

# Durham Food System Environmental Scan

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*A report from the Durham Food Policy Council*



***December 16, 2013***



***Durham Food System Environmental Scan: A report from the Durham Food Policy Council***

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## Table of Contents

<b>INTRODUCTION:</b>	<b>3</b>
The Durham Food Policy Council and the History of the Durham Food Charter .....	3
The Durham Region Roundtable on Climate Change.....	4
Asset Mapping of the Local Food System.....	4
Limitations.....	5
<b>THE FOOD SYSTEM.....</b>	<b>5</b>
The Food System in Durham.....	7
<i>Food Production</i> .....	7
<i>Local Food Distribution</i> .....	16
<i>Procurement</i> .....	19
<i>Recycling and Waste</i> .....	20
Food Security & Food Sovereignty .....	21
<i>Food Insecurity in Durham</i> .....	22
<i>Food Support Services</i> .....	28
<b>POLICY .....</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>Appendix A: Durham Region Food Charter.....</b>	<b>38</b>
<b>Appendix B: Durham Food Policy Mission Values and Objectives.....</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>Appendix C: Community Gardens in Durham .....</b>	<b>41</b>
<b>Appendix D: Feed the Need Membership .....</b>	<b>42</b>
<b>Appendix E: Proposed Food System Report Card (Policy Framework) .....</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>Appendix F: Summary of Local Policy References.....</b>	<b>49</b>
<b>NOTES.....</b>	<b>56</b>

## INTRODUCTION:

This report has been prepared by the Durham Food Policy Council (DFPC) with the support of the Durham Region Roundtable on Climate Change (DRRCC). The report presents a scan and analysis of the local food system in Durham, providing an overview of local food system initiatives and relevant policies. Recommended actions are put forward to support the development and furtherance of the strategic directions of the DFPC and the objectives of the DRRCC (as outlined in the Region of Durham Community Climate Change Local Action Plan).

### **The Durham Food Policy Council and the History of the Durham Food Charter**

This project builds on the work of many in the community who have worked toward the development of a healthy and sustainable food system in Durham for many years. Work toward a common and coordinated vision for food security and a healthy, sustainable food system in Durham began formally in 2005, although much work in these areas had been ongoing in the community for some time. Key activities of these coordinating efforts since 2005 have included:

- The establishment of the Durham Food Charter Visioning Day Planning Committee in 2005. This committee included representatives from the Region of Durham, local municipalities, educational institutions, health and social services organizations, the local agricultural sector, urban agriculture, and food security programs and organizations as well as citizens. The Committee was tasked with developing a Food Charter Visioning Day in Durham, which was hosted in November 2006.
- The publication of a “Snapshot of Food Security in the Region of Durham,” prepared by the Community Development Council Durham (CDCD) at the request of the Food Charter Visioning Day Planning Committee. This document was used to help frame the discussion for the Durham Food Charter Visioning Day.
- The establishment of the Durham Food Charter Task Force, made up of representatives who attended the Visioning Day. The Task Force worked to develop the Durham Region Food Charter, and engaged in a comprehensive community engagement and consultation process to ensure community involvement and buy-in for the Food Charter
- Publication of the Durham Region Food Charter in 2008 (Appendix A), a document that reflects the community’s vision for a food secure community, focused toward building a just and sustainable local food system as a foundation for population and environmental health.
- In November 2009, Durham Regional Council endorsed the Durham Region Food Charter and the principles of the Charter are reflected in the Region’s Official Plan.
- In 2010, the Durham Food Policy Council was formed to take on stewardship of the Durham Region Food Charter and to promote the development of a healthy and

sustainable food system in Durham. The values and objectives of the DFPC are included in Appendix B.

### **The Durham Region Roundtable on Climate Change**

The Durham Region Roundtable on Climate Change (DRRCC) was formed in 2009 with the goal of positioning the Region of Durham as a leader in addressing climate change issues at the community level. The Committee is comprised of elected officials, community experts, the Chief Administrative Officer and Regional Chair.

