4.5.1 Protect and clean water courses to ensure sustainable and safe fisheries	
4.6 Waste is	4.6.1 Provide education and	

reduced throughout the food system	incentives to reduce waste in food growing, processing, distribution, retail, and food service	
	4.6.2 Support composting	4.6.1.1 Require municipalities to develop composting programs 4.6.1.1 Support amendments to composting regulations to permit small-scale community based composting
4.7 Wild lands are a sustainable source of food	4.7.1 Protect existing wild lands from development and degradation for the purpose of enabling wild foods procurement	

5. Agriculture and food jobs and businesses contribute to a prosperous economy in Ontario.

Targets	Actions/Strategies	<i>Examples of Policies and policy- related activities that would support these actions</i>
5.1 Increased procurement of local Ontario foods by Municipalities, Universities/Colleges, Schools, and Hospitals	5.1.1. Develop local and sustainable food procurement targets for public sector institutions	5.1.1.1 Require public institutions to track and report on local and sustainable food procurement, to set improvement goals, and to report on improvements.
	5.1.2 Provide incentives, supports, and tracking requirements to enable public sector institutions to meet the local and sustainable procurement targets.	5.1.2.1 Continue and expand the Broader Public Sector Investment Fund 5.1.2.2 Continue the Ontario Fresh website
5.2 Increased consumer awareness of, demand for, and access to local and sustainable food	5.2.1 Market and promote local and sustainable food	5.2.1.1 Continue the Foodland Ontario program 5.2.1.2 Support other programs which identify and market local and sustainable food 5.2.1.3 Report trends data for

		local and sustainable food purchases
	5.2.2 Support programs that make local and sustainable food more available including CSAs, fresh fruit and vegetable boxes, farmers markets, and grocery store programs	<p>5.2.2.1 Continue to support farmers' markets</p> <p>5.2.2.2 Provide support for other local and sustainable food distribution initiatives</p>
	5.2.3 Market, promote and support culinary tourism	5.2.3.1 Report number of restaurants involved in promoting local Ontario products
5.3 Desirable employment opportunities in food and farming sector is increasing	5.3.1. Create dedicated economic development strategies for food system jobs to enhance the existing economic multipliers in the sector for better job creation	
	5.3.2. Focus on food as a priority area for small business development and employment training	
	5.3.3. Preferentially support small and medium enterprises and co-operatives	5.3.3.1 Review policies and regulations for scalability and potential for inequitable impacts on small and medium enterprises
	5.3.4. Ensure that agricultural and food service workers have just, fair and healthy working conditions and rights	<p>5.3.4.1 Ensure that seasonal agriculture workers have access to the same rights and services as permanent residents</p> <p>Ensure that minimum wage levels enable food service workers earn a livable wage</p>
5.4 There is a skilled workforce able to meet the needs of the food and farming sector	5.4.1 Develop a comprehensive food systems labour force development strategy	<p>5.4.1.1 Implement partial student loan forgiveness for those going into farming</p> <p>5.4.1.2 Enhance collaboration between the Ministry of Training Colleges and Universities, the Ministry of Agriculture Food and Rural Affairs, and the Ministry of Economic Development and Innovation to foster new</p>

		training opportunities
5.5 Improved financing for the food and farming sector	5.5.1. Work with farmers, food businesses, and financial institutions to develop social financing approaches, shared savings plans, pension plans, and grants, loans, and operating capital for new and established farmers.	
5.6 Adequate infrastructure to support the continued growth of the food and farming sector	5.6.1 Facilitate the building of regional food processing, storage and distribution capacity	5.6.1.1 Provide grants, loans, and business planning support for regional processing, storage and distribution and local food marketing
5.7 Regulations and their enforcement support a safe, environmentally sound, healthy, robust, and growing food and farming sector	5.7.1. Work with food businesses to identify challenges within regulations and their enforcement and to develop solutions	5.7.1.1 Conduct on-going reviews of regulations that impact on food and how they are enforced 5.7.1.2 Food safety inspectors trained to ensure consistency in regulatory implementation
	5.7.2. Support food providers in meeting regulations	5.7.2.1 Provide training and easy access to advice and information for food providers to facilitate regulatory compliance
	5.7.3. Enable on-farm value adding	5.7.3.1 Provide relief from municipal taxation and zoning restrictions for on-farm value-added enterprises.

