



## Update on the Regional Food Charter

As you may know, CLFC is currently working hard with our partners to develop a [Regional Food Charter](#) for the Kenora and Rainy River Districts. Input sessions to gather data were held in communities all across NWO from May until mid-August. In these sessions, we met with community groups, organizations and institutions, as well as individuals to get an idea of what they would like to see in a food charter for their region.



Community Input Session in Kenora, May 2017

Now that community input gathering has been completed, our partners at Lakehead University's Food Security Research Network are working to analyze that data to create a survey to narrow the feedback we received. This survey will be circulated next month and allow for even more community members and organizations to provide feedback on their vision for the charter. We can expect this survey to begin to be circulated in mid-October. Once the information from the survey has been analyzed, a draft charter will be released, likely in early 2018. The draft will be reviewed by municipalities and partnering organizations, and hopefully, soon after, we will have a finalized Food Charter for the Kenora and Rainy River Districts.

To help share information regarding the charter with local government, Andrea, Sioux Lookout Community Coordinator recently spoke with

members of city and municipal councils. She met with Sioux Lookout's Town Council in June and with Kenora's City Council just this past week to give presentations on CLFC and to familiarize them with the charter project. Both councils had plenty of questions associated with the Co-op and the charter, including what role it could play in creating food related policy in their community. As the charter's development continues, community coordinators intend to include more surrounding municipality and city governments in discussions regarding the charter to allow them to participate in its development and implementation.



Kenora City Council Presentation, September 2017

Andrea also had the opportunity to attend the [FLEdGE](#) conference in Waterloo this past week where she gave a presentation on the charter to the research group. It was an excellent opportunity to share news of our developing charter, and to learn about other local food initiatives and food policy research happening across the country and the globe.

As we continue to develop the charter, be sure to stay tuned for more updates on the project. Keep an eye out for the survey which will be coming to our members soon!