



Simcoe County
Food Council

TIMELINE



SIMCOE COUNTY FOOD SECURITY FRAMEWORK

**Blueprint for furthering awareness,
coordination, and development of
approaches designed to enhance food
security for all residents in Simcoe
County.**



SIMCOE COUNTY FOOD COUNCIL



CONSTELLATION MODEL IS A GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORK SUPPORTING COLLABORATION OF MULTIPLE ORGANIZATIONS.

DEDICATED WORKING TABLES WHICH CAN COORDINATE ACTIVITIES AMONG COMMUNITY STAKEHOLDERS.

SUPPORT THE DEVELOPMENT OF COMMUNITY CAPACITY AND THE SHARING OF CURRENT RESOURCES.

VISION

We envision a sustainable, equitable and secure local food system in Simcoe County that recognizes food as a human right. It is an interconnected food system where safe, sufficient, nutritious, culturally appropriate food is financially and physically accessible to everyone through dignified means, and where the people are actively working toward realizing a more food secure Simcoe County.



GOALS

1

Raise awareness and understanding about household food insecurity in Simcoe County

2

Support income and housing solutions to reduce household food insecurity for households who are underserved and/or marginalized

3

Increase physical access to enough nutritious food for all

4

Improve community food literacy

5

Improve community food infrastructure and policy to support the local agri-food sector and ensure a sustainable local food system in Simcoe County

6

Foster Simcoe County's food traditions and Indigenous food knowledge and culture

7

Support county wide collaboration toward a food secure Simcoe County

WORKING TABLES & NETWORKS



**FOOD BANKS OF
SIMCOE COUNTY**



**AGRICULTURE AND
LOCAL FOOD SYSTEMS**



**COMMUNITY GARDENS
OF SIMCOE COUNTY**



**SUB-REGION FOOD
ASSESSMENTS & ASSET
MAPPING (pending)**



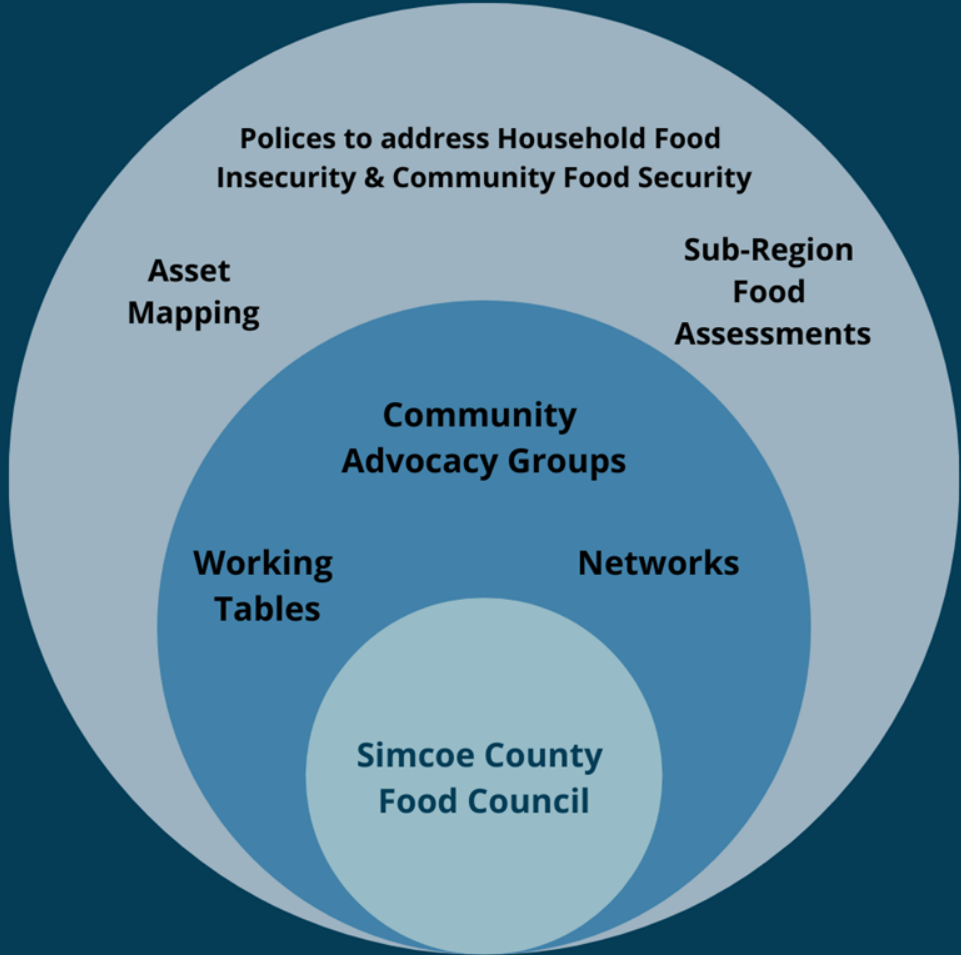
**FOOD LITERACY AND
FOOD PROGRAMS**



**EQUITY, DIVERSITY
AND INCLUSION**



**SIMCOE COUNTY
POVERTY REDUCTION
TASK GROUP**



Household Food Insecurity

HOUSEHOLD FOOD INSECURITY IS EXPERIENCED WHEN AN INDIVIDUAL OR HOUSEHOLD LACKS THE FINANCIAL RESOURCES TO ACCESS FOOD. CAN BE INFLUENCED BY COST OF LIVING, JOB SECURITY, SOCIAL ASSISTANCE RATES, ETC.

Community Food Security

A CONDITION IN WHICH ALL COMMUNITY RESIDENTS HAVE ACCESS TO A SAFE, CULTURALLY APPROPRIATE, NUTRITIONALLY ADEQUATE DIET THROUGH A SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEM THAT MAXIMIZES COMMUNITY SELF-RELIANCE AND SOCIAL JUSTICE.