6. Ontario has ongoing and consistent monitoring, measurement and evaluation of health, social, and economic indicators to inform evidence-based actions by food and nutrition system stakeholders

Targets	Actions/Strategies	<i>Examples of Policies and policy- related activities that would support these actions</i>
6.1 Common indicators and baseline data is tracked consistently	6.1.1. Identify measurable and robust indicators	6.1.1.2 Fund development of indicators and system to measure these

	6.1.2. Measure the health of the population using common indicators	<p>6.1.2.1 Set health targets to be measured consistently (e.g. annually or every 5 years?)</p> <p>6.1.2.2 Support access to these measures by researchers and policymakers</p> <p>6.1.2.3 Support research evaluating the effectiveness of policies</p>
	6.1.3. Measure the health of the agricultural sector by farm income, rather than export volume.	6.1.3.1 Set net income targets for farmers, craft strategies to attain those targets, and report on success.
6.2 Adopt a health in all policies approach	6.2.1 Collaborate with government and stakeholders to create a framework to use to review decisions that will have an impact on health and wellbeing (use learnings from other jurisdictions that have successfully implemented health impact assessment and health in all policies approach)	6.2.1.1 Require health impact assessment and health in all policies approach similar (e.g. Quebec)
	6.2.2. Provide tools and support for decision-makers to enable policies and decisions to be reviewed using a health-impact lens	6.2.2.1 Health impact assessment tools
6.3 Adopt a food systems approach to policy development	6.3.1 Ensure that the food policy decisions are grounded in an integrated analysis of the food system, and not siloed thinking.	6.3.1.1 Require food systems approach to policy development.

7. Ontarians are actively engaged in making and implementing decisions about their food system

Targets	Actions/Strategies	<i>Examples of Policies and policy- related activities that would support these actions</i>
7.1 Citizens are aware of and engaged in food system planning in their communities	7.1.1. Support community outreach and engagement initiatives that focus on food system planning and action	

7.2 Municipalities have policies and legislation that advance sustainable food systems	7.2.1 Support regional and municipal efforts to bring stakeholders from across the food chain together to promote food systems linkages.	
7.3. All relevant ministries and stakeholders collaborate to support a sustainable and environmentally sound food system.	7.3.1 Bring all ministries that relate to food together along with community members to identify opportunities to create a stronger economy and a healthier province through food.	7.3.1.1 Creation of a Provincial Food Secretariat or Food Policy Council

Appendix 2: General Form

FEEDBACK - Ontario Food & Nutrition Strategy General Form

Provide any overall comments about the Food and Nutrition Strategy.

What barriers and bottlenecks do you see to creating a healthier and more sustainable food system?

Which elements do you feel will most advance or support your work?

Is there anything that will undermine your work?

What is missing?

Which vision do you prefer?

Imagine an ideal scenario 5 years into the future, after the Ontario Food and Nutrition Strategy has been adopted by the province. What policies and programs would be in place?

What do you think about the title "Ontario Food and Nutrition Strategy?"

Provide any anecdotes, studies or links to websites that strengthen your comments

Vision, Goals, & Outcomes

Vision

A: An Ontario that supports health and well-being through a productive and sustainable food system*

- ☐ Strongly Prefer ☐ Somewhat Prefer ☐ Somewhat Oppose ☐ Strongly Oppose
- ☐ I Don't Know

B: Healthy Ontarians, a sustainable food system* and a prosperous and equitable economy

- ☐ Strongly Prefer ☐ Somewhat Prefer ☐ Somewhat Oppose ☐ Strongly Oppose
- ☐ I Don't Know

C: A productive and sustainable food system** that supports the health and wellbeing of Ontarians

- ☐ Strongly Prefer ☐ Somewhat Prefer ☐ Somewhat Oppose ☐ Strongly Oppose
- ☐ I Don't Know

Questions:

What do you think must be included in the vision?

Do you have any suggestions to improve the vision?

Provide any anecdotes, studies, or links to websites that strengthen your comments.

***Definition of a Food System**

A food system includes wild and cultivated food production and procurement, food processing, food distribution, food access, food consumption, food education and waste management

Questions:

Do you have any suggestion for changes to the definition of "food system?"

Provide any anecdotes, studies, or links to websites that strengthen your comments.

Goals

1. To promote health through healthy eating and access to healthful food for all Ontarians
 - ☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know
2. To reduce the burden of obesity and chronic disease on Ontarians and the Ontario health care system
 - ☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know
3. To strengthen the Ontario economy and environment through a sustainable food system
 - ☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

Questions:

Provide the rationale for keeping or removing any suggestions you feel strongly about.

