

# Examining Food Security in Niagara through a Lens of Environment and Climate Impacts

Prepared by Niagara Connects to describe the Greening Niagara project:  
*Food Security in Niagara: A Collective Approach*



## About the Project

Greening Niagara invited community partners to take a collective approach to examining food security in Niagara, through the lens of environment and climate impacts. A November, 2015 forum and follow-up focus groups were held. Over 80 people participated. They expressed a desire to advance the conversation, with an emphasis on education and knowledge-sharing.

## How We Did It

- 80 people attended a November 2015 forum: The Future of Food Security in Niagara: Through the Lens of Environment and Climate Impacts
- Five follow - up focus groups identified opportunities for action in the areas of collaboration; education; building food production capacity; valuing farms and farmers
- Niagara Connects provided community engagement and knowledge exchange support

## Suggested Action Steps

- Engage people in gathering additional information to support action planning for an urban agriculture centre in Niagara.
- Continue to connect this work with the overall work to advance a common vision for Food Systems in Niagara, facilitated by Niagara Connects.
- Support efforts to gather additional data to describe food systems and food security in Niagara, and engage a broad range of participants to strengthen action planning.
- Acknowledge and continue to support the value in the process of diverse players working and learning together to strengthen food security in Niagara.

## What It All Means

There is interest, motivation, and a will to advance food security work in Niagara. This project contributed to overall work being done to understand Food Systems in the Niagara context. Access to enough (adequate) local, sustainable, healthy food is at the center of food security. Preliminary data and engagement required to begin development of an urban agriculture centre concept for Niagara have been identified. The full project report is available at: [niagaraknowledgeexchange.com](http://niagaraknowledgeexchange.com)

### To know more:

Nate Smelle  
Executive Director,  
Greening Niagara  
289-434-0474  
[ed@greeningniagara.ca](mailto:ed@greeningniagara.ca)