The DRRCC supports the development of a sustainable food system in ways that reduce Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions and increase food supply. More specifically, the DRRCC:

- Strives to prioritize and support food system practices that improve water consumption, delivery and recapture, reduce GHG emissions improve energy efficiencies and increase carbon sequestration.
- Provides education about the relationship between GHG emissions, and food choice and consumption.
- Implements key objectives of the food charter by increasing community access to local food, and facilitating the participation of distributors and retailers.

The Durham Food Policy Council's founding document, the Durham Region Food Charter, supports two specific foundations to address the impact of climate change:

1. Influence sustainable resource management through water conservation, protection of natural heritage systems, reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, responsible waste management and protect agricultural land for production by minimizing encroachment through responsive land-use planning
2. Identify potential impacts to farmers and food production attributing from climate change and include in mitigation and adaptation strategies

This report builds on these foundations, and has been developed to enhance our collective understanding of the local food system, supporting the implementation of strategic goals and proposed activities related to the local food system set out in the Region of Durham Community Climate Change Local Action Plan.

### **Asset Mapping of the Local Food System**

Understanding what assets exist in a community creates a foundation for a proactive approach to addressing community concerns. This is in contrast to traditional "needs-assessment" processes, which Ontario Healthy Communities suggest tend to lead to community dependence rather than community development.<sup>1</sup> This report builds on the earlier "Snapshot of Food Security in the Region of Durham"<sup>2</sup> and presents a preliminary scan of the food system assets in the region of Durham. Information was gathered from the various sectors involved in the local food system. This is not simply the agricultural sector

but includes organizations responding to food insecurity, food processing, food distribution, waste management and food education. Where possible, maps have been included to help provide a geographic profile of some aspects of the local food system.

The report also provides a preliminary overview of existing municipal, regional and provincial policies that may impact on local food system planning.

The Region of Durham Agricultural Strategy 2013 – 2018 (referencing the Golden Horseshoe Food and Farming Action Plan 2021) recommends the need to link food, farming and health. This report takes a similar perspective and further argues that we need to move beyond building connection to collaboration and the removal of silos if we are to truly address the complexities of climate change and a sustainable local food system.

### Limitations

This report provides an overview of the existing food system environment in Durham Region, allowing for a high level scan of what is currently going on locally. A detailed and in-depth analysis of the food system fell outside of the scope and scale of this project. However, the DFPC believes that such an analysis is important and, with appropriate partnerships and resourcing, should be considered as an important next step in this work.