Do you have any additions to suggest to these goals?

Would you like to suggest any changes or modifications to the wording of these goals?

Provide any anecdotes, studies, or links to websites that strengthen your comments.

Expected Outcomes

1. Ontarians have access to and have the means to buy safe, nutritious and culturally acceptable food
☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know
2. Ontarians have the skills to support healthy eating and make healthy choices where they live, work, learn and play
☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know
3. The prevalence of obesity and chronic disease in Ontario is reduced in children, youth and adults
☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know
4. There is a strong, diverse, environmentally responsible and sustainable agricultural sector in Ontario
☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know
5. Agriculture and food jobs and businesses contribute to a prosperous economy in Ontario
☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know
6. Ontario has ongoing and consistent monitoring, measurement and evaluation of health, social, and economic indicators to inform evidence-based actions by food and nutrition system stakeholders
☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know
7. Ontarians are actively engaged in making and implementing decisions about their food system
☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

Questions:

Provide the rationale for keeping or removing any suggestions you feel strongly about.

Do you have any additions to suggest to these outcomes?

Would you like to suggest any changes or modifications to the wording of these outcomes?

Provide any anecdotes, studies, or links to websites that strengthen your comments.

Outcome 1. Food Access

Below are the target areas (e.g. 1.1), strategies (e.g. 1.1.1), and policy recommendations (e.g. 1.1.1.1) related to food access. Indicate whether you think the recommendations should be kept or removed. There are a few questions at the end to provide your rationale and mention other changes you wish to see (OR feel free to make notes on the text itself).

1. Ontarians have access to and have the means to buy safe, nutritious and culturally acceptable food

1.1 Increased availability of healthful and nutritious foods

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

1.1.1 Increase the availability of healthy foods and food choices in daycares, schools, colleges, universities, workplaces and public facilities and limit food and beverages high in calories, fat, sugar or salt

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

1.1.2 Provide access to healthy and local food through public institutional procurement and food programs

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

1.1.2.1 Continue and expand the Broader Public Sector Investment Fund to promote Ontario food

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

1.1.2.2 Renew and increase funding to the Ontario Student Nutrition Program

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

1.1.2.3 Incentives for local and healthy food purchasing within the Ontario Student Nutrition Program and Ontario After School programs

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

1.1.2.4 Support the Canadian Coalition for Green Health Care in providing healthy local food in hospitals

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

1.1.2.5 Continue to support PPM150 efforts to sell healthier foods in schools

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

1.1.3 Provide a student fruit and vegetable program in all public schools as part of the proposed elementary school snack program

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

1.1.3.1 Continue to support and expand the Northern Fruit and Vegetable Program

1.2 Increased availability/production of healthy foods and decreased availability of unhealthy foods

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

1.2.1 Work with food business system stakeholders to help in the production, processing, promotion and distribution of healthy, local foods

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

1.2.1.1 Enact legislation that targets the food supply in regards to development of healthier foods (e.g. lower in saturated fats, *trans*-fatty acids, free sugars, or sodium) through menu labeling and taxation

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

1.3 Increased individual and household food security

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

1.3.1 Reduce poverty – support policies to improve individual and household income to enable low-income residents to afford healthy food e.g. adequate minimum wage and social service allotment, affordable housing, public transportation and employment

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

1.3.1.1 Continue to strengthen and implement the Poverty Reduction Strategy, including a focus on food access

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

1.3.1.2 Implement an affordable housing strategy

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

1.3.1.3 Review and reform social assistance programs to better enable part time and occasional work and income earning

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

1.4 Increased access to healthy foods, especially for vulnerable populations

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

1.4.1 Ensure access to nutritious food for all Ontarians by using the cost of the Nutritious Food Baskets (calculated annually by each Public Health Unit) in determining the rates for social assistance and the minimum wage and in the formation of ODSP/Social Assistance payouts

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

1.4.1.1 Set minimum wage standards and ODSP/Social Assistance payouts at levels adequate to support healthy eating

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

1.5 Increased research to identify programs and policies that impact food security

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

1.5.1 Conduct a cost-benefit analysis of universal and targeted healthy and local food subsidies

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

1.5.2 Conduct research to improve understanding of agricultural subsidies and pricing policies on costs and affordability of highly processed or less healthy food versus healthy food

