



MARKHAM FOOD CHARTER

Appendix A

A shared vision statement to guide residents, businesses, and governments in creating a thriving and resilient food system

We believe a collaborative and integrated approach is essential to create a healthy and just food system for all.

We value:

HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

- Access to a variety of healthy and affordable food in all neighbourhoods and facilities.
- Food policies and practices to improve and inspire health.
- The importance of food for physical, mental, emotional and cultural wellbeing.
- Community ownership of healthy, locally-grown and processed food.

ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES

- Economic development plans that ensure robust and financially sustainable agriculture.
- Innovative food and related industries that unite producer, processor, distributor, health, tourism, education and hospitality sectors.
- Locally-grown traditional and world foods.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

- Rural and urban agriculture practices that protect biodiversity and improve the health of our land, soil, water and air.
- Integrating agriculture and food into energy and climate change policies and strategies.
- Protection of agricultural lands and a streamlined regulatory framework.
- Reducing food and packaging waste among consumers, retailers, processors and producers.

EQUITY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

- The basic right of all residents to safe, nutritious, culturally appropriate and accessible food.
- Dignified access to food for all.
- Fair compensation and a safe and respectful work environment in the agriculture and food sectors.

EDUCATION AND SKILLS

- Food literacy and skills for all residents, with a focus on food growing, healthy cooking and composting.
- Education that supports opportunities in the agriculture and food sector.
- Understanding the connections between food, farming, the economy, health and the environment.



The Markham Food Charter aligns with The York Region Food Charter.
The City of Markham is proud to be a founding member of the York Region Food Charter Working Group.



www.yorkregionfoodcharter.com

