



**HALIBURTON COUNTY:  
FOOD AND THE OFFICIAL PLAN**

**COMMUNITY FOOD  
ASSESSMENT PARTNERS  
APRIL 2015**





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## Summary

The Community Food Assessment Partners commissioned research to determine how Official Plans might be amended in order to support the food system. The food system consists of production, processing, distribution, consumption and waste management. Official Plans can influence all elements of the food system. Indeed with the 2014 Provincial Policy Statement, local governments are tasked with supporting the production of food and fibre. The Haliburton County Official Plan and the Dysart et.al. Official Plan are being reviewed in 2015.

Information was gathered from a literature review, a review of selected Official Plans of communities similar to Haliburton County and Townships, selected interviews and consultation with the Municipal Policy Planning Working Group. Each of the five local Official Plans was reviewed and suggestions made for changes in the plans so they may more fully support the food system. Many individuals in the County have provided their wise input into this work. With this work the Community Food Assessment Partners have begun to develop and strengthen its relationship with the five local governments of Haliburton.

While Official Plans have posed some difficulties for food system projects the problems have been easily overcome through the cooperation between municipalities and service providers. This is clearly indicated by the large number of food system projects and programs which are successful.

As the direction to support food and fibre production is new, few Ontario Official Plans have yet to incorporate supporting policies. From the literature review, the review of Official Plans and review by the Municipal Policy Planning Working Group the following are seen as the most fruitful ways to support the food system in Official Plans:

- Identification of the food system as an important contributor to the quality of life in the community. The food system contributes to the local economy, the health and well-being of the community and to the environment
- Explicit permission for agriculture related uses of lands in most zones
- Explicit permission for community gardens, farmers' markets, food hubs in most zones, including residential and settlement zones
- Explicit permission for backyard gardens, roof top gardens, workplace gardens and edible landscaping

The following recommendations were made:

1. The inclusion of a goal supporting local food and the food system be included in Official Plans during their five year reviews.
2. The retention of agricultural lands defined as potential arable lands that were identified in the Local Food Infrastructure Report, 2011 and the completion of this mapping for the County.
3. Support for community gardens and farmers' markets in settlement zones
4. Support for food hubs and food education in settlement and rural zone
5. Support for agriculture related uses in zones where agricultural uses are permitted
6. Support for urban agriculture with the exception of animals
7. Community consultation on the acceptability of raising livestock, chickens and rabbits specifically, in settlement areas
8. The use of definitions from the Provincial Policy Statement, 2014
9. The use of rural areas and rural lands as defined in the Provincial Policy Statement, 2014

And suggestions that The Community Food Assessment Partners:

1. Continue to review Official Plans as they come up for revision.
2. Review municipal Comprehensive By-laws to ensure support for the food system and for local food.
3. Consider developing a Haliburton County Food Charter.

Many thanks to Rosie Kadwell, Lisa Barry, Brigitte Gall of the Municipal Planning Policy Working Group for their wise and helpful advice and tolerant support.

Thanks to Pat Martin, Kim Bergeron and Highlands East for taking the time to review the work and to provide very informed advice.

Thanks to the Community Food Assessment Steering Committee for their enormous contribution to the food system in Haliburton County and their review and improvement of Section 5, The Food System in Haliburton County.

Finally thanks to Angel Taylor and Megan Strong for their valuable contribution to grounding me in the Haliburton County food experience.

Heather Ross

April 2015

## Section 1 Introduction

Food security as a concern of government took off in 2013 with the release of the Ontario Public Health Sector Strategic Plan which focuses on, among other issues, improvements in access to affordable healthy food was released. The Local Food Act was passed. In 2014 the Provincial Policy Statement gave further importance to protecting the food system. With such strong provincial direction, the agencies of government and municipalities have acted quickly, initiating programs and developing policies in support of the food system. This is an on-going focus at the local level.

Haliburton County has been and is an active participant in the food security/food system initiative. A community food assessment steering committee has been formed of many organizations including provincial and municipal governments, non-governmental organizations and private sector food interests. The steering committee has established three priority assessment areas:

- Food Production and Consumption
- Food Access Mapping
- Municipal Planning Policy

This report addresses the third area.

### ***The Food System and Official Plans***

The food system is a comprehensive concept which is defined by the steps in getting food from raw material to waste disposal, as illustrated.

Municipalities benefit from supporting the local food system. Such support can provide economic, environmental and health benefits. There are good reasons to support the food system in addition to complying with provincial direction. Municipalities can support the food system both by leading or partnering food-oriented programs and by ensuring that Official Plans and their accompanying Comprehensive By-laws are food system friendly.



The table below outlines policies that help and those that hinder the food system.

<b>Policies that help</b>	<b>Policies that hinder</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Zoning that allows small scale agriculture and/or community gardens</li><li>• Policies allowing farm gate sales, signage, agri-tourism</li><li>• Explicit support for a broad definition of agriculture and its related uses</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Limit permitted food related uses in various zones</li><li>• Restrict value added and value retention activities agricultural uses</li><li>• Are unable to protect agricultural lands</li><li>• Lack a focus on the food system</li></ul>

Official Plans are reviewed and revised every 5 years, it's the law. As both the County of Haliburton and the Township of Dysart et.al. Official Plans are being reviewed in 2015, a greater emphasis on the food system can be inserted into the plans. Appendices A through E suggest changes to all Haliburton County Official Plans which will make them more food system friendly.

## Section 2. Haliburton County: Eaters and Growers

### Haliburton County

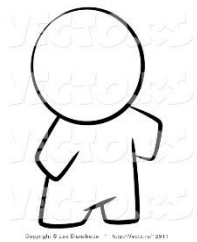
(Retrieved from Haliburton County Development Corporation)



Haliburton County is a land of lakes and rivers, forests and wetlands. It is located north east of Toronto, within easy traveling distance. Haliburton County is a large area with a small dispersed and aging population. The County blossoms in the summer with approximately 45,000 cottagers and 150,000 tourists.



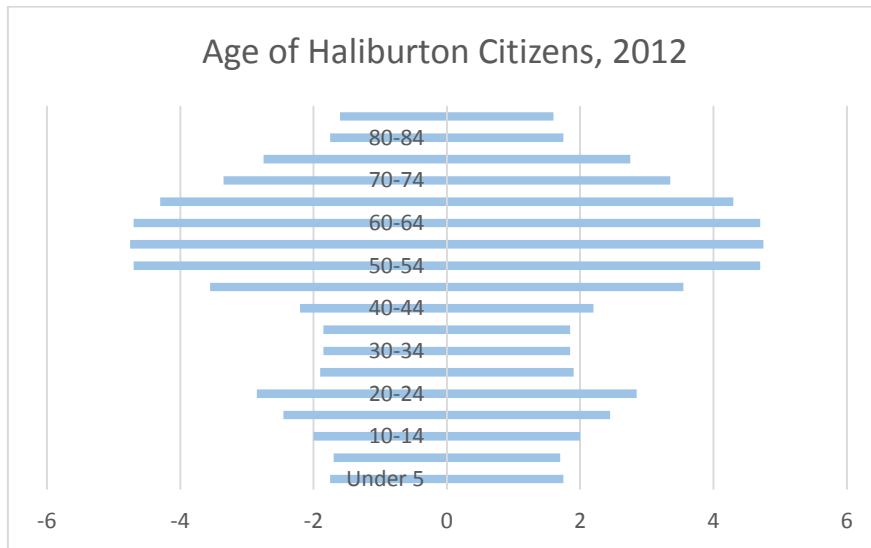
**The Eaters**



**Permanent Population - 26% of total**

**Seasonal Population - 74% of total**

During the growing season there is a much larger Haliburton population with the arrival of the seasonal residents, therefore a larger market for food producers.



The Haliburton population pyramid rather resembles an Inuksuk, reflecting our aging citizens. A 2013 Statistics Canada report noted that 34% of seniors living at home are at nutritional risk. A U-Links study in Haliburton County found that 48% of respondents said that finances are a barrier to consuming fresh fruit and vegetables. (*Food Security: For Seniors and Adults with Disabilities in Haliburton, 2014*) Food insecurity does impact on all ages in the community and is not limited to any sector.

Employment in Haliburton County

	Employed (% of total)	Self Employed (% of total)	% Change 2001-2011
Agriculture	1.2 %	5.7%	+56%
Accommodation & Food	14%	5.7%	-3%
Retail	16%	5.8%	+10%
Construction	13%	37.6%	+35%

*Economy Overview, Haliburton by EMSI (Economic Modeling Specialists International*

Although agriculture is a small sector of the local economy, it is also a fast growing sector. There is a growing demand for food grown close to home. Support for and investment in agriculture will provide income and employment returns to the County.

**The Growers**

From the first workshop in the County on local foods it was clear that Haliburton County has many more eaters than growers. The local farmers association has between 75 and 100 members. Research conducted in 2008 found that most Haliburton farmers are either retired or operating “hobby” farms and that they have little interest in growing their business. Additionally children of farmers are not growing up to be farmers. (*Haliburton County Local Food Infrastructure Report, Aug. 2011*) However as the above table shows agriculture is a growth sector in the County. There is community support and demand for local foods as witnessed by the surge in Farmers’ Markets. Recently agri-tourism has been added to the mix of tourist activities which are so vital to the Haliburton County economy. It seems that young people are moving into the County to farm. They are attracted by “cheap” land and a lifestyle supportive of small, creative businesses.

There is an assumption that Haliburton County has no agricultural land to speak of. However, thanks to the work of Leora Berman of The Land Between who has mapped agricultural lands in the County, we know this is not the case. The mapping exercise identified the following:

Soil suitability areas ordered by decreasing area are shown below.

Soil Suitability Class #3: Total Area = 69.6 km<sup>2</sup>

Soil Suitability Class #1: Total Area = 59.2 km<sup>2</sup>

Soil Suitability Class #4: Total Area = 11.8 km<sup>2</sup>

Soil Suitability Class #7: Total Area = 6.0 km<sup>2</sup>

Soil Suitability Class #2: Total Area = 3.0 km<sup>2</sup>

Soil Suitability Class #8: Total Area = 2.8 km<sup>2</sup>

Soil Suitability Class #5: Total Area = 2.3 km<sup>2</sup>

Soil Suitability Class #6: Total Area = 0.5 km<sup>2</sup>

*Local Food Infrastructure Report | Haliburton County ...*, p.14

In summary there are 155 sq.km. of potentially arable land in the county. A map of these suitability classes can be found at *Local Food Infrastructure Report | Haliburton County ...* p.15 [http://www.harvesthaliburton.com/uploads/1/3/8/9/13895416/infrastructure\\_reportr1.pdf](http://www.harvesthaliburton.com/uploads/1/3/8/9/13895416/infrastructure_reportr1.pdf)

Please note that the mapping exercise has not been completed for the entire County.