## THE FOOD SYSTEM

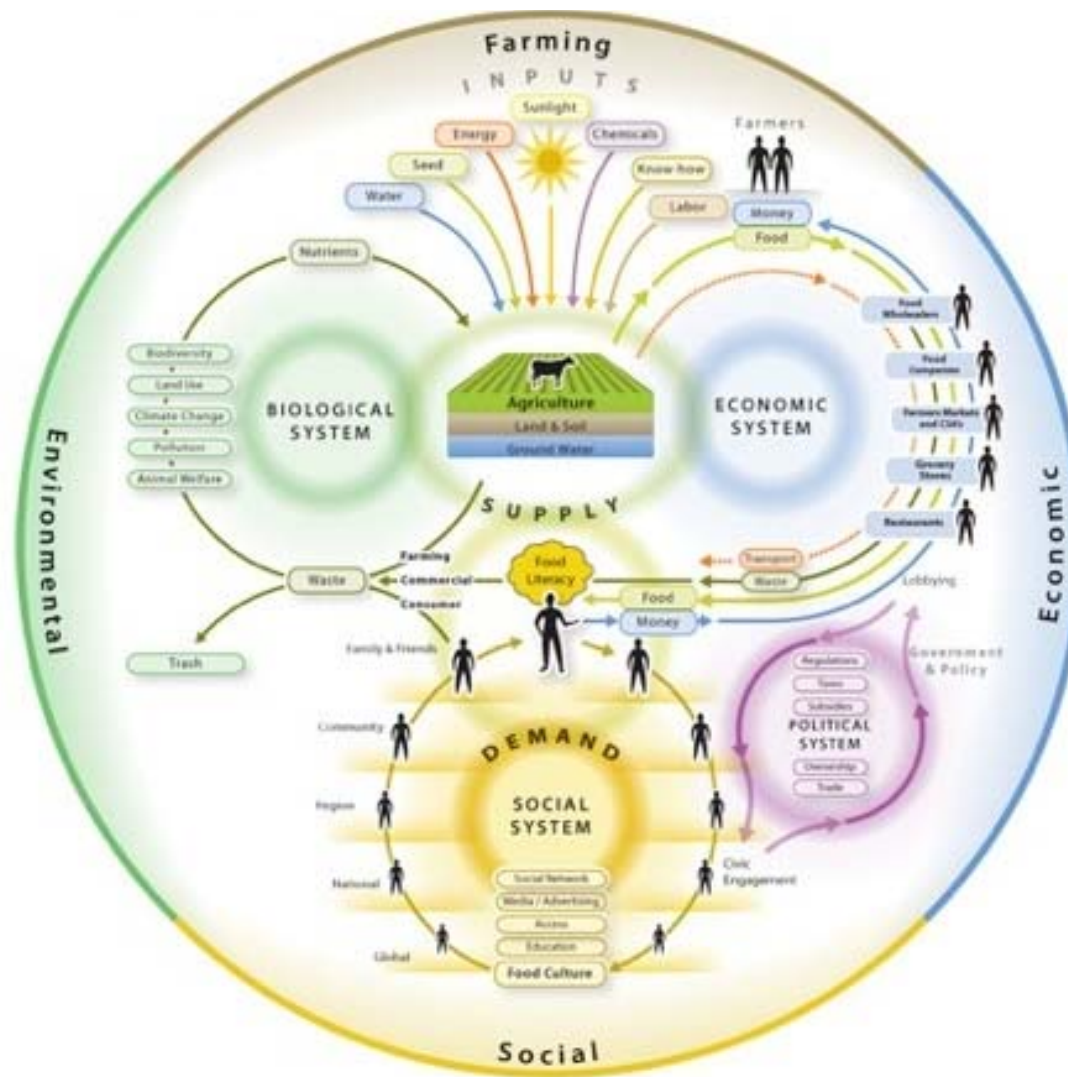
The food system is a complex structure with many interacting and interdependent components. The assets of a food system are not simply understood by listings them, but rather, they must be put in the context of relationships within the system.

The food system involves four primary interacting sub-systems:

- The biological system
- The economic system
- The social system
- The political system
- The waste management system

Each of these sub-systems plays an independent role within the overall food system, while also interacting and engaging with, and impacting on, the other sub-systems in various ways. Figure 1 illustrates these interactions.

