



Farm to School in Ontario Exploring Solutions to Common Challenges

Thursday February 28, 2019

**George Brown College Centre for Hospitality and Culinary Arts Culinary Bldg
300 Adelaide St E, Toronto, ON M5A 1N1**

The goal of the *Farm to School in Ontario* interactive workshop is for individuals and groups engaged in Farm to School to connect with others involved in this work and to explore how to overcome common challenges to Farm to School activities.

Audience: Schools, school boards, Student Nutrition Programs, non-profits and others who support and deliver Farm to School activities such as: bringing local food into schools, hands-on food literacy activities like gardening or cooking, farm tours and engaging students in their food systems.

Participants will:

- Learn about Farm to School models and best practices in Ontario, Canada and the U.S. and resources to support the work
- Trouble-shoot common challenges and barriers to Farm to School activities
- Initiate collaborative activities to support Farm to School efforts in Ontario

8:30 – 9:00 am	Registration and Networking
9:00 – 9:30 am	Welcome and Introductions
9:30 – 10:00 am	<p>Grounding Ourselves: Perspectives in the Room</p> <p>Results from pre-event survey (Elements of Farm to School, Common challenges, Common successes).</p> <p>Grounding Ourselves: Sharing the North American Context</p> <p>Overview of Farm to School initiatives, models and frameworks in Canada and the United States.</p>

10:00–10:30 am	Research and Analysis - Farm to School Challenges and Opportunities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gary Hoyer: Research and findings from the George Brown College research team's <i>Generating Success for Farm to School Programs</i> project. • Lynn Roblin: Research and findings from OPHA's Local Food Use and Food Literacy in Child Care and Student Nutrition Programs project.
10:30–10:45 am	Break / Twitter Sharing
10:45 am – 12:05 pm	Panel Discussion – Stories from the Field Presenters from Ontario share how they have worked to overcome Farm to School challenges that registrants have identified as being of interest. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lyndsay Davidson, Chatham-Kent Public Health • Rav Singh and Merissa Nudelman, Ecosource • Jennifer Payne, Primrose Elementary School • Soni Craik, SCC Consulting, and Eli Brown, Compass Chartwells
12:05–12:15 pm	Morning Wrap-Up and Reflection
12:15 – 1:15 pm	Lunch! Twitter Sharing
1:15 – 2:10 pm 2:10 – 3:00 pm	Solution Sessions: Overcoming Farm to School Challenges Table discussions re: common challenges that participants are experiencing: may include, but are not limited to, Local food purchasing / distribution / seasonality, Engaging school boards, Building a Strong Farm to School Team, Communicating the Benefits of the F2S Program. (TBD based on participant interests).
3:00 – 3:10 pm	Reflections on the Solution Session and Identifying Common Action Areas
3:10 – 3:25 pm	Break / Twitter Sharing
3:25 – 3:50 pm	Reporting Back and Taking Action on Farm to School Reflections on the common themes that participants would like to act on; Discussion of available resources and support.
3:50 – 4:30 pm	Wrap Up & Farewell

Event website: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/farm-to-school-in-ontario-exploring-solutions-to-common-challenges-tickets-53736576547>