### ***Growers and Official Plans***

Both the Infrastructure Report and this study investigated the growers' experience with the official plans in the County. In general Official Plans have not been a hindrance to growers nor a block to the development of the local food system. Constraints have been overcome by the growers and municipalities working together to successfully problem solve. The growers did have the following recommendations for inclusion in the Official Plans as well as some suggestions for other ways local governments can support the development of the local food system:

- Making local food a priority in Official Plans
- Recognizing sustainability in Official Plans
- Protecting agricultural lands for agricultural uses
- Encouraging the return of agricultural lands for agricultural uses
- Supporting small farms
- Ensuring that value added and value retention agricultural uses are permitted
- Allowing urban agriculture
- Making green space available for community gardens
- Supporting the availability of local products
- Sharing equipment, water and hydro with community gardens where possible

- Allowing signage and permanent structures at community gardens

### ***Agriculture and Climate Change***

In 60 years, the average temperature in Ontario has risen by 1.4°C and is predicted to increase by 2.5 – 3.7°C by 2050. It is predicted that, as well as increased temperature and a longer growing season, farmers can expect more torrential rains, longer dry periods and new pests, weeds, invasive species and diseases. Agriculture and the food system will be impacted. (*Agriculture in a changing climate. Ontario Centre for Climate Impacts and Adaptation Resources*)

On-going research, a collaboration of government and academia, is modelling climate impacts on agriculture in Peterborough County and the City of Kawartha Lakes. They predict by 2050:

- 50 more growing days
- A 50% increase in 100 year storms
- An increase in corn and soybean yields to 2020 with a fall in yield thereafter.

In discussions at a forum on Agriculture and Climate Change, March 30, 2015 hosted by Sustainable Peterborough, there was a general consensus that water management, both water retention and management of run-off, will be key to the continuation of food production in the region. It is important that the impact of climate change be considered in land management both at the individual and the governmental level.

## Section 3. The Study

Haliburton County, both the public sector and civil society have been actively investing time, resources, energy and good will in the local food system. A great deal has been accomplished as outlined in Section 5.

In January 2014, Harvest Haliburton initiated a key stakeholders meeting which resulted in the collaborative Community Food Assessment Steering Committee. The Steering Committee is conducting the community food assessment. This is “a participatory and collaborative process that gathers information on a broad range of food-related issues and resources within a community. It involves the critical analysis of local information for the purpose of guiding decisions on complex public issues and informing action to create a sustainable food system”. (taken from Request for Proposal) The Haliburton County Community Food Assessment Steering Committee has identified several priority items in the assessment and are undertaking a food access mapping project and a review of municipal plans to identify how they might be made more supportive of the food system. The review is timely in that the County Official Plan will be reviewed in the summer of 2015.

The Community Food Assessment Steering Committee issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) and hired a consultant to review the Haliburton County Official Plan and the four township plans with a view to putting forward suggestions for improvements to the plans in respect to their support for the local food system. The RFP and the proposal can be found in Appendix G.

The method used in the assessment was:

- A literature review with a focus on reports, studies from Ontario sources.
- A Review of Official Plans. The following plans were reviewed. They share features in common with Haliburton County. They are small, rural, lack prime agricultural lands (Class 1 – 3) tourism and cottaging are a part of their economic base and all are in Ontario.

### Lower tier

Lake of Bays in Muskoka district  
 Laurentian in Renfrew County  
 Severn in Simcoe County  
 Ryerson in Parry Sound  
 South Algonquin in Nipissing District  
 Georgian Bluffs in Grey County

### Upper tier

Muskoka District  
 Bruce County  
 Peterborough Cty

### Huntsville in Muskoka District

### Bracebridge in Muskoka District

- Focussed interviews with local food experts to ensure that issues and limitations of local Official Plans were identified.
- The Municipal Policy Planning Group acted as community experts for a modified Delfi technique to help focus the work and to ensure that the findings reflect the local reality.

## Section 4. Policies in Official Plans to support the Food System

### *A Brief Review of the Provincial Land Use Planning System*

Lands and resources, under the Canadian Constitution, are the responsibility of the provinces, with the exception of “lands reserved for Indians”. Ontario uses many varied legislative and policy tools to manage the development of lands and resources. One of these, The Ontario Planning Act, establishes the framework guiding municipal governments in developing and implementing 20 year Official Plans (OPs). The OPs determine how and where development will occur on private lands and provide some assurance to residents that changes in land uses will be made within a set of rules.

#### Official Plans:

- Are written by an upper tier government (County, District, Regional) or by municipalities and townships. Haliburton opted for a two tiered system of local government with an upper tier County government and four lower tier Townships and so has five Official Plans.
- Are reviewed every 5 years and re-written after 20 years, although revisions to the Planning Act are currently (2015) under discussion.
- Allow minor changes to the Official Plan if required.
- May be appealed to the Ontario Municipal Board.

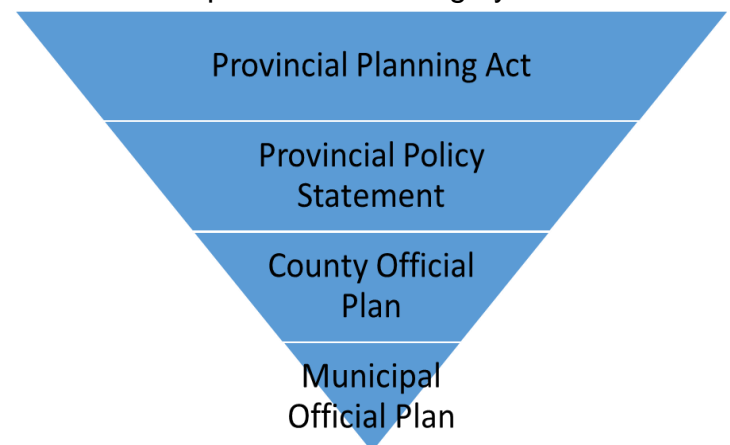
#### Provincial Policy Statement (PPS)

- Establishes provincial priorities which must be reflected in Official Plans

The planning system is hierarchical, flowing from province to municipality, from general policy statements to concrete rules for development outlined in the comprehensive zoning by-law.

#### 2014 Provincial Policy Statement

- Provides policy direction with more flexibility
- Adds the concepts of health and resiliency as objects of development.



- References the production of food and fibre as important objects of the plan.
- Supports economic diversification including support for the local food system and for secondary uses such as agri tourism and value added and value retention uses.
- Develops the concepts of rural areas and rural lands which, in regions such as Haliburton, can replace the designation of agricultural lands.
- Defines agricultural uses including secondary activities which support diversification.

### Definitions from the 2014 PPS

#### **Agriculture-related uses:**

means those farm-related commercial and farm-related industrial uses that are directly related to farm operations in the area, support agriculture, benefit from being in close proximity to farm operations, and provide direct products and/or services to farm operations as a primary activity.

#### **On-farm diversified uses:**

means uses that are secondary to the principal agricultural use of the property, and are limited in area. On-farm diversified uses include, but are not limited to, home occupations, home industries, agri-tourism uses, and uses that produce value-added agricultural products.

#### **Agri-tourism uses:**

means those farm-related tourism uses, including limited accommodation such as a bed and breakfast, that promote the enjoyment, education or activities related to the farm operation.

#### **Rural areas:**

means a system of lands within municipalities that may include rural settlement areas, rural lands, prime agricultural areas, natural heritage features and areas, and resource areas.



**Official Plans and the Food System**

To determine the policies in support of the food system most suitable to Haliburton County, a three step process was used.



Policies were identified by the element of the food system they support, including two additional elements of food strategy and food literacy.

**Strategy**

Explanation	<i>Examples</i>
Including a commitment to the local food system in the goals of both upper and lower tier Official Plans opens the possibility of supporting the food system through the policies of the Official Plan and allowing municipal staff to work in collaboration with food and agricultural groups.	<p><i>“Area municipalities in collaboration with the region, the grand river conservation authority and other stakeholders will develop and implement an urban greenlands strategy that promotes green roofs, community gardens and tree planting in urban areas (the urban forest)”</i> Region of Waterloo, Kitchener</p> <p><i>“The conservation and management of existing pockets of productive agricultural</i></p>

Explanation	<i>Examples</i>
	<p><i>land will be encouraged.” District of Muskoka</i></p> <p><i>“Increase the accessibility, affordability, and availability of local, fresh, healthy foods through community design.” Rural Area Checklist Building Complete and Sustainable Communities: Healthy Policies for Official Plans, Hastings &amp; Prince Edward Counties Health Unit</i></p>

**Food Literacy**

Explanation	<i>Examples</i>
<p>Community support for the food system is bolstered through education – of the eaters, of the growers, of the vendors and of the decision-makers. Official Plans do not do education but they can permit educational activities to take place in identified zones. Food literacy includes everything from gardening classes to community kitchens to degree programs.</p> <p>Facilitating food education is best left to the township Official Plans where policies and procedures can be designed to meet community concerns, such as parking, noise, signage.</p>	<p><i>“The following uses will be considered as agriculture-related uses: Agricultural research and training provided that the use is related to and will benefit the agricultural industry the use will assist in the furthering of knowledge of the agricultural sector of the economy and the use will assist local farmers through training and the identification of improved methods and procedures” .” Rural Area Checklist Building Complete and Sustainable Communities: Healthy Policies for Official Plans, Hastings &amp; Prince Edward Counties Health Unit</i></p>