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

1.5.2.1 Allocate funds on an ongoing basis for research on the multiple factors that influence the cost of food and that contribute to food insecurity

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

1.5.3 Study the impact of policies and programs aimed at reducing poverty, food insecurity, and other barriers to accessing healthy foods

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

1.6 Food access is integrated into city and regional land use policies and community planning

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

1.6.1 Support and fund communities to develop and enact local and regional food strategies to increase access to safe, nutritious and culturally acceptable food

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

1.6.1.1 Fund the development and implementation of municipal and regional food councils to advise on food access and policy development

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

1.6.1.2 Support the replication of current municipal/regional food councils that are models for successful practices

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

1.6.2 Support community food access solutions that promote the availability and affordability of fresh, locally or regionally grown foods and create opportunities to scale these up throughout the province

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

1.6.2.1 Adopt policies to support and fund community based food access programs like fresh food markets, community gardens, fresh food box programs, community kitchens, etc.

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

1.6.2.2 Adopt policies to support and fund networks of community food access programs

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

1.6.3 Encourage community planning, zoning and funding that supports healthier food choices, develops and promotes the local food sector, and reduces access to unhealthy food choices particularly to low-income communities

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

1.6.3.1 Designate food retail and affordable food access as essential planning functions to be undertaken by municipal and regional planning bodies

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

1.6.3.2 Add specific policies to all municipal Official Plans that permit walk-able access to small and mid-scale food retail, urban agriculture and small temporary farmers' markets in all residential areas

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

1.6.4 Improve governance and enforcement of treaty rights to enable and support Aboriginal communities to develop their own innovative approaches to food production and harvesting to increase access to healthier food

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

1.6.4.1 Act in accordance with First Nations Treaty Rights

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

1.6.4.2 Allocate adequate land for the exclusive use of hunting, fishing and gathering reserves

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

1.6.4.3 Set and enable, through subsidy, a standard, affordable price for nutritious staples sold in the North

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

1.6.4.4 Advocate for expansion and enhancement of the Federal Food Mail program to ensure affordable pricing of nutritious foods across all regions of Canada

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

1.6.4.5 Provide innovative options for food production in the North (e.g. funding greenhouses as in Whitehorse, Yukon)

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

Questions:

Provide the rationale for keeping or removing any suggestions you feel strongly about.

Are there any additional strategies/policies you would add to this set of recommendations?

Would you suggest any changes or modifications to the wording of these recommendations?

Provide any anecdotes, studies, or links to websites that strengthen your comments.

Outcome 2. Food Skills and Literacy

Below are the target areas (e.g. 2.1), strategies (e.g. 2.1.1), and policy recommendations (e.g. 2.1.1.1) related to food skills and literacy. Indicate whether you think the recommendations should be kept or removed. There are a few questions at the end to provide your rationale and mention other changes you wish to see (OR feel free to make notes on the text itself).

2. Ontarians have the skills and information to support healthy eating and make healthy choices where they live, work, learn and play

2.1 Increased public knowledge of healthy eating practices and how to make healthy food choices through the lifecycle

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

2.1.1 Promote healthy eating to all through a marketing & promotion campaign (collaboration with Public Health and EatRight Ontario and Nutrition Resource Centre)

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

2.1.2 Promote Breastfeeding

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

2.1.2.1 Policy that officially permits breastfeeding any time, anywhere

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

2.1.2.2 Mandate changes to hospital breastfeeding policies consistent with the WHO Code and innocent declaration

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

2.1.3 Ensure widespread support for the provision of pre- and post-natal nutrition access programs

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

2.1.3.1 Support hospitals in their efforts to meet baby-friendly codes

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

2.1.3.2 Provincial policy that ensures on-going funding for the Healthy Babies Healthy Children program, including a nutrition component

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

2.1.4 Promote healthy eating for infants and young children - at home and daycares, etc. through parent and daycare provider nutrition education and food skills training

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

2.1.4.1 Fund community based and public infant and preschool nutrition programs

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

2.1.4.2 Update nutrition component of Day Nurseries Act, include components around policy development and eating environment

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

2.2 Increased food and nutrition education and food skills in children, youth and adults

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

2.2.1 Embed evidence-based food literacy, education about food, and food skills in the curriculum at all grade levels

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

2.2.1.1 Include evidence-based food literacy, food education and foods skills in mandated curriculum at all grade levels

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

2.2.1.2 Provide infrastructure grants for schools and community centres to enable them to build kitchens, buy food-processing equipment and create on-site gardens

