



13 December 2016

## The Central Kootenay Food Policy Council is ready to start serving the region!

We are delighted to announce that the first ever Central Kootenay Food Policy Council has been formed. The challenge was to narrow down the field of great applicants that we received, representing diverse areas, sectors, interests and skills across the region. The first Council brings together an interesting, dynamic and motivated group of people. They will draw on their respective relationships, knowledge and passion to help address issue facing our communities and food systems.

The first meeting of the Council will take place in January 2017 and meet approximately eight times throughout the year. Together, this group will explore needs across the Central Kootenay as they relate to food systems. The Council will determine what is happening that could use some support, and what can be done to help ensure that food producers can make a good living here and that our residents have access to healthy food, no matter where they live or what their income level.

The Council's strong links with local government will ensure that where public policy can be shifted or created to address the needs identified, we will have the necessary relationships in place to make it happen. The diverse membership on the Council, by sector and location, will help to ensure that the many great initiatives across the Central Kootenay can be more effectively networked to create more strategic, effective and efficient change for the better in our communities and food systems.

All residents of the Central Kootenay are encouraged to connect with the Council and bring your ideas, expertise and needs before us. **Information about the new Food Policy Council members can be found on the website** and can be contacted through the Council Co-ordinator, Abra Brynne, or through the form on the website ([ckfoodpolicy.ca](http://ckfoodpolicy.ca)).

The creation of this Council was made possible with funding from the Real Estate Foundation of BC, Interior Health, the Osprey Foundation, Community Futures Central Kootenay, and directors of the RDCK as well as the donation of time and expertise from many individuals across the region.

- 30 -

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