**Production**

Explanation	<i>Examples</i>
<p>Food production is an enormous and varied sub-set of the food system. It encompasses large-scale agribusiness, the family farm, small scale agriculture, hobby farms, community gardens, urban agriculture, green roofs, edible landscaping. Support for food production can be found through-out Official Plans.</p>	<p><i>Given the limited availability of prime agricultural lands within the Township, it is the intent to preserve, protect and encourage the continued use of these areas for agricultural purposes. Township of North Dumfries Official Plan</i></p> <p><i>To manage land-uses in a way to encourage agricultural uses and promote economic development compatible with agricultural activities. Agriculture in Muskoka</i></p> <p><i>To encourage the establishment of farm-related uses and other secondary uses on farm properties to improve the viability of area farms. Severn Township</i></p>
<p>Typically Official Plan policies limit the number and size of severances in rural or agricultural areas in order to prevent the fragmentation of prime agricultural lands. In municipalities with a paucity of agricultural lands insisting on large parcels of farm land can make it difficult for young growers to get started and for older growers to retire. It may be useful to allow small scale agriculture while applying rules concerning the use of these parcels of land. It must however be kept in mind that there are several reasons for restricting fragmentation of the rural area. Municipalities try to limit strip development in rural areas as, over time, such development can add to municipal costs. In Haliburton County</p>	<p><i>Agricultural lots will be of sufficient size to: (a) accommodate the agricultural use proposed; b) avoid negative impacts on the environment and in particular ground and surface water quality; and c) ensure compatibility with adjacent lands. Lake of Bays Official Plan</i></p> <p><i>Agriculture and farm-related uses which require smaller lots shall be encouraged to locate on existing small lots. Peterborough County Official Plan</i></p> <p><i>The conservation and management of existing pockets of productive agricultural land will be encouraged. District of Muskoka</i></p>

Explanation	<i>Examples</i>
<p>maintaining a non-fragmented forest cover is important for wildlife and for aesthetic and recreational concerns.</p>	
<p>Official Plans guide development through zoning. Agriculture is permitted in agricultural and rural zones. However other policies in Official Plans can limit the viability of farms. Ensuring secondary uses, value added uses and value retention uses are permitted can make farms more viable.</p>	<p><i>permit(s) a full range of agricultural uses, farm-related uses and secondary uses to support the economic viability of local farms. Waterloo Region Official Plan</i></p> <p><i>Wherever a use is permitted in a land use designation it is intended that uses of land, buildings or structures normally incidental, accessory and essential to that use shall also be permitted. Ryerson Township Official Plan</i></p>
<p>However the growing enthusiasm for local food and food security has led several consultants to propose agriculture as a permitted use in all zones. The Municipal Policy Planning Working Group is less effusive and recommends that agriculture NOT be a permitted use in waterfront zones, industrial zones, environmental protection zones and on hazard lands.</p>	<p><i>Agricultural uses are permitted uses throughout the Rural designation but generally will not be permitted in the waterfront or community type designations. Where such uses now exist in community or Waterfront designations they will cease to exist in the long run, and in the interim will be limited or regulated to minimize any impact. District of Muskoka Official Plan</i></p>
<p>Haliburton County has numerous community gardens which have been established without formal recognition in the Official Plans and comprehensive by-laws. However incorporating support for community gardens in Official Plans serves both to highlight municipal recognition of food security as an important concern and also to facilitate</p>	<p><i>“Area Municipalities will establish policies in their official plans that encourage community gardens and rooftop gardens.” Region of Waterloo Official Plan</i></p> <p><i>“the City recognizes community gardens as valuable community resources that provide open space and a local food source, offer recreational and educational</i></p>

Explanation	Examples
<p>cooperation between community gardeners and municipal workers.</p>	<p><i>opportunities, and build social connections’.</i> City of Waterloo Official Plan</p> <p><i>“The City will encourage backyard, roof top, and workplace gardening, as well as edible landscaping and fruit-bearing trees to complement community gardens.”</i> City of Waterloo Official Plan</p> <p><i>“Zoning bylaws that enable the community to integrate opportunities for community/urban agriculture by developing land use designations that permit community gardens and agriculture uses as accessory uses for community facilities such as places of worship; schools; and health’ cultural or recreational institutions”</i> PLANT IT! A Healthy Community Food System Plan for the City of Peterborough</p>
<p>Urban agriculture includes green roofs, edible landscaping, backyard and workplace gardens and small livestock (hens, bees, rabbits, goats).</p> <p>There is no agreement on the acceptability of small livestock in settlement areas. Often the comprehensive by-law will establish minimum lot sizes for the keeping of backyard animals.</p>	<p><i>“Promote urban agriculture as a means of promoting local food security, social interaction and physical exercise.”</i> Chatham Kent Official Plan</p> <p><i>“Review and update animal control and zoning by-laws for keeping of backyard chickens and beekeeping. Add risk management requirements such as obtaining neighbour signatures in support of a proposed change to a by-law, and liability insurance for implementing controversial programs.”</i> Best practices in local food. A guide for municipalities.</p>

**Processing**

Explanation	<i>Examples</i>
<p>Generally Official Plans are supportive of food processing through zoning and through expansive definitions of home business and home occupations as well as ensuring that value added and value retention uses are permitted.</p> <p>Haliburton County does not have an abattoir which forces farmers to haul their livestock considerable distances to slaughter. The farm population is too small to justify a local abattoir. The USA allows mobile abattoirs which are not yet legal in Ontario. However, being proactive, permitting abattoirs, including a mobile abattoir, as a secondary use in rural or agricultural zones, would allow such activities if/when provincial policy permits.</p>	<p><i>“Permitted uses include agricultural uses and agricultural related uses; home businesses; home industries; bed and breakfast establishments; farm vacation homes; uses accessory to these uses and uses of land, buildings or structures accessory to agricultural uses including but not limited to: a) roadside sale of produce of the farm operation, b) the manufacture of value-added products from produce of the farm operation, c) one (1) additional dwelling that is temporary mobile or a portable unit for farm help accommodation.”</i> Peterborough County Official Plan</p> <p><i>“The Township recognizes that the nature of farming is changing and that additional activities, such as home occupations and home industries, can be carried out in the Agricultural designation and not have an adverse impact on agricultural uses.”</i> Severn Township Official Plan</p> <p><i>“permit small business operations, rural services to support farming and economic strategies specifically geared at farms and agriculture as well as agri-tourism and opportunities for supplemental income for farmers.”</i> Healthy Rural Communities Toolkit.</p>

**Distribution and marketing**

Explanation	<i>Examples</i>
<p>Farmers markets and food hubs are strategies for marketing and distributing local foods. They can be supported in Official Plans primarily through their recognition as an important land use and through zoning.</p>	<p><i>“Area municipalities will establish policies in their official plans to permit temporary farmers’ markets wherever appropriate ... particularly in areas where access to locally grown food and other health food products may currently be limited.”</i> Region of Waterloo</p> <p><i>“Land use designations shall encourage small-scale food processing facilities and distribution centre(s) for locally produced food as a means of encouraging local food production and distribution and reducing transportation needs.”</i> Rural Area Checklist Building Complete and Sustainable Communities: Healthy Policies for Official Plans, Hastings &amp; Prince Edward Counties Health Unit</p>

**Consumption**

Explanation	<i>Examples</i>
<p>There is very little an Official Plan can do to promote the consumption of healthy foods. In larger municipalities there are suggestions to direct fast food outlets away from the urban core, to direct stores to underserved areas, to allow small outlets in residential areas. None of these strategies, reviewed by the Municipal Planning Policy Group, seem appropriate to Haliburton. However, a growing tourism sector, agri-tourism can be supported in an Official Plan by permitting such activities in rural and</p>	

<p>agricultural zones. Agri-tourism is often listed as a permitted use.</p>	
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**Waste**

Explanation	<i>Examples</i>
<p>There is an amazing amount of food waste, often estimated at 1/3 of food produced being lost. Haliburton County has a dearth of good soil. Composting would seem a natural. However, composting facilities are regulated by the province. The most an Official Plan can offer is zoning which allows a composting facility that meets regulations.</p>	<p><i>“Institute community-wide composting programs and permit small-scale community-based composting initiatives in accordance with provincial standards”</i>                      Rural Area Checklist Building Complete and Sustainable Communities: Healthy Policies for Official Plans, Hastings &amp; Prince Edward Counties Health Unit</p>

**Definitions**

Definitions are an integral part of Official Plans. They offer both clarity and flexibility. Appendix F is a collection of definitions for terms used through-out the report. Wherever possible, the definitions have been taken from the Provincial Policy Statement and associated documents. These definitions could be incorporated in the Haliburton Official Plans, heightening the likelihood that the plans will conform to the 2014 Provincial Policy Statement.



## Section 5. The Food System In Haliburton County

Supporting the food system in Official Plans is only one tool in the community arsenal. The Haliburton County community has been actively developing the county food system. The following table is a brief summary and an assessment of initiatives supporting the food system of the extent to which such activities have been undertaken in the County. This assessment is derived from a review by the Municipal Policy Planning Working Group review and others who generously participated.

### Food System Initiatives In Haliburton County

Yes –in progress; Partial – under development; No – not yet begun;

NA – inappropriate for Haliburton County

Initiatives	Yes	Partial	Not yet	NA
<b>Strategic Support For Food System</b>				
Establish a food policy council				•
Develop a food charter			•	
Establish a food network	•			
Keep an inventory of funding sources and programs		•		
County/township provide services in support of agriculture (eg is mapping, inventory of agricultural land uses etc)			•	
County facilitates consistency in zoning across municipalities				•
Develop a long-term food systems strategy that addresses all aspects of a sustainable local food system.		•		
<b>Education &amp; Communication</b>				
Build links with post secondary institutions	•			

<b>Initiatives</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Partial</b>	<b>Not yet</b>	<b>NA</b>
Offer food workshops	•			
Educational institutions provide agricultural courses suitable to area			•	
Community education on importance of food system		•		
Summer youth employment for young farmers		•		
Hydroponic education			•	
Establish the food system as a priority in the local labour force and identify training needs and requirements		•		
Develop an education and outreach program for developers and residents to increase awareness and understanding of the importance of protecting and conserving farmland as part of a sustainable local food system			•	
Support for urban agriculture, including skills expansion	•			
Develop a communications system including email, newsletter			•	
<b>Production</b>				
Support for community gardens	•			
Support for commercial grade urban agriculture			•	
Mobile tool library			•	
Seed exchange	•			
Inventory of possible sites for local foods (including community gardens, agricultural lands)		•		

<b>Initiatives</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Partial</b>	<b>Not yet</b>	<b>NA</b>
Support agricultural coop development			•	
Agricultural incubators			•	
Provide infrastructure (e.g. raised beds, water, rain barrels, top soil, and compost) to support garden start-up as well as for existing community gardens		•		
Establish a policy framework for regulating community gardens			•	
Study the feasibility of creating a farmland trust or utilizing an existing one to protect farmland from urban development and limit fragmentation of existing farmland			•	
<b>Processing</b>				
Establish community kitchen	•			
Lobbying for provincial standards and regulations to support local small abattoirs or portable abattoirs			•	
Support for processing facilities (value retention, value added)	•			
<b>Distribution &amp; Marketing</b>				
Establish food hubs These functions include the aggregating, processing, storing, marketing, selling and distributing	•			
Establish a local food basket		•		
Review municipal food procurement policies and set targets for local food procurement to increase the purchase of local food by all publically funded agencies and institutions			•	

<b>Initiatives</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Partial</b>	<b>Not yet</b>	<b>NA</b>
Engage and enable local vendors and growers to provide healthy foods for residents in municipally owned facilities through procurement policies, requests for proposals, tenders and food purchasing contracts.			•	
Establish food banks	•			
Offer, with dignity, free, healthy and safe food	•			
Support farmers markets	•			
Encourage mobile vendors			•	
Encourage culinary tourism		•		
Encourage markets in underserved areas			•	
Encourage use of local foods in local businesses		•		
Develop marketing strategy including local branding, culinary trails (tourism)			•	
Establish local dollar (currency)			•	
Vouchers for low income to use at farmers market			•	
Support local farm/food events	•			
Work cooperatively to identify opportunities throughout the County for establishing seasonal farmers' markets in unconventional locations, such as underutilized institutional lands and/or parking lots, where appropriate, especially in communities without grocery stores or other healthy food retailers	•			
Collaborate with local food partners and economic development agencies		•		

<b>Initiatives</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Partial</b>	<b>Not yet</b>	<b>NA</b>
to support secondary agriculture uses such as farm tours and culinary Tourism				
<b>Consumption</b>				
Local food guide			•	
Highlight local foods on municipal websites		•		
Local food festival	•			
School breakfast and lunch programs with local food		•		
Increase skills in cooking, budgeting, food preparation, gardening, food storage, preservation, etc.	•			
Encourage use of wild food as well as local	•			
<b>Waste</b>				
Encourage gleaning		•		
Encourage composting			•	
Advocate for sustainable food waste management policy and practices including engagement with the community and with food vendors			•	

## Section 6 Conclusion

### ***Recommendations***

The Municipal Policy Planning Working Group recommends;

1. The inclusion of a goal supporting local food and the food system be included in Official Plans during their five year reviews.
2. The retention and return of agricultural lands defined as potential arable lands that are mapped in the Local Food Infrastructure Report, 2011 and the completion of this mapping for the County.
3. Support for community gardens and farmers' markets in settlement zones
4. Support for food hubs and food education in settlement and rural zones
5. Support for agriculture related uses and on-farm diversified uses in zones where agricultural uses are permitted
6. Support for urban (settlement) agriculture with the exception of animals
7. Community consultation on the acceptability of raising livestock, chickens and rabbits specifically, in settlement areas
8. The use of definitions from the Provincial Policy Statement, 2014
9. The use of rural areas and rural lands as defined in the Provincial Policy Statement, 2014

### ***Next Steps/Further Work***

- A. The Community Food Assessment Partners continue to review Official Plans as they come up for review.
- B. The Community Food Assessment Partners review municipal Comprehensive By-laws to ensure support for the food system and for local food.
- C. The Community Food Assessment Partners consider developing a Haliburton Food Charter.

### Appendix A Suggested Revisions To The Haliburton County Official Plan

Section	Original	Suggested changes	Rationale
1.3 LAND USE OBJECTIVES	<p>The County Official Plan promotes sustainable development that achieves efficient land use patterns, supports economic growth, and enables healthy, liveable and safe communities. This overarching vision can be met by supporting a range of land use objectives, including:</p> <p>a. accommodating a range of uses, such as residential, employment, institutional, recreational and open space, that can meet long-term needs;</p>	<p>The County Official Plan promotes sustainable development that achieves efficient land use patterns, supports economic growth, and enables healthy, liveable and safe communities. This overarching vision can be met by supporting a range of land use objectives, including:</p> <p>a. accommodating a range of uses, such as residential, employment, institutional, <b>agricultural, on-farm diversified uses and agricultural related</b> uses, recreational and open space, that can meet long-term needs;</p>	<p>Inclusion of agricultural uses and on-farm diversified uses in the land use objectives encourages lower tier plans to also include agricultural uses and on-farm diversified uses as well as providing the authority for County staff to become involved in food system initiatives.</p>
2.1 ENVIRONMENT			
2.1.1 Introduction	<p>Haliburton County has extensive natural areas. These areas provide the basis for a wide range of</p>	<p>Haliburton County has extensive natural areas. These areas provide the basis for a wide range of natural,</p>	<p>By referencing agriculture as a use of natural areas, the plan recognizes this</p>

Section	Original	Suggested changes	Rationale
	<p>natural, economic and social functions ranging from ecological to tourism to forestry. The natural environment forms the basis for Haliburton’s way of life and its stewardship is central to this Plan.</p>	<p>economic and social functions ranging from ecological to tourism to forestry <b>to agriculture</b>. The natural environment forms the basis for Haliburton’s way of life and its stewardship is central to this Plan.</p>	<p>use. This is also in line with the PPS</p>
<p>2.1.2 Community Directions</p>			
<p>2.1.3.2</p>	<p>Local official plans will identify areas of locally significant natural heritage lands including wetlands, wildlife habitat, fish habitat, the habitat of endangered and threatened species and areas of natural and scientific interest.</p>	<p>Local official plans will identify areas of locally significant natural heritage lands including wetlands, <b>potential arable lands</b>, wildlife habitat, fish habitat, the habitat of endangered and threatened species and areas of natural and scientific interest.</p>	<p>Potential arable lands are mapped in the Infrastructure Report (2011). The PPS encourages mapping of agricultural lands.</p>
<p>2.1.3.3</p>	<p>An Environmental Impact Study, required for features identified in 2.1.3.1, will include the following, or as scoped by the local municipality or approval authority: ...</p>	<p>An Environmental Impact Study, required for features identified in 2.1.3.1, will include the following, or as scoped by the local municipality or approval authority: ... an environmental</p>	<p>Including soils analysis in the EIS may promote the protection of agricultural lands</p>



Section	Original	Suggested changes	Rationale
	an environmental inventory of the area under development consideration (plant life, land-based and aquatic wildlife, wetlands, natural landforms, fish, surface waters, hydro-geological features);	inventory of the area under development consideration (plant life, land-based and aquatic wildlife, wetlands, natural landforms, fish, surface waters, hydro-geological features, <b>soil classification</b> );	
<b>2.1.3.11 a</b>	<b>New section</b>	<b>Strategies for the protection of potential arable lands will be included in local official plans or as County and local partnership actions.</b>	Emphasizes the importance of protection of agricultural lands well as recognizing the cooperative work of County staff and other organizations.
2.1.3.14	Although the County of Haliburton does not contain prime agricultural lands, planning considerations must be given to the agricultural operations that exist in the County. In order to protect and optimize these operations, and reduce any adverse impacts these	Although The County of Haliburton <del>does not</del> <b>contains pockets of potential arable lands. In order to protect and optimize agricultural uses, the conservation and management of existing pockets of land will be</b>	By recognizing that there are small pockets of agricultural lands, more protection can be offered.

Section	Original	Suggested changes	Rationale
	<p>operations may have on adjacent uses, local official plans shall have policies that establish Minimum Distance Separation guidelines as specified by the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA). These guidelines will be used for new land uses, the creation of new lots, and new or expanding livestock facilities. These guidelines may incorporate provisions to allow for studies to support alternative separation distances.</p>	<p><b>encouraged.</b> Local official plans shall have policies that establish Minimum Distance Separation guidelines as specified by the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA). These guidelines will be used for new land uses, the creation of new lots, and new or expanding livestock facilities. These guidelines may incorporate provisions to allow for studies to support alternative separation distances.</p>	
<p>2.3 SETTLEMENT PATTERNS</p>			
<p>2.3.5.5</p>	<p>The range of uses allowed in each type of settlement pattern will be determined in the local official plan and zoning bylaw. Serviced urban areas will be allowed a full</p>	<p>The range of uses allowed in each type of settlement pattern will be determined in the local official plan and zoning bylaw. <b>Consideration shall be given to allowing the</b></p>	<p>Allows lower tier governments to choose to support urban agriculture.</p>

Section	Original	Suggested changes	Rationale
	range of uses. Other settlement types will be allowed a range of uses based on their function and historical service area	<b>following uses in all settlement areas: backyard, roof top and workplace gardening and edible landscaping and community gardens.</b> Serviced urban areas will be allowed a full range of uses. Other settlement types will be allowed a range of uses based on their function and historical service area	
<b>2.3.5.10</b>	Home occupations, home industries and home work conversions are allowed subject to environmental, functional and visual compatibility with surrounding uses	Home occupations, home industries and home work conversions are allowed subject to environmental, <del>functional and visual</del> compatibility with surrounding uses <b>and community acceptability</b>	Gardening has been considered an eyesore and inappropriate in residential designations. Removal of the visual and functional conditions provides for more flexibility while providing for community input..
2.3.5.16	Council shall encourage the preparation of	Council shall encourage the preparation of	Including the food system emphasizes the

Section	Original	Suggested changes	Rationale
	<p>Community improvement Plans and associated policies and programs at the local level to encourage redevelopment, and will direct municipalities to maintain the well-being of urban downtown areas and main streets and plan to meet the needs of pedestrians. Community improvement initiatives include construction, energy efficiency, accessibility, affordable housing and the cleanup of brownfield lands and/or buildings</p>	<p>Community improvement Plans and associated policies and programs at the local level to encourage redevelopment, and will direct municipalities to maintain the well-being of urban downtown areas and main streets and plan to meet the needs of pedestrians. Community improvement initiatives include construction, energy efficiency, accessibility, affordable housing, <b>food system support</b> and the cleanup of brownfield lands and/or buildings.</p>	<p>community commitment to local food.</p>
<p>2.4 GENERAL POLICIES</p>			
<p>2.4.2.10</p>	<p>The County and local municipalities will develop a County wide waste management strategy to address issues of</p>	<p>The County and local municipalities will develop a County wide waste management strategy to address issues of</p>	<p>Including composting in the strategy allows for the development of composting</p>

Section	Original	Suggested changes	Rationale
	<p>the disposal of solid wastes, septage and road snow wastes. This strategy also will address: recycling, reuse, site closures and the development of plans and adequate financial reserves for perpetual care.</p>	<p>the disposal of solid wastes, septage and road snow wastes. This strategy also will address: recycling, reuse, <b>composting</b>, site closures and the development of plans and adequate financial reserves for perpetual care.</p>	<p>facilities and programs.</p>
<p><b>2.4.2.18 a Food system</b></p>	<p><b>New clause</b></p>	<p><b>The food system from production to waste management is important for the economic sustainability of the County. Local municipalities are encouraged to include policies in support of the food system in their Official Plans including but not limited to support for community gardens, urban agriculture, food hubs, farmers' markets,</b></p>	<p>The clause encourages lower tier governments to include the food system</p>

Section	Original	Suggested changes	Rationale
		<p><b>protection of potential arable lands.</b></p>	

**Appendix B Suggested Revisions To The Algonquin Highlands Official Plan**

<b>Section</b>	<b>Original</b>	<b>Suggested changes</b>	<b>Rationale</b>
Section 2 Purpose, Basis and Context of the Plan			
2.1.3	<p>The Plan is intended to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>encourage the practice of reducing, reusing and recycling waste products</li> </ul>	<p>The Plan is intended to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>encourage the practice of reducing, reusing, <b>composting</b> and recycling waste products</li> <li><b>encourage the growth of the local food system</b></li> </ul>	<p>Allow for composting should provincial regulations be met.</p> <p>Allow for the development of local food system</p>
Section 3 Guiding Principles			
3.3 Objectives of the Plan	<b>Add 3.3.9 New clause</b>	<b>Community gardens, backyard, roof top and workplace gardens, farmers markets, edible landscaping and other supports for the local food</b>	Allow for the development of some forms of urban agriculture

Section	Original	Suggested changes	Rationale
		<b>system will be encouraged.</b>	
3.4.3	Dorset is a settlement area that will continue to be a focus for community activities. The predominant use of land is residential, but commercial, community facilities, recreational, open space and industrial uses may be developed and expanded. Development shall be based on the provision of private, individual water and sewage disposal services.	Dorset is a settlement area that will continue to be a focus for community activities. The predominant use of land is residential, but commercial, community facilities, recreational, open space, <b>small scale local food production and distribution uses</b> and industrial uses may be developed and expanded. Development shall be based on the provision of private, individual water and sewage disposal services.	Allow for some urban agriculture in settlement zone.
Section 5 Land Use designations			
5.1.3	The predominant use of the land in Settlement Areas is for residential use, but commercial, community facilities, recreational open space and industrial uses may be	The predominant use of the land in Settlement Areas is for residential use, but commercial, community facilities, recreational open space, <b>small scale local food production and distribution</b> and	Allow for some urban agriculture in settlement areas



Section	Original	Suggested changes	Rationale
	developed, on individual private services.	industrial uses may be developed, on individual private services.	
5.1.7	A business core in Dorset shall contain of a variety of land uses such as commercial, recreational, residential, industrial, community facilities and open space.	A business core in Dorset shall contain of a variety of land uses such as commercial, recreational, residential, industrial, community facilities, <b>small scale local food production and distribution</b> and open space.	Ensures that community gardens, farmers markets and food hubs are acceptable uses
5.1.10	New development is encouraged to make efficient use of land and infrastructure, accommodate active transportation needs, and encourage mixed use and a range of housing options that can be serviced by private sewage disposal and water supply systems	New development is encouraged to make efficient use of land and infrastructure, accommodate active transportation needs, <b>accommodate small scale local food production and distribution</b> and encourage mixed use and a range of housing options that can be serviced by private sewage disposal and water supply systems	As above
5.3 Rural			

Section	Original	Suggested changes	Rationale
5.3.7.1	Rural business includes commercial and industrial uses that are:  <input type="checkbox"/> functionally related to, or serving, the rural area	Rural business includes commercial and industrial uses that are:  <input type="checkbox"/> functionally related to, or serving, the rural area <b>including businesses in support of agriculture</b>	Maybe be assumed in clause. Addition makes clear that uses supportive of agriculture are permitted uses.
5.3.7.3	Tourist commercial establishments, including resort commercial establishments, and institutional accommodation or centres may be permitted in the Rural designation by way of a zoning amendment in order to address specific location, development and access concerns.	Tourist commercial establishments, including resort commercial establishments <b>and agri-tourism establishments</b> , and institutional accommodation or centres may be permitted in the Rural designation by way of a zoning amendment in order to address specific location, development and access concerns.	Clarifies that agri-tourism is a permitted use.
5.7.1	Waste Management facilities include operating or closed waste or sanitary landfill sites..... Ancillary uses such as recycling depots and transfer stations may also be permitted. Disposal of liquid	Waste Management facilities include operating or closed waste or sanitary landfill sites..... Ancillary uses such as recycling depots, <b>composting</b> and transfer stations may also be permitted. Disposal of liquid	Allows for composting should regulations permit.

Section	Original	Suggested changes	Rationale
	industrial, radioactive or toxic waste shall not be permitted	industrial, radioactive or toxic waste shall not be permitted	
Section 6 General Policies			
6.3.6	Community improvements may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Supporting a diversified economic base; and,</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Ensuring an efficient use of infrastructure.</li> </ul>	Community improvements may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Supporting a diversified economic base;</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Community gardens</b> and,</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Ensuring an efficient use of infrastructure.</li> </ul>	Ensures that community gardens can be included as community improvements

**Appendix C Suggested Revisions To The Dysart et.al. Official Plan**

Section	Original	Suggested changes	Rationale
Section 2 BASIS AND OBJECTIVES			
<b>2.1.7 The importance of the local food system</b>	<b>New Clause</b>	<b>The municipality recognizes the importance of the local food system as both an economic driver and as a contributor to the quality of life of the community.</b>	Establishes the local food system as a priority
2.1.6 Character of the Rural Area	.... The vast majority of the rural area is lake or forest and very little of it is suitable for agriculture. Forestry continues to be an important economic activity and source of employment in the Municipality.	.... The vast majority of the rural area is lake or forest <del>and very little of it is suitable for agriculture.</del> <b>There are parcels of lands which support agricultural uses, a valuable generator of community goods.</b> Forestry continues to be an important economic	Encourages retention of agricultural uses

Section	Original	Suggested changes	Rationale
		activity and source of employment in the Municipality	
2.2.6 Promotion of the Resource Economy	The Municipality's natural resources will be conserved wherever possible, for commercial, industrial, and recreational uses that will promote economic stability and diversity.	The Municipality's natural resources will be conserved wherever possible, for commercial, industrial, <b>agricultural</b> and recreational uses that will promote economic stability and diversity.	Recognizes agriculture as a part of the resource economy
2.2.7 Promotion of Liveable Settlements	It is an objective of this Plan to promote healthy, liveable and safe communities by:  - ensuring land use patterns within settlement areas are based upon a mix of uses and densities that efficiently use land, are appropriately and efficiently serviced, minimize impacts to the environment, promote energy efficiency, and are based upon the principles of	It is an objective of this Plan to promote healthy, liveable and safe communities by:  - ensuring land use patterns within settlement areas are based upon a mix of uses and densities that efficiently use land, are appropriately and efficiently serviced, minimize impacts to the environment, promote energy efficiency, <b>support urban</b>	Facilitates food production accessible to residential areas

Section	Original	Suggested changes	Rationale
	intensification and redevelopment;	<b>agriculture</b> and are based upon the principles of intensification and redevelopment;	
Section 4 General Development Policies			
4.7.4 Private Roads in Waterfront and Rural Areas	<p>Non-residential development in Rural Areas may be permitted with direct access by private road, only if the following conditions are met.</p> <p>Development is limited to conservation, forestry, agricultural, and private recreational uses that are not open to the public, and any overnight accommodation permitted will only be on a seasonal use basis.</p>	<p>Non-residential development in Rural Areas may be permitted with direct access by private road, only if the following conditions are met.</p> <p>Development is limited to conservation, forestry, agricultural, and private recreational uses that are not open to the public, and any overnight accommodation permitted will only be on a seasonal use basis. <b>Agri-tourism and farm gate sales are permitted uses.</b></p>	Allows value added and value retention agricultural uses

Section	Original	Suggested changes	Rationale
<p>4.18.4 IMPLEMENTATION OF COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT</p>	<p>In order to achieve the Community Improvement goals and objectives outlined in Section 4.7.1, Council intends to use a variety of implementation methods, including but not limited to the following:</p>	<p>In order to achieve the Community Improvement goals and objectives outlined in Section 4.7.1, Council intends to use a variety of implementation methods, including but not limited to the following:</p> <p><b>Support of community gardens, backyard, roof top and workplace gardens</b></p>	<p>Allows some forms of urban agriculture</p>
<p>5.3 Resource Protection Areas</p>			
<p><b>5.3.6 Agricultural resources</b></p>	<p><b>New clause</b></p>	<p><b>Those parcels of lands used for agricultural are important to the economy and the quality of life of the community. Council will support the retention of these lands for</b></p>	<p>Highlights the value of agriculture to the community</p>

Section	Original	Suggested changes	Rationale
		<b>agricultural uses.</b>	
Section 7 RESIDENTIAL AREAS			
<b>7.2.1 PERMITTED USES</b>	The following non-residential uses may be permitted: ....  - public and institutional uses, such as recreational facilities and other public services, schools, and places of worship	The following non-residential uses may be permitted: ....  - public and institutional uses, such as recreational facilities and other public services, schools, and places of worship  <b>- small scale urban agriculture such as community gardens, farmers markets</b>	Allows some forms of urban agriculture close to residents
<b>8.3.1 PERMITTED USES</b>	The following non-residential uses may be permitted: ....  - small-scale industrial uses of a type not requiring full municipal or communal sewage and water services.	The following non-residential uses may be permitted: ....  - small-scale industrial uses of a type not requiring full municipal or communal sewage and water services.  <b>- small scale urban</b>	As above



