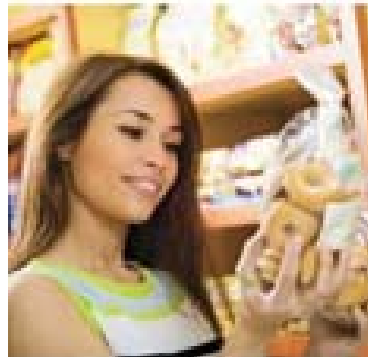


# A Seat at the Table

**A resource guide  
for local  
governments to  
promote food  
secure  
communities.**

*June 2008*

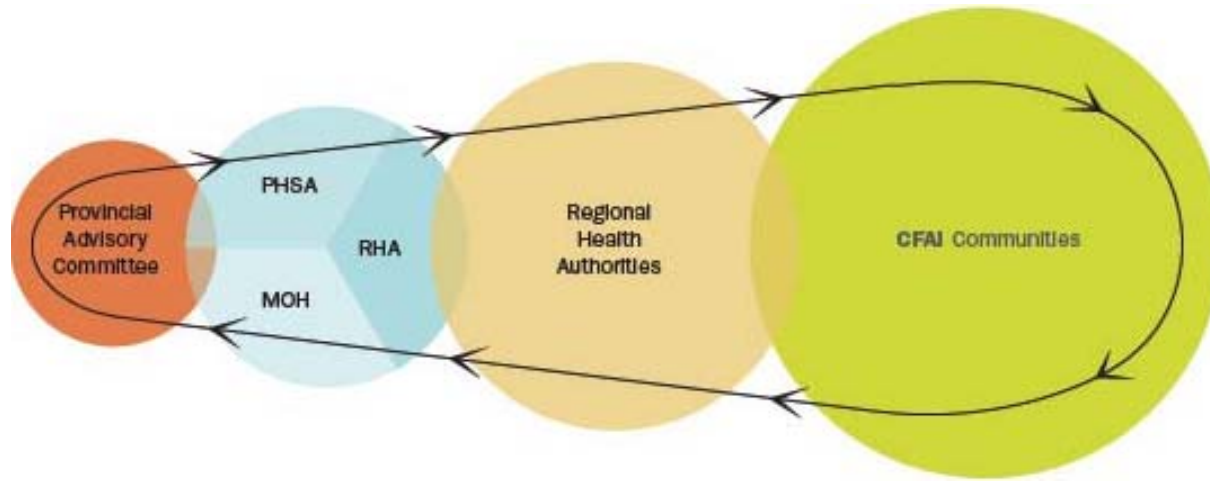


# Objectives

- Food as a determinant of health
- Why Local Government
- Engagement Strategy
- Benefit to Local Government
- Ideas for Action



# Community Food Action Initiative Partnership



- Funded by the Ministry of Healthy Living and Sport
- Implemented by Regional Health Authorities
- Actions taken by communities
- Coordinated by Provincial Health Services Authority
- Oversight advise from a multi-stakeholder advisory committee

# Food - A Determinant of Health

- Sufficient quantities of safe and nutritious food
- Access determined by availability and affordability
- Dependent on the food system
- Need to engage stakeholders that can transform the food system



# Local Food Movement

- Rising cost of food
- Rising fuel prices
- Climate change
- Income - a barrier to healthy choices



# Why a Guide for Local Governments

- UBCM partnership
- US document
- Unique and vital LG role in communities
- Already active in this area
- Have a role in every step of the food system continuum



# Engagement Strategy



- Ideas for actions that fit within their mandate
- Actions that can further local government goals and priorities to benefit communities
- Demonstrate do-ability
- Profile local government leadership

# Ideas for Action

- Community Gardens
- Farmers' Markets
- Neighbourhood Planning
- Support for Local Food Production
- Healthy Food in Public Buildings
- Creating Capacity
- Steps for Taking Action



# Benefit to Local Government

- Improve the local economy
  - Connect consumers to suppliers
  - Food dollars remain in community
- Improve the environment
  - Reduce “food miles”
  - Reduce waste going to landfills
- Improve Health and Community
  - Increase physical activity, access to fresh foods
  - Opportunities for connections builds stronger partnerships and social networks



# Community Profile: *Kamloops Heartland Food Co-op*

- Kamloops – a BC leader in local food action
- Support for a range of initiatives along the food security continuum
- One of the first communities to take action towards transforming the food system
- The City of Kamloops has played a critical role in
  - convening key stakeholders
  - facilitating dialogue and
  - securing funding
- To start a food co-op for local food producers



# Getting Started

Get your guide today:

[http://www.phsa.ca/  
PopulationHealth/Engaging  
Stakeholders/Seat at the Table](http://www.phsa.ca/PopulationHealth/EngagingStakeholders/Seat at the Table)

*The Community Food Assessment Guide* (2008) and the *Companion Tool* (2009) can help you get started.  
<http://www.phsa.ca/PopulationHealth>

Contact: Deepthi Jayatilaka, Provincial Manager, Food Security at [djayatilaka@phsa.ca](mailto:djayatilaka@phsa.ca) or 1-604-875-7356

