People’s Food Policy Project

Pour une politique alimentaire populaire

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The People’s Food Policy Project is a pan-Canadian network of citizens and organizations that is creating a food sovereignty policy for Canada.
DO YOU EAT?
(Of course you do!)

But do you know what is in your food?
Where it comes from?
Why it costs so much?
Who are ‘we’?

- Farmers, fishers, small business people
- Community health organizers, nutritionists, public health managers
- Bureaucrats, academics, researchers
- Eaters, consumers, cooks, parents

Funding from Heifer International Canada
- Also Inter Pares, USC Canada and Development and Peace
Seven pillars of Food Sovereignty

1. Food For People
2. Values Food Producers
3. Localizes the food system
4. Puts control locally
5. Works with Nature
6. Builds Knowledge and Skills
7. Food is sacred
Phase I: Over 1000 Canadians contributed to PFP (2009 - 2010)

- 25 animators hosted 101 conversations with ~900 people
- 100 citizens contributed independently online
- 264 policy submissions collected
- 10 policy writing teams ‘translated’ the submissions into 10 discussion papers
Policy Discussion Papers

- Indigenous Food Sovereignty
- Food Sovereignty in Rural and Remote Communities
- Access to Food in Urban Communities
- Agriculture, Infrastructure and Livelihoods
- A Sustainable Fishery and Reasonable Livelihood for Fishers

- Environment and Agriculture
- Science and Technology for Food and Agriculture
- Food Trade and International Aid
- Healthy and Safe Food for All
- Food Democracy and Governance
Our Process

Phase II: The Cross-country Kitchen Table Talks (2010)

Our goals:

- To further broaden engagement in developing the People’s Food Policy
- To deepen the analysis and evidence base in our discussion papers

How:

- Broad invitation to ‘host your own’ kitchen table talk
- Website development as key communications and engagement tool
- Teleconference training
- Animators playing key role in local / regional contact
- Prioritization of policies at Food Secure Canada assembly
Phase III – Cross-sectoral Relationship Building 2011…

- Policy discussion papers to be reworked to reflect kitchen table talk results
- April 2011 - Launch the People’s Food Policy
- Build relationships to move it forward
- Continue to engage citizens in policy dialogue
A Food Policy for Canada Must Involve Canadians

Why?

- **Making Legitimate Decisions:** Values play an important role in policy choices
- **Making Better Policy:** Hearing from a diversity of people and reflecting their needs in policy
- **Reducing Conflict:** Dialogue helps build understanding and a common ground

Examples of Citizen Engagement

- Canadian Institute for Health Research
- The Romanow Commission
- The Subcommittee on the Status of Persons with Disabilities
Host or participate in a kitchen table talk!

Watch for the launch of the People’s Food Policy – April 2011

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