Section	Original	Suggested changes	Rationale
		<b>agriculture such as community gardens, farmers markets</b>	
<b>11.1 DESIGNATION AND PERMITTED USES</b>	Institutional uses include: .... <input type="checkbox"/> buildings or other uses of a public health, educational, recreational, cultural, religious or charitable nature, and other similar undertakings of a public or semi-public nature; and ....	Institutional uses include: .... <input type="checkbox"/> buildings or other uses of a public health, educational, recreational, cultural, religious or charitable nature, and other similar undertakings of a public or semi-public nature <b>including community gardens;</b> and ....	Allows community gardens in institutional zones
<b>12.4 SITE PLAN CONTROL</b>	In exercising site plan control in the remaining Commercial Areas, Council will seek to achieve the following wherever possible: use of native plant species	In exercising site plan control in the remaining Commercial Areas, Council will seek to achieve the following wherever possible: use of native plant species, <b>including edible plant species</b>	Highlights the possibility of edible landscaping
<b>Section 15 PUBLIC RECREATION AREAS</b>	These lands are dedicated to public use and enjoyment. Only park and open space uses, including	These lands are dedicated to public use and enjoyment. Only park and open	Allows for community gardens and farmers' markets

Section	Original	Suggested changes	Rationale
	recreational facilities, are permitted.	space uses, including recreational facilities, <b>community gardens and farmers markets</b> are permitted.	
Section 19 Rural areas			
19.2.1 PERMITTED USES	The following uses may be permitted: .... - commercial forestry operations open to public recreational use; - youth camps, outdoor education centres, and meeting and retreat centres catering to organized groups	The following uses may be permitted: .... - commercial forestry operations open to public recreational use; - youth camps, outdoor education centres, <b>food hubs and educational facilities</b> and meeting and retreat centres catering to organized groups	Allows for food literacy activities
19.2.2 LOT STANDARDS	Development will be on large lots, 20 hectares (49 acres) or more. In certain circumstances where soil quality, topography, or the nature of the use	Development will be on large lots, 20 hectares (49 acres) or more. In certain circumstances where soil quality, topography, or the	Recognizes the need for both small lots and the need to limit fragmentation

Section	Original	Suggested changes	Rationale
	dictate otherwise, smaller lots may be permitted.	nature of the use dictate otherwise, smaller lots may be permitted.  <b>Agriculture and agriculture-related uses which require smaller lots shall be encouraged to locate on existing small lots.</b>	
<b>19.3.1 PERMITTED USES</b>	The following uses may be permitted: ...  - agricultural and agriculture-related uses; ...	The following uses may be permitted: ...  - agricultural and agriculture-related uses <b>and on-farm diversified uses; ...</b>	Ensures that some agricultural value added uses are permitted
<b>19.11.1 PERMITTED USES</b>	The following disposal industrial uses may be permitted: solid waste disposal sites, salvage yards, sewage lagoons, and similar uses.	The following disposal industrial uses may be permitted: solid waste disposal sites, salvage yards, sewage lagoons,	Recognizes the possibility of composting

Section	Original	Suggested changes	Rationale
		<b>composting</b> and similar uses.	

### Appendix D Suggested Revisions To the Highlands East Official Plan

Section	Original	Suggested changes	Rationale
1.2.2 <u>The Environment and the Lakes</u>			
1.2.2.2	..... Policies in this Official Plan will assist in the evaluation and impact assessment of proposed land use developments and site assessment to ensure the maintenance and protection of water quality, natural resources, wetlands, wildlife, fisheries and fish habitat in Municipality.	.....Policies in this Official Plan will assist in the evaluation and impact assessment of proposed land use developments and site assessment to ensure the maintenance and protection of water quality, natural resources, wetlands, <b>potentially arable lands</b> , wildlife, fisheries and fish habitat in Municipality	Highlights the importance of agriculture
1.2.3.1	The economy of the area has traditionally been based on forestry, mining and tourism. Employment statistics indicate that these sectors continue to drive the local economy which includes resource and service industries, recreation, and tourism	The economy of the area has traditionally been based on forestry, mining and tourism. Employment statistics indicate that these sectors continue to drive the local economy	Recognizes agriculture as an important land use

Section	Original	Suggested changes	Rationale
	and will encourage sustainable forms of recreation that promote healthy lifestyles.	which includes resource and service industries, <b>agriculture</b> , recreation, and tourism and will encourage sustainable forms of recreation that promote healthy lifestyles.	
1.2.4.4	<b>New clause</b>	<b>Given the limited availability of prime agricultural lands within the Township, it is the intent to preserve, protect and encourage the continued use of these areas for agricultural purposes</b>	Promotes preservation of potentially arable lands
1.2.6.2	Vision, goals and policies in this Plan that encourage entrepreneurial spirit and diverse employment opportunities based in resources, recreation and tourism and	Vision, goals and policies in this Plan that encourage entrepreneurial spirit and diverse employment opportunities based in	Includes agriculture as an important activity

Section	Original	Suggested changes	Rationale
	<p>technology. Also critical to economic sustainability is to retain a skilled and adaptable work force through opportunities for higher education and skills training.</p>	<p>resources, <b>agriculture</b>, recreation and tourism and technology. Also critical to economic sustainability is to retain a skilled and adaptable work force through opportunities for higher education and skills training.</p>	
<p><b>1.2.6.3</b></p>	<p>The Municipality values the health and well-being of its residents. Decisions in land use planning related to transportation, recreation and economic development can support and foster the creation of a healthy, active and accessible community.</p> <p>...</p>	<p>The Municipality values the health and well-being of its residents. Decisions in land use planning related to transportation, recreation, <b>agriculture</b> and economic development can support and foster the creation of a healthy, active and accessible community.</p>	<p>As above</p>
<p>2.1 GENERAL DEVELOPMENT POLICIES</p>			
<p>2.1.2.1</p>	<p>Measures that promote a healthy and active</p>	<p>Measures that promote a healthy</p>	<p>Ensures that the food</p>

Section	Original	Suggested changes	Rationale
	<p>community are strongly encouraged within the municipality. Such measures include, but are not limited to, the facilitation of pedestrian movement within settlement areas, improving accessibility for persons with disabilities and the elderly, providing a range of parks and open space areas, accommodating a range and mix of land uses within appropriate areas, focusing growth within settlement areas, avoiding land use patterns which cause or lead to environmental degradation, and accommodating alternate forms of transportation where appropriate and feasible.</p>	<p>and active community are strongly encouraged within the municipality. Such measures include, but are not limited to, the facilitation of pedestrian movement within settlement areas, improving accessibility for persons with disabilities and the elderly, <b>improving accessibility to local, healthy food</b>, providing a range of parks and open space areas, accommodating a range and mix of land uses within appropriate areas, focusing growth within settlement areas, avoiding land use patterns which cause or lead to environmental degradation, and accommodating alternate forms of</p>	<p>system is recognized as an important element in a healthy community</p>



Section	Original	Suggested changes	Rationale
		transportation where appropriate and feasible.	
<b>2.1.15 The Food System</b>	<b>New clause</b>	<b>The Municipality recognizes the importance of the food system, from production to waste management, to the economy and the quality of life of the township. The Municipality will enter into partnerships to develop the local food system.</b>	Facilitates joint activities of the municipal staff and other agencies and NGOs
<b>2.2.2.2</b>	Consent Policies Applicable in all Designations:  vii) In determining whether a consent is to be granted, regard shall be had for such matters as the dedication of land or cash levies for park purposes, the dedication	Consent Policies Applicable in all Designations:  vii) In determining whether a consent is to be granted, regard shall be had for such matters as the dedication of land	Allows land to be dedicated to community gardens as well as other uses

Section	Original	Suggested changes	Rationale
	of land for future road widening and related agreements.	or cash levies for park purposes, the dedication of land for future road widening, <b>the dedication of land for community gardens</b> and related agreements	
3.0 Land Use Designations			
3.1 RURAL			
3.1.1.4	To support and foster the development of a healthy and active rural community.	To support and foster the development of a healthy and active rural community <b>and support and foster the development of the local food system.</b>	Adds the food system to the characteristics of a healthy active community
<b>3.1.2 Permitted Uses</b>	Permitted uses in those areas designated Rural as shown on Schedule A include recreation uses, trails and public parks, residential uses, home based business and home industries, local and tourist commercial operations, small scale industrial uses,	Permitted uses in those areas designated Rural as shown on Schedule A include recreation uses, trails and public parks, <b>local food educational</b>	Clarifies that agriculture and agriculture related uses are permitted

Section	Original	Suggested changes	Rationale
	<p>agricultural uses, forestry and resource management, institutional uses, community facilities, wayside pits and quarries including portable asphalt plants, waste disposal sites, and existing uses.</p>	<p><b>uses</b>, residential uses, home based business and home industries, local and tourist commercial operations, <b>agri-tourism</b>, small scale industrial uses, agricultural <b>and agriculture related uses and on-farm diversified</b> uses, forestry and resource management, institutional uses, community facilities, wayside pits and quarries including portable asphalt plants, waste disposal sites, and existing uses.</p>	
<p><b>3.1.6.1</b></p>	<p>Commercial development shall generally directed to the settlements, however consideration may be given to the establishment of space extensive or service commercial uses in the Rural designation that serve the traveling</p>	<p>Commercial development shall generally directed to the settlements, however consideration may be given to the establishment of space extensive or service commercial uses</p>	<p>Recognizes agriculture to be a commercial use</p>

Section	Original	Suggested changes	Rationale
	<p>public, the resource sector or the rural community. These uses may be permitted subject to a rezoning and site plan control with consideration being given to the nature of the development and the impact on the surrounding environment.</p>	<p>in the Rural designation that serve the traveling public, the resource sector, <b>the agricultural sector</b> or the rural community. These uses may be permitted subject to a rezoning and site plan control with consideration being given to the nature of the development and the impact on the surrounding environment.</p>	
<p>3.2.2.1 Permitted Uses Settlement areas</p>	<p>Permitted uses in those areas designated as Settlement Areas shown on Schedule A shall include: residential uses; commercial uses; light industrial uses; institutional uses, bed and breakfasts, home occupations, community facilities including parkland and trails and group homes.</p>	<p>Permitted uses in those areas designated as Settlement Areas shown on Schedule A shall include: residential uses; commercial uses; light industrial uses; <b>small scale agricultural uses including community gardens and farmers markets,</b></p>	<p>Allows food production and distribution to be accessible to settlement residents</p>