Household Food Insecurity

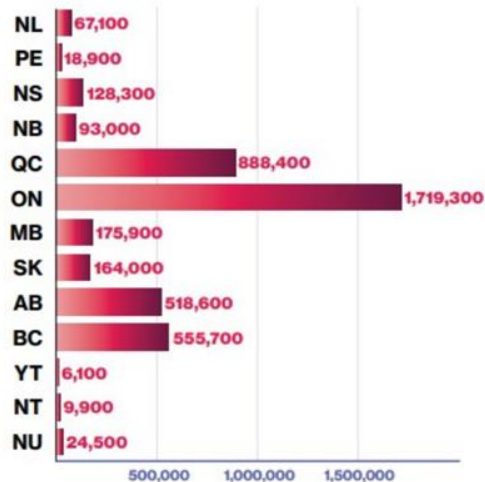
Nationally

- 1 in 8 (1.8 million) Canadian households are food insecure
- 1 in 6 children (1.2 million) in Canada live in food insecure households
- 11.8% of couples with children under 18 were food-insecure, but this rate rose to 21.6% for male lone-parent households and 33.1% for female lone-parent households with children under 18.
- The highest rates of food insecurity were found among households where the respondent identified as Indigenous or Black, at 28.2%, and 28.9% respectively

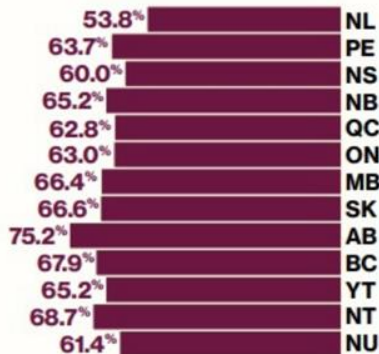
Household Food Insecurity

Provincially

NUMBER OF PEOPLE LIVING IN
FOOD-INSECURE HOUSEHOLDS
by Province & Territory



Proportion of Food-Insecure
Households who were reliant
on **WAGES, SALARIES OR SELF-
EMPLOYMENT** by Province/Territory



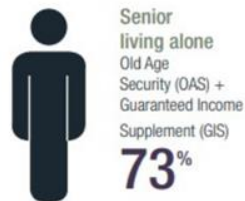
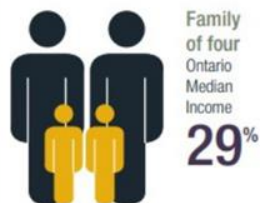
After adjusting for other well-established social determinants of health, such as education and income levels, total annual health care costs in Ontario were: 121% higher for adults living in severely food insecure households than in food secure households

In Simcoe Muskoka 70,000 people or 1 in 8 households are struggling to put food on the table every year

This means people have to delay paying bills and rent and consider selling personal items in order to feed themselves or their family.



Percentage of monthly income spent on food and rent in Simcoe Muskoka



Little or no money is left over for all other expenses (utilities, internet/phone, transportation, clothes, school supplies and expenses, medical, vision and dental care, child care, personal care and toiletries, etc.)

Monthly cost to feed a family of four continues to rise

Household food insecurity means individuals and families do not have enough money to put food on their table.



From 2018 to 2019 the monthly cost to feed a family of four increased by about 8%. Over a five year period, the increase was about 14%.

The time to act is now

Spread the word:

- Talk about poverty and food insecurity with family, friends and others. Learn more and get involved.
- Share messages about poverty and food insecurity on social media.

Speak out for policies that:

- Increase social assistance rates to match real living costs, indexed to inflation.
- Support fair workplaces and good jobs with regular hours and benefits.
- Increase minimum wage.
- Provide a basic income for all Ontarians.

Household Food Insecurity

Simcoe County

- 11.4% of Simcoe residents are living in poverty
- 12% of the population aged 25 to 64 has no educational certificate, diploma, or degree
- Median employment income after tax is \$30,951 vs Ontario: \$33,946 (5% increase over 15 years)
- 17.8% Trades, transport & equipment operators & related occupations
- 24.5% Sales & service occupations (many part-time and seasonal)
- In 2016, 46,725 households or 25.8% were spending 30% or more of their household income on shelter costs.

What does this mean at a municipal level?

Assets

- Measuring and monitoring community food assets
- Leveraging existing resources and networks

Municipal Policies

- Annually reviewing the prevalence of household food insecurity and poverty in the area
- Investments in local infrastructure to help reduce poverty like affordable housing, affordable transit and active transportation
- Policy and program support for employment, training and entrepreneurship

ENDORSE THE SIMCOE COUNTY FOOD SECURITY FRAMEWORK

ACKNOWLEDGE HOUSEHOLD FOOD
INSECURITY AS A PRIORITY & RECOGNIZE
MUNICIPALITIES HAVE A ROLE TO PLAY
THROUGH PLANNING AND ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT

SUPPORT EXISTING FOOD ASSETS

IDENTIFY A POINT PERSON TO
COLLABORATE WITH THE SIMCOE COUNTY
FOOD COUNCIL ON FUTURE WORK

Simcoe County Food Council Members

INDIVIDUALS

Erin Chapelle
Colin Elliott
Chris Peacock
Jenna Zardo
Haily MacDonald
Eva Meriorg
Kim Latour
Christine Bushey
Deborah Clyne
Bonnie North
Dave Ritchie
Emily Wilson
James Leduc
John Hemsted

ORGANIZATIONS

The Karma Project
Simcoe County Federation of Agriculture
The Sharing Place
Urban Pantry Barrie
Huronian Transition Homes
Community Action Program for Children
Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit