

Elgin St. Thomas Food Charter

Because we value

Health and Wellness

we support...

- Affordable, safe, healthy food as an essential building block for physical, mental, spiritual, social, and emotional wellbeing

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Because we value

Education

we support...

- Understanding and awareness of the relationship between our food system and our environment, health, economy, and community
- Opportunities that strengthen the individual's and community's understanding of a healthy food system from farm to fork
- Initiatives that develop food literacy and hands-on food skills

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Because we value

Sustainable Economic Development

we support...

- A local food system that supports economically sustainable farming, processing, and distribution of food
- Mutually beneficial relationships among all stakeholders in the value chain
- Promoting our region as a food, agricultural, and culinary destination

Because we value

Environmental Health

we support...

- Protecting farmland and freshwater resources for local food production and safe sources of drinking water
- Producing, processing and distributing foods in a way that reduces waste and conserves energy and the natural environment

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Because we value

Culture

we support...

- Promoting the dignity, joy, and sociability of growing, preparing and eating food
- Celebrating and promoting respect for traditional, cultural, and spiritual food diversity
- Connecting our rich agricultural history to our contemporary food practices

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Because we value

Social Justice

we support...

- Safe, healthy, and affordable food and water as a basic human right
- Income, housing, food, education, employment, transportation, and environmental policies that support access to healthy food for all
- Promoting food self-reliance through community food programs to reduce dependence on emergency food services

