



VISION

The Nipissing and Area Food Charter represents the voices, values, and priorities of our communities related to food. Our vision is to create a healthy and sustainable food system in our community. This Charter will guide the development of food-related initiatives and policies through the collaboration of residents, producers, organizations, and governments.

Therefore, because we value:

HEALTH AND WELLNESS, WE SUPPORT...

- Access to nutritious, safe, affordable, culturally appropriate food choices wherever food is available
- Neighbourhoods that encourage active transportation as a means to access healthy food
- Healthy food as being integral to physical, mental, spiritual, and emotional well-being
- Breastfeeding friendly public places
- Responsible marketing and advertising in community spaces to protect the health of children, youth, and families
- Viewing all public relationships with a health lens

SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, WE SUPPORT...

- Local agriculture and food production that enhances the food system, job opportunities, and the local economy
- Year round market opportunities for locally grown and harvested food products

SOCIAL EQUITY, WE SUPPORT...

- Adequate income, employment, housing, and transportation that ensures dignified and secure access to food
- Living wages for all involved in the production, processing and distribution of food
- Community food initiatives that provide citizens with knowledge and skills to access and prepare nutritious food

THE ENVIRONMENT, WE SUPPORT...

- Sustainable harvesting, production, processing, packaging, distribution, and disposal of food and by-products
- A healthy balance between farmland, freshwater ecosystems, wildlife habitats, and existing urban green spaces
- Food purchasing and waste practices that are environmentally responsible

FOOD LITERACY, WE SUPPORT...

- Healthy food preparation as a basic life skill for all
- Making the connection between food, health, and social well-being
- Understanding where our food comes from and the benefits of choosing local and sustainably produced food

CULTURE, WE SUPPORT...

- Food as a link that brings friends, families, and communities together
- Community celebrations and cultural events around food
- Awareness and respect for traditional and cultural food diversity
- Fishing, harvesting, foraging, hunting and preserving as part of our food culture