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

2.2.2 Provide opportunities for individuals and households to develop food selection, food preparation and food safety skills in school and community settings

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

2.2.2.1 Ensure public health units/community health centres and community programs have sufficient capacity to support community based food skills programs

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

2.2.3 Support public health and community-based healthy eating and food skills programs (planning, shopping, cooking, preparation, preservation, food storage and food safety)

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

2.2.3.1 Provide funding for community kitchens infrastructure

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

2.2.3.2 Provide incentives such as vouchers or credit cards to use at local farmers markets, grocery stores to buy fresh fruit and vegetables

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

2.2.4 Provide urban dwellers and rural gardeners with easy access to education and information about how to grow food

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

2.2.4.1 Develop an urban food and garden production extension program

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

2.3 Ontarians are supported in adopting healthy eating behaviors

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

2.3.1 Provide access to free nutrition information and education about healthy eating

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

2.3.2 Expand EatRight Ontario to include more motivational behavioral counseling and tracking to assess impact on making dietary changes for healthy eating and healthy weights

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

2.3.2.1 Continue funding EatRight Ontario, Nutrition Resource Centre

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

2.3.3 Increase access to Registered Dietitians in public health and community health centres and community programs

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

2.3.3.1 Ensure public health and other public health related/health promotion programs and services at both the local and provincial levels have Registered Dietitians to plan and evaluate programs, promote and support healthy eating

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

2.4 Healthy eating in the workplace is supported

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

2.4.1 Ensure access to healthy foods at the workplace (see 1.1.1)

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

2.4.1.1 Provide incentives and educational programs for workplaces to promote healthy eating

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

2.4.2 Work with private insurers to encourage health plan premium reductions for workplaces that implement healthy cafeteria strategies, food access projects and workplace nutrition education and counseling and to include Registered Dietitian counseling in insured services

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

2.4.3 Ensure Registered Dietitians are available at workplaces to provide educational programs and counseling to employees about healthy eating and healthy weights

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

2.5 Increased access to public information about healthy eating through retailers and food service

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

2.5.1 Require that all food manufacturers, retailers and food services provide consistent, clear and visible nutrition information available about the foods they sell to enable consumers to make informed and healthy food choices

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

2.5.1.1 Work with Federal government to advise on changes to the Food and Drugs Act regulations and the Consumer Packaging and Labeling Act

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

2.5.1.2 Provincial funding for nutrition education programs for the public

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

2.5.2 Implement a nutrition communications strategy and education program to increase awareness and educate the public on making healthier choices when eating out

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

2.5.2.1 Policy/standard for mandatory menu labeling in food service operations with 15 or more outlets nationally

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

2.5.3 Support access to nutrition information and program about food labeling and making healthy food choices through publicly available means such as Public Health, Nutrition Resources Centre, EatRight Ontario, Dietitians of Canada's eaTracker and EatWise

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

2.5.3.1 Nutritional analysis services that enable accurate food labeling

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

2.5.3.2 Support foodservice operations in creating healthier menu choices

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

2.6 Protect children from targeted advertising of unhealthy food and beverages (e.g. high in saturated fats, trans-fatty acids, free sugars, or sodium)

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

2.6.1 Restrict marketing, advertising and promotion of food and beverages targeted at children and youth under 13 years of age

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

2.6.2 Continue research that clarifies the links between food advertising to children and children's food habits

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

2.6.3 Create an expert group at the provincial level that can advise on ways to regulate food advertising to children with the aim of developing provincial or federal regulations

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

2.6.4 Prohibit online and offline marketing, and advertising and promotion of food and beverages to children under 13 years of age in domains within provincial jurisdiction and advocate that the federal government support World Health Organization recommendations

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

2.7 Increased research to measure changes in healthy eating knowledge, healthy eating behaviors and foods skills

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

2.7.1 Support research and nutrition surveys to inform program planners and policy makers on the food choices, eating behaviors and food skills of Ontarians

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

2.7.1.1 Provide funding for research on the food choices, eating behaviors and food skills of Ontarians

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

Questions:

Provide the rationale for keeping or removing any suggestions you feel strongly about.

Are there any additional strategies/policies you would add to this set of recommendations?

Would you suggest any changes or modifications to the wording of these recommendations?

Provide any anecdotes, studies, or links to websites that strengthen your comments.

Outcome 3. Health and Nutrition

Below are the target areas (e.g. 3.1), strategies (e.g. 3.1.1), and policy recommendations (e.g. 3.1.1.1) related to health and nutrition. Indicate whether you think the recommendations should be kept or removed. There are a few questions at the end to provide your rationale and mention other changes you wish to see (OR feel free to make notes on the text itself).

3. The prevalence of obesity and chronic disease in Ontario is reduced in children, youth and adults

3.1 Increased collaborative efforts to reduce obesity

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

3.1.1 Work across levels of governments and ministries to address the social and environmental factors that affect obesity such as socioeconomic status, and food affordability and accessibility to nutritious food. (see 1.1, 1.2, 1.3)

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

3.2 Increased health promotion activities to promote healthy eating and active living (HSF)

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

3.2.1 Expand healthy eating and food programming across the province (see sections 1 and 2)

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

3.2.1.1 Increase the health promotion budget to 0.5% of the provincial budget to support programs for food access, healthy eating and active living, and food skills education

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

3.2.1.2 Provide adequate and targeted resources to meet the needs of Northern Communities

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

3.3 Identify and treat people with or at risk of obesity early

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

3.3.1 Health care professionals provide integrated screening for early identification and treatment of overweight/obesity

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

3.3.2 Leverage existing screening program NutriSTEP® to identify children 18 months to 5 years who are increased risk of poor nutrition. Expand the screening program to include local or provincial strategies for high-risk children, or incorporate NutriSTEP into existing programs (e.g. Healthy Babies Healthy Children, 18 month expanded visit, and others) for intervention at this age

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

3.3.2.1 Adopt NutriSTEP across the province

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

3.3.3 Develop and implement a screening and referral protocol for children (5 and over), youth and adults

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

3.3.3.1 Adopt Screening and referral tools across the province

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

3.3.4 Provide sufficient resources so that individuals identified by screening can access Registered Dietitians and CSEP certified personal trainers and exercise physiologists

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

3.4 Health care professionals provide healthy eating, healthy weight and physical activity strategies

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

3.4.1 Work with professional organizations to identify effective strategies for prevention and treatment of obesity and chronic disease and transfer this knowledge

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

3.4.2 Support primary healthcare teams to identify roles of each team member in screening, assessment, referral, and reinforcement of healthy eating messages

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

3.5 Increased intake of fresh fruits and vegetables

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

3.5.1 Make fresh fruits and vegetables more accessible (see section 1)

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

3.6 Reduced intake of sugar sweetened beverages

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

3.6.1 Tax sugar sweetened beverages

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

3.6.1.1 Tax imposed on sugar sweetened beverages

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

3.6.2 Conduct research that looks into the effect of taxing nutritionally disadvantageous food

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

Questions:

Provide the rationale for keeping or removing any suggestions you feel strongly about.

Are there any additional strategies/policies you would add to this set of recommendations?

Would you suggest any changes or modifications to the wording of these recommendations?

Provide any anecdotes, studies, or links to websites that strengthen your comments.

Outcome 4. A Diverse and Sustainable Food System

Below are the target areas (e.g. 4.1), strategies (e.g. 4.1.1), and policy recommendations (e.g. 4.1.1.1) related to a diverse and sustainable food system. Indicate whether you think the recommendations should be kept or removed. There are a few questions at the end to provide your rationale and mention other changes you wish to see (OR feel free to make notes on the text itself).

4. There is a strong, diverse, environmentally responsible and sustainable food production sector in Ontario

4.1 A protected farmland base with farmland available to farmers

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

4.1.1 Work with municipalities to create development restrictions

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

4.1.1.1 Strengthen provincial policies on agricultural land protection to slow the rate of conversion to non-food uses

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

4.1.2 Support the development of new approaches to farmland ownership, tenure and preservation

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

4.1.2.1 Implement tax changes for land easements and donations

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

4.2 Conversion of non-prime farmland into ecological goods and services uses

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

4.2.1 Develop quantification protocols to measure the value of on-farm ecological services such as carbon sequestration sites, groundwater recharge areas, vegetative filter strips, and wildlife habitat