Section	Original	Suggested changes	Rationale
		institutional uses, bed and breakfasts, home occupations, community facilities including parkland and trails and group homes.	
3.2.4.3	New development within the Settlement Area designation is encouraged to accommodate active transportation needs, make an efficient use of land and infrastructure and provide for a range/mix of land uses.	New development within the Settlement Area designation is encouraged to accommodate active transportation needs, make an efficient use of land and infrastructure and provide for a range/mix of land uses <b>including community gardens, rooftop, backyard and workplace gardens, edible landscaping and farmers markets</b> .	As above
3.2.6.2	Commercial and light industrial uses shall be permitted in the	Commercial and light industrial uses	As above

Section	Original	Suggested changes	Rationale
	<p>Settlement Area designation where such uses are compatible with surrounding land uses and the general character of the Settlement Area. Such uses will be identified in the Municipality’s Zoning By-law.</p>	<p><b>including community gardens and farmers markets</b> shall be permitted in the Settlement Area designation where such uses are compatible with surrounding land uses and the general character of the Settlement Area. Such uses will be identified in the Municipality’s Zoning By-law</p>	
<p>3.3.7.5</p>	<p>Where the dedication of parkland would not serve the needs of the local community, Council may consider accepting cash-in-lieu to improve existing parks or purchase more appropriate lands for parkland purposes</p>	<p>Where the dedication of parkland would not serve the needs of the local community, Council may consider accepting cash-in-lieu to improve existing parks or purchase more appropriate lands for parkland purposes, <b>including community gardens.</b></p>	<p>Allow for land to be dedicated to community gardens as well as parks</p>

Section	Original	Suggested changes	Rationale
5.9.1 Objectives	ii) The Municipality of Highlands East shall, where financially feasible, continue to develop and improve municipal physical, social and recreational facilities and services.	ii) The Municipality of Highlands East shall, where financially feasible, continue to develop and improve municipal physical, social and recreational facilities and services <b>including community gardens and farmers markets</b>	Adds the food system to community improvements
5.9.2.3	Examples of community improvements may include but are not limited to:  ii) The acquisition of land for community improvement purposes, such as a trail linkage or the development of waterfront park	Examples of community improvements may include but are not limited to:  ii) The acquisition of land for community improvement purposes, such as a trail linkage or the development of waterfront park <b>or the development of community gardens</b>	Provides for the possibility of community gardens as a community improvement

Section	Original	Suggested changes	Rationale
5.11.3.2	<p>In submitting an application to the Municipality for an Amendment to this Plan, regard shall be had for the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) the need for the proposed use;</li> <li>ii) the suitability of the site for the proposed use, including regard for the impact on cultural heritage resources;</li> </ul>	<p>In submitting an application to the Municipality for an Amendment to this Plan, regard shall be had for the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) the need for the proposed use;</li> <li>ii) the suitability of the site for the proposed use, including regard for the impact on cultural heritage resources <b>and on agricultural resources</b></li> </ul>	<p>Ensures that the impact on potentially arable land is considered</p>



### Appendix E Suggested Revisions To The Minden Hills Official Plan

Section	Original	Suggested changes	Rationale
1.3.2.4	<b>New clause</b>	<b>The Township will support the development of a sustainable local food system.</b>	Highlights the importance of the food system
1.3.3.5	The Township will establish and maintain a supply of employment lands suited to a diverse range of commercial and industrial uses.	The Township will establish and maintain a supply of employment lands suited to a diverse range of <b>agricultural</b> , commercial and industrial uses	Recognizes agriculture as an important economic driver
1.3.4.5	<b>New clause</b>	<b>Parcels of agricultural lands are critical resources that need to be protected from adverse impacts.</b>	As above
1.3.6.4	Local food production and land uses that will	Local food production and	Expands food production to

Section	Original	Suggested changes	Rationale
	encourage more economic and social investment in local food production will be supported	land uses that will encourage more economic and social investment in local food production, <b>processing and distribution</b> will be supported	include processing and distribution
2.2.2 Permitted Uses residential	Permitted uses within the Residential designation shall include:	Permitted uses within the Residential designation shall include:  <b>j) community gardens, backyard, workplace, roof top gardens, farmers markets</b>	Permits some forms of local agriculture
2.2.3.2	Open space (parks, recreation facilities, recreational trails and natural areas) and institutional uses (schools, churches, nursing homes, community facilities, libraries) are permitted in the residential	Open space (parks, recreation facilities, recreational trails and natural areas), agricultural uses <b>(community gardens, backyard,</b>	As above

Section	Original	Suggested changes	Rationale
	neighbourhoods, subject to the approval of a zoning by-law amendment which shall be accompanied by the following:	<b>workplace and rooftop gardens, farmer’s markets)</b> and institutional uses (schools, churches, nursing homes, community facilities, libraries, <b>food hubs</b> ) are permitted in the residential neighbourhoods, subject to the approval of a zoning by-law amendment which shall be accompanied by the following	
2.2.4.1	Subdivision design will contribute to the well-being and cohesiveness of the community. To promote this, the following principles are used to guide subdivision layout, both within subdivisions and between subdivisions:  · Trees will be planted on the boulevard	Subdivision design will contribute to the well-being and cohesiveness of the community. To promote this, the following principles are used to guide subdivision layout, both within subdivisions and	As above

Section	Original	Suggested changes	Rationale
	between the sidewalk and the street	between subdivisions: · Trees <b>and edible landscaping</b> will be planted on the boulevard between the sidewalk and the street  <b>Community gardens may be located in subdivision</b>	
2.3.2 Permitted Uses	Permitted uses in the Service and Business Area shall include:	Permitted uses in the Service and Business Area shall include:  <b>Community gardens, farmers markets</b>	Allows for some forms of urban agriculture
2.3.2 Permitted Uses	Permitted uses in the Service and Business Area shall include:	Permitted uses in the Service and Business Area shall include:  <b>Community gardens, farmers markets</b>	Allows for some forms of urban agriculture

Section	Original	Suggested changes	Rationale
2.4.3	Permitted uses in the Downtown designation include:	Permitted uses in the Downtown designation include:  <b>I) community gardens, food hubs, farmers markets, workplace gardens, roof top gardens, edible landscaping</b>	Ensures that the food system is a permitted use
2.5.3	Permitted uses in the Downtown Transition designation include:	Permitted uses in the Downtown Transition designation include:  <b>community gardens, food hubs, farmers markets, workplace gardens, roof top gardens, edible landscaping</b>	As above
2.8.3	Permitted uses in the Parks and Open Space designation may include parks,	Permitted uses in the Parks and Open Space designation may	Allows for the food system to be permitted in parks etc..

Section	Original	Suggested changes	Rationale
	playgrounds, recreational trails and uses, sports fields, golf courses, community facilities, interpretive centres, museums, cultural heritage uses, banquet facilities land accessory uses such as washrooms, change rooms, administration offices and concession services.	include parks, playgrounds, recreational trails and uses, sports fields, golf courses, community facilities, <b>community gardens, farmers markets, interpretive centres, museums, cultural heritage uses, banquet facilities, food hubs</b> land accessory uses such as washrooms, change rooms, administration offices and concession services.	
3.1.2	The primary permitted use in the Rural Settlement Area designation shall be detached residential uses. Commercial uses, home based businesses, small scale	The primary permitted use in the Rural Settlement Area designation shall be detached residential uses. Commercial uses,	Allows agriculture in settlements

Section	Original	Suggested changes	Rationale
	institutional uses and open space shall also be permitted.	home based businesses, small scale institutional uses, <b>small scale agricultural uses</b> and open space shall also be permitted.	
3.1.3.7	New clause	<b>Rural settlement areas should facilitate access to the food system.</b>	Highlights the importance of the local food system
3.3.2.1 rural	Permitted uses include: · agricultural uses;	Permitted uses include: · <b>agricultural uses, on-farm diversified uses and agriculture-related uses</b>	Clarifies that associated uses are permitted
3.3.4.1	Agriculture is recognized as a traditional rural use which contributes to the character and landscape of the rural designation and supports the development of a	Agriculture is recognized as a traditional rural use which contributes to the character and landscape of the rural designation	As above

Section	Original	Suggested changes	Rationale
	<p>local food system. For the purpose of this Plan, agriculture is considered in a broad sense, and includes traditional agricultural uses as well as specialized or alternative operations such as maple sugar operations or hobby farms.</p>	<p>and supports the development of a local food system. For the purpose of this Plan, agriculture is considered in a broad sense, and includes traditional agricultural uses as well as specialized or alternative operations such as maple sugar operations or hobby farms <b>and on-farm diversified uses and agriculture-related uses.</b></p>	
<p>3.3.6.2</p>	<p>Examples of commercial and industrial ventures that may be appropriate in the Rural area include saw mills, fuel wood operations, garden centres, private ski trails, contractors, or boat storage, so long as Council can be satisfied that:</p>	<p>Examples of commercial and industrial ventures that may be appropriate in the Rural area include saw mills, fuel wood operations, garden centres, <b>composting facility</b>, private ski trails,</p>	<p>Allows for a composting facility in future</p>



Section	Original	Suggested changes	Rationale
		contractors, or boat storage, so long as Council can be satisfied that:	
3.3.10.4	The establishment of new waste disposal or waste treatment facilities including landfill or recycling facilities, salvage yards, sewage lagoons, or sites used for the disposal of wastes from septic or holding tanks, shall require an amendment to the Official Plan, in order to address feasibility, site suitability, traffic, and haul routes, and to assess impacts. ...	The establishment of new waste disposal or waste treatment facilities including landfill or recycling facilities, salvage yards, sewage lagoons, <b>composting facilities</b> or sites used for the disposal of wastes from septic or holding tanks, shall require an amendment to the Official Plan, in order to address feasibility, site suitability, traffic, and haul routes, and to assess impacts. ...	As above
5.18.2	The following policies are designed to protect the viability of the commercial core and to enhance its appeal:	The following policies are designed to protect the viability of the commercial core	Ensures that community gardens and farmers' markets are possible in the