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

4.2.2 Develop market mechanisms to allow farmers to be compensated for the ecological goods and services they provide

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

4.3 Farmers are better supported to contribute to endangered species preservation

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

4.3.1 Work with farmers and conservationists to identify strategies that will enable farmers to be conservation partners

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

4.3.1.1 Enact safe harbor legislation

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

4.4 A more diversified agricultural system

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

4.4.1 Work with farmers to identify opportunities to better support transitions to more diverse and ecological growing methods

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

4.4.1.1 Adapt agricultural support systems to better support new and re-strategizing farmers

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

4.4.1.2 Change provincial legislation governing supply management to require a range of new entrant programs (e.g. small flock licensing, temporary quota loan programs)

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

4.4.2 Provide extension services, training, incentives, disincentives, and support that enable farmers to grow more ecologically

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

4.4.2.1 Implement a tax on synthetic pesticides, and fertilizers

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

4.4.2.2 Continue and expand the Environmental Farm Plan program and boost the Integrated Pest Management elements of it

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

4.4.2.1 Support regionally based research and extension centres to provide regionally appropriate information on seeds and breeds to both households and urban agricultural communities that meet the interests within those communities, and support diverse food choices

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

4.5 Sustainable fisheries and safe seafood

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

4.5.1 Protect and clean watercourses to ensure sustainable and safe fisheries

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

4.6 Waste is reduced throughout the food system

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

4.6.1 Provide education and incentives to reduce waste in food growing, processing, distribution, retail, and food service

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

4.6.2 Support composting

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

4.6.2.1 Require municipalities to develop composting programs

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

4.6.2.2 Support amendments to composting regulations to permit small-scale community based composting

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

4.7 Wild lands are a sustainable source of food

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

4.7.1 Protect existing wild lands from development and degradation for the purpose of enabling wild foods procurement

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

Questions:

Provide the rationale for keeping or removing any suggestions you feel strongly about.

Are there any additional strategies/policies you would add to this set of recommendations?

Would you suggest any changes or modifications to the wording of these recommendations?

Provide any anecdotes, studies, or links to websites that strengthen your comments.

Outcome 5. A Strong Food Economy

Below are the target areas (e.g. 5.1), strategies (e.g. 5.1.1), and policy recommendations (e.g. 5.1.1.1) related to a strong food economy. Indicate whether you think the recommendations should be kept or removed. There are a few questions at the end to provide your rationale and mention other changes you wish to see (OR feel free to make notes on the text itself).

5. Agriculture and food jobs and businesses contribute to a prosperous economy in Ontario

5.1 Increased procurement of local Ontario foods by municipalities, universities/colleges, schools, and hospitals

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

5.1.1 Develop local and sustainable food procurement targets for public sector institutions

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

5.1.1.1 Require public institutions to track and report on local and sustainable food procurement, to set improvement goals, and to report on improvements

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

5.1.2 Provide incentives, supports, and tracking requirements to enable public sector institutions to meet the local and sustainable procurement targets

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

5.1.2.1 Continue and expand the Broader Public Sector Investment Fund

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

5.1.2.2 Continue the Ontario Fresh website

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

5.2 Increased consumer awareness of, demand for, and access to local and sustainable food

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

5.2.1 Market and promote local and sustainable food

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

5.2.1.1 Continue the Foodland Ontario program

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

5.2.1.2 Support other programs that identify and market local and sustainable food

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

5.2.1.3 Report trends data for local and sustainable food purchases

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

5.2.2 Support programs that make local and sustainable food more available including CSAs, fresh fruit and vegetable boxes, farmers markets, and grocery store programs

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5.2.2.1 Continue to support farmers' markets

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

5.2.2.2 Provide support for other local and sustainable food distribution initiatives

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

5.2.3 Market, promote and support culinary tourism

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

5.2.3.1 Report number of restaurants involved in promoting local Ontario products

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

5.3 Desirable employment opportunities in food and farming sector is increasing

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

5.3.1 Create dedicated economic development strategies for food system jobs to enhance the existing economic multipliers in the sector for better job creation

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

5.3.2 Focus on food as a priority area for small business development and employment training

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

5.3.3 Preferentially support small and medium enterprises and co-operatives

5.3.3.1 Review policies and regulations for scalability and potential for inequitable impacts on small and medium enterprises

5.3.4 Ensure that agricultural and food service workers have just, fair and healthy working conditions and rights

5.3.4.1 Ensure that seasonal agriculture workers have access to the same rights and services as permanent residents

5.3.4.2 Ensure that minimum wage levels enable food service workers earn a livable wage

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

5.4 There is a skilled workforce able to meet the needs of the food and farming sector

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

5.4.1 Develop a comprehensive food systems labor force development strategy

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

5.4.1.2 Implement partial student loan forgiveness for those going into farming

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

5.4.1.3 Enhance collaboration between MTCU, OMAFRA, and MEDI to foster new training opportunities

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

5.5 Improved financing for the food and farming sector

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

5.5.1 Work with farmers, food businesses, and financial institutions to develop social financing approaches, shared savings plans, pension plans, and grants, loans, and operating capital for new and established farmers

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

5.6 Adequate infrastructure to support the continued growth of the food and farming sector

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

5.6.1 Facilitate the building of regional food processing, storage and distribution capacity

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

5.6.1.1 Provide Grants, loans, and business planning support for regional processing, storage and distribution and local food marketing

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

5.7 Regulations and their enforcement support a safe, environmentally sound, healthy, robust, and growing food and farming sector

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

5.7.1 Work with food businesses to identify challenges within regulations and their enforcement and to develop solutions

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

5.7.1.1 Conduct on-going reviews of regulations that impact on food and how they are enforced

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

5.7.1.2 Food safety inspectors trained to ensure consistency in regulatory implementation

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

5.7.2 Support food providers in meeting regulations

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

5.7.2.1 Provide training and easy access to advice and information for food providers to facilitate regulatory compliance

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

5.7.3 Enable on-farm value adding

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

5.7.3.1 Provide relief from municipal taxation and zoning restrictions for on-farm value-added enterprises

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

Questions:

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Provide any anecdotes, studies, or links to websites that strengthen your comments.

Outcome 6. Effective Monitoring and Evaluation

Below are the target areas (e.g. 6.1), strategies (e.g. 6.1.1), and policy recommendations (e.g. 6.1.1.1) related to effective monitoring and evaluation. Indicate whether you think the recommendations should be kept or removed. There are a few questions at the end to provide your rationale and mention other changes you wish to see (OR feel free to make notes on the text itself).

6. Ontario has ongoing and consistent monitoring, measurement and evaluation of health, social, and economic indicators to inform evidence-based actions by food and nutrition system stakeholders

6.1 Common indicators and baseline data is tracked consistently

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

6.1.1 Identify measurable and robust indicators

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

6.1.1.1 Fund development of indicators and system to measure these

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

6.1.2 Measure the health of the population using common indicators

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

6.1.2.1 Set health targets to be measured consistently

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

6.1.2.2 Support access to these measures by researchers and policymakers

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

6.1.2.3 Support research evaluating the effectiveness of policies

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

6.1.3 Measure the health of the agricultural sector by farm income, rather than export volume.

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

6.1.3.1 Set net income targets for farmers, craft strategies to attain those targets, and report on success

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

6.2 Adopt a health in all policies approach

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

6.2.1 Collaborate with government and stakeholders to create a framework to use to review decisions that will have an impact on health and wellbeing (use lessons from other jurisdictions that have successfully implemented health impact assessment and health in all policies approach)

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

6.2.1.1 Require health impact assessment and health in all policies approach similar

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

6.2.2 Provide tools and support for decision-makers to enable policies and decisions to be reviewed using a health-impact lens

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

6.2.2.1 Health impact assessment tools

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

6.3 Adopt a food systems approach to policy development

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

6.3.1 Ensure that the food policy decisions are grounded in an integrated analysis of the food system, and not siloed thinking

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

6.3.1.1 Require food systems approach to policy development

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

Questions:

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Outcome 7. Engaged Decision-Making

7. Ontarians are actively engaged in making and implementing decisions about their food system

7.1 Citizens are aware of and engaged in food system planning in their communities

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

7.1.1 Support community outreach and engagement initiatives that focus on food system planning and action

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

7.2 Municipalities have policies and legislation that advance sustainable food systems

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

7.2.1 Support regional and municipal efforts to bring stakeholders from across the food chain together to promote food systems linkages

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

7.3 All relevant ministries and stakeholders collaborate to support a sustainable and environmentally sound food system

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

7.3.1 Bring all ministries that relate to food together along with community members to identify opportunities to create a stronger economy and a healthier province through food

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

7.3.1.1 Creation of a Provincial Food Secretariat or Food Policy Council

☐ Must Keep ☐ Keep ☐ Keep with Changes ☐ Remove ☐ I Don't Know

Questions:

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