Section	Original	Suggested changes	Rationale
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A mix of retail, small business, residential intensification and institutional uses is encouraged in the downtown core;</li> </ul>	and to enhance its appeal: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A mix of retail, small business, <b>farmers markets, community gardens,</b> residential intensification and institutional uses is encouraged in the downtown core;</li> </ul>	commercial core
6.6.2	Regard shall be had for the following matters in the enactment of the Property Standards By-law	Regard shall be had for the following matters in the enactment of the Property Standards By-law  <b>Edible landscaping and gardens do not violate property standards</b>	Supports some forms of urban agriculture
6.16.3.	Areas identified, as Community Improvement Project Areas shall be determined according to the following criteria  b) areas that are deficient in social or	Areas identified, as Community Improvement Project Areas shall be determined according to the following criteria	Indicates that community gardens are considered a necessary feature of the community

Section	Original	Suggested changes	Rationale
	recreational services including: i) lack of recreational facilities, including parks, open space and public facilities, playgrounds;	b) areas that are deficient in social or recreational services including: i) lack of recreational facilities, including parks, open space and public facilities, playgrounds; <b>community gardens</b>	

**Appendix F Definitions**

<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>	<b>Reference</b>
Agricultural uses	the growing of crops, including nursery, biomass, and horticultural crops; raising of livestock; raising of other animals for food, fur or fibre, including poultry and fish; aquaculture; apiaries; agroforestry; maple syrup production; and associated on farm building and structures, including, but not limited to livestock facilities, manure storages, value-retaining facilities, and accommodation for full-time farm labour when the size and nature of the operation requires additional employment.	Provincial Policy Statement, 2014, p. 38-39
Agriculture-related uses	those farm related commercial and farm-related industrial uses that are directly related to farm operations in the area, support agriculture, benefit from being in close proximity to farm operations, and provide direct products and/or services to farm operations as a primary activity	Provincial Policy Statement, 2014, p. 39
Agri-tourism	Agri-tourism uses: means those farm-related tourism uses, including limited accommodation such as a bed and breakfast, that promote the enjoyment, education or activities related to the farm operation.	Provincial Policy Statement, 2014, p. 39
Community gardens	located in community settings (e.g., vacant land, parks, schoolyards, places of worship) where parcels of land are allocated to individuals, or organizations who engage in the production of produce for personal use, donation to local food causes or generating revenue to reinvest in the community garden	Community Garden Policy Scan, 2013 p2 (Halton Food Council)
Composting	Composting is defined as an aerobic biological process, conducted under controlled, engineered conditions designed to decompose and stabilize the organic fraction of solid waste.	INTERIM GUIDELINES FOR THE PRODUCTION AND USE OF AEROBIC

Term	Definition	Reference
		COMPOST IN ONTARIO, 2004
Farm gate sales	An entry-level approach to direct farm marketing involving little capital investment, roadside/farm gate sales can be as simple as a wagon or as elaborate as a small shed located at the end of your driveway	Direct Farm Marketing in Ontario - A Primer OMAFRA, 2011
Farmers market	Farmers’ Market means a central location at which a group of persons who operate stalls or other food premises meet to sell or offer for sale to consumers products that include, without being restricted to, farm products, baked goods and preserved foods, and at which the majority of the persons operating the stalls or other food premises are producers of farm products who are primarily selling or offering for sale their own products	Common Approaches for Farmers’ Markets & Exempted Special Events A Guide for Public Health Units, 2012 p.2
Food hub	Organization that manages the aggregation, distribution, and marketing of source-identified food products from local and regional producers.	Best practices in local food p. 55
Food insecurity	the inability to acquire or consume an adequate diet quality or sufficient quantity of food in socially acceptable ways, or the uncertainty that one will be able to do so”	Age-Friendly Haliburton County, Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit, March 2010
Food security	Food security is a situation in which all community residents obtain a safe, culturally acceptable, nutritionally adequate diet through a sustainable food system that maximizes self-reliance and social justice. (Hamm and Bellows, 2003). Food security also includes being able to make a living by growing and producing food in ways that protect and support both the land, sea and the food producers, and that ensures that there will be	A Seat at The Table: Resource guide for local governments to promote food secure communities. 2008, p. 29

Term	Definition	Reference
	healthy food for our children’s children. (Food Security Projects of the Nova Scotia Nutrition Council and the Atlantic Health Promotion Research Centre, Dalhousie University)	
Food system	defined as a set of food related activities including agriculture, processing, distribution, consumption, and waste management, each with its attendant social, environmental and economic dimensions.	Planning for Food Systems in Ontario, 2011, p. 2
Hobby farm	No standard definition.  Combination of earning less than \$7,000 in farm revenue and working off farm for 190+ days	Hobby Farming – For Pleasure or Profit? Stephen Boyd, Agriculture Division, Statistics Canada, 1998
Home business	An office or personal service use, excluding a body-rub parlour, conducted from a residential dwelling unit by a person or persons residing in the dwelling unit, which is secondary to the primarily residential use of the dwelling.	City of Burlington, Zoning by-law
Home occupation	means any occupation for gain or support conducted entirely within a dwelling unit by members of the household residing in the dwelling unit, if,  (a) there is no external display or advertising other than a sign having a total display area not exceeding 0.2 square metres,  (b) there is no external storage of goods or materials, and not more than 25 per cent of the total floor area is used for the home occupation use, and  (c) there are no persons employed in the dwelling unit except,  (i) the members of the household residing in the dwelling unit, or	Planning Act ONTARIO REGULATION 154/03

Term	Definition	Reference
	(ii) in the case of a dentist, physician or veterinarian, a staff of one person	
Local food	(a) food produced or harvested in Ontario, including forest or freshwater food, and (b) subject to any limitations in the regulations, food and beverages made in Ontario if they include ingredients produced or harvested in Ontario	Local Food Act, 2013, p.2
Normal farm practices	a practice, as defined in the Farming and Food Production Protection Act, 1998, that is conducted in a manner consistent with proper and acceptable customs and standards as established and followed by similar agricultural operations under similar circumstances; or makes use of innovative technology in a manner consistent with proper advanced farm management practices. Normal farm practices shall be consistent with the Nutrient Management Act, 2002 and regulations made under that Act.	Provincial Policy Statement, 2014, p. 45
On-farm diversified uses	uses that are secondary to the principal agricultural use of the property, and are limited in area. On-farm diversified uses include, but are not limited to, home occupations, home industries, agri-tourism uses, and uses that produce value-added agricultural products.	Guidelines on Permitted Uses in Ontario’s Prime Agricultural Areas (draft) Feb. 2015, p. 56
Prime agricultural land	specialty crop areas and/or Canada Land Inventory Class 1, 2, and 3 lands, as amended from time to time, in this order of priority for protection.	Provincial Policy Statement, 2014, p. 46
Rural areas	a system of lands within municipalities that may include rural settlement areas, rural lands, prime agricultural areas, natural heritage features and areas, and resource areas..	Provincial Policy Statement, 2014, p. 48

Term	Definition	Reference
Rural lands	lands which are located outside settlement areas and which are outside prime agricultural areas	Provincial Policy Statement, 2014, p. 48
Sustainable food system	a system that integrates ecological, social and economic considerations into the production, processing, distribution, selection and consumption of food. Sustainable food systems help build healthy, engaged communities and citizens.	A Seat at The Table: Resource guide for local governments to promote food secure communities. 2008, p. 29
Urban agriculture	production and harvesting of fruits and vegetables, raising of animals, or cultivation of fish for local consumption or sale within and around cities	Best practices in local food p. 55
Value added	transform raw commodities into new forms that enhance their value, such as pressing apples and bottling cider, making wine, milling grain, processing cherries, and preserving and roasting grain for livestock feed.	Provincial Policy Statement, 2014, p.12
Value retention	serve to maintain the quality of raw commodities produced on the farm (i.e. prevent spoilage) to ensure they remain saleable. These facilities include those involving refrigeration (cold storage), controlled-atmosphere storage, freezing, cleaning, grading, drying (e.g. grains, oilseeds, tobacco) and simple packaging that helps maintain the quality of farm products. Value-retaining facilities may also include operations that provide a minimum amount of processing to make a farm product saleable, such as grading eggs, evaporating maple syrup and extracting honey.	Guidelines on Permitted Uses in Ontario's Prime Agricultural Areas (draft) Feb. 2015, p. 11



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## Appendix H Background

The **Haliburton County Community Food Assessment (CFA) Steering Committee** was formed in the winter of 2014 under the leadership of Harvest Haliburton. The CFA Steering Committee is an excellent role model for demonstrating the importance and power of collaboration. True collaboration seeks all relevant voices and develops a shared vision for whatever activity or changes in roles and/or attitudes are desired.

### CFA Steering Committee Members & Local Partners

- Abbey Gardens – Heather Reid
- Bedrock & Brambles – Andrew von Zuben
- Haliburton County Farmers' Association – Bryan Barlow
- Haliburton County Farmers' Market – Angel Taylor
- Haliburton County Food Net – Rosie Kadwell
- Haliburton Highlands Community Garden Network – Megan Stong
- Haliburton Kawartha Pine Ridge District Health Unit – Rosie Kadwell and Megan Stong
- Harvest Haliburton – Angela McGreevy (Jan. 2014 – Oct. 2014), Rosie Kadwell
- Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs – Heather Candler
- Municipality of Dysart et al (Jan. 2014 – Jan. 2015) – Pat Martin
- Municipality of Algonquin Highlands – Lisa Barry
- Township of Minden Hills (Jan. 2014 – Jan. 2015), Minden Hills Community Member – Brigitte Gall
- Ontario Healthy Communities Coalition & HC Link – Lisa Tolentino

The collaboration of the above members and organizations identified three priority topics for assessment; Local Food Production and Consumption, Food Access, Municipal Planning Policy.

A Municipal Planning Policy Working Group was formed to oversee this report, the group consisted of Lisa Barry, Brigitte Gall, Rosie Kadwell and Pat Martin (Jan. 2014- Jan. 2015).

The Municipal Planning Working Group would like to thank Heather Ross, Planner for Small and Remote Communities for her research, wisdom and dedication in developing this report. Appreciation goes to Sharon Stoughton-Craig for her advisory role with this working group.

Thank you to the following organizations for their financial contributions;

- Healthy Communities Fund of the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long Term Care as a component of the project "Healthy Food For All: Sustainable Local Food Systems in Ontario"
- Ministry of Health and Long Term Care/Harvest Haliburton & Haliburton County FoodNet
- Ontario Healthy Communities Coalition/HC Link
- Haliburton County Development Corporation
- Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit

The views and opinions expressed in this document are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the perspectives of the funder or affiliated organizations.

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