Figure 1: Food System Map, developed by World Link<sup>1</sup>



## The Food System in Durham

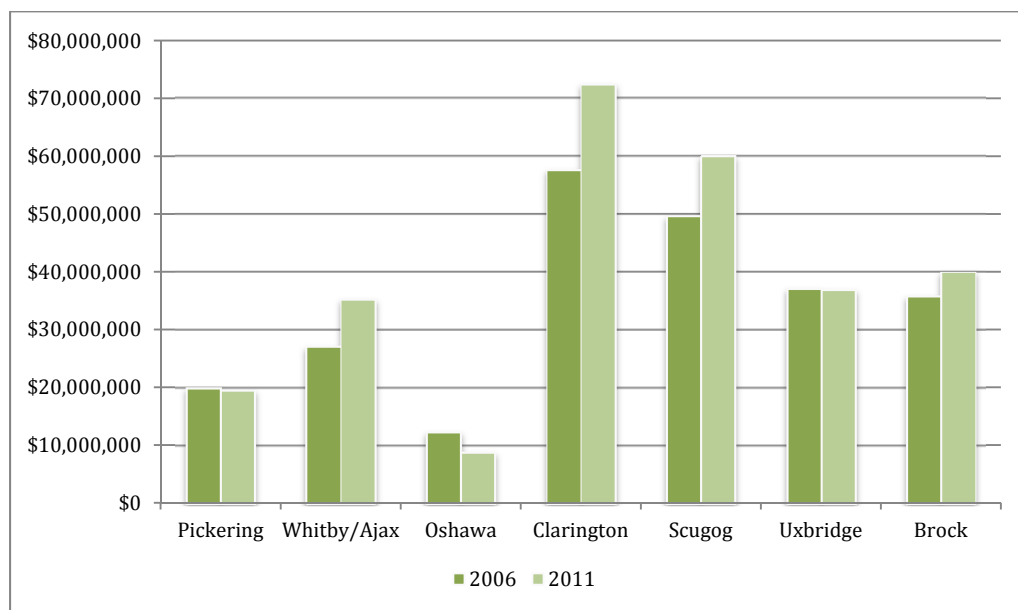
The following provides an overview of the assets within the food system in Durham Region.

### Food Production

Food production in Durham remains a diverse and dynamic industry, as new forms of food production increasingly compliment traditional agricultural activities.

#### *Traditional Agriculture*

Agriculture remains a primary and important industry in Durham, with \$273 million in gross farm receipts in 2010<sup>3</sup>, increasing from \$240 million in 2005<sup>4</sup>. Clarington and Scugog remain the primary sources of agricultural revenue in Durham, with over \$70 million and \$60 million in gross farm receipts respectively in 2010 (Figure 2). This income has a significant impact on the region's economy. For example, \$240 million in Gross Farm Receipts generated by Durham Farms in 2005 translated to an annual economic impact of nearly \$714 million<sup>5</sup>.

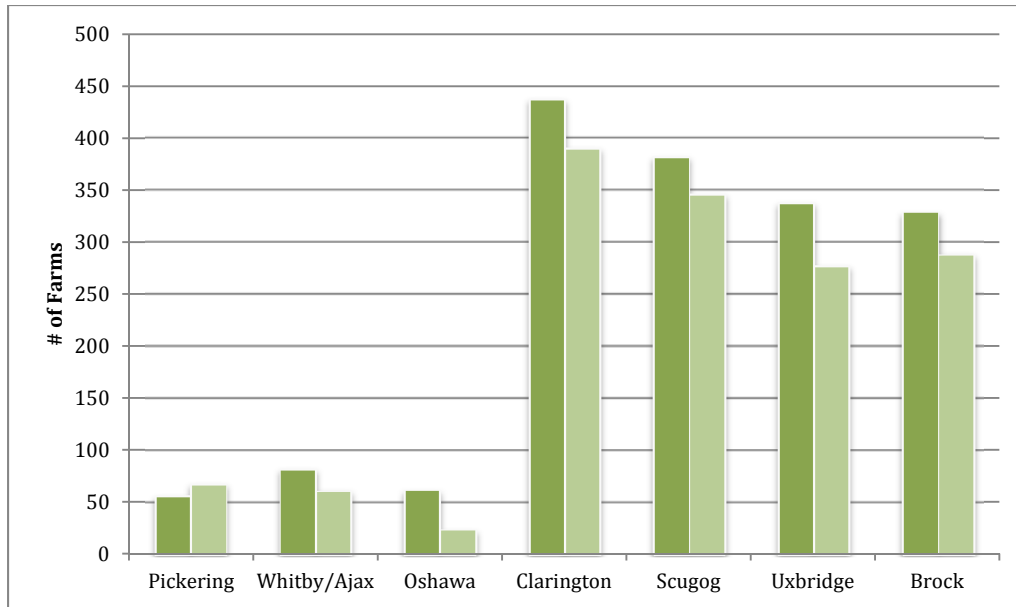


**Figure 2: Total Gross Farm Receipts by Municipality in Durham (2011 and 2006) <sup>6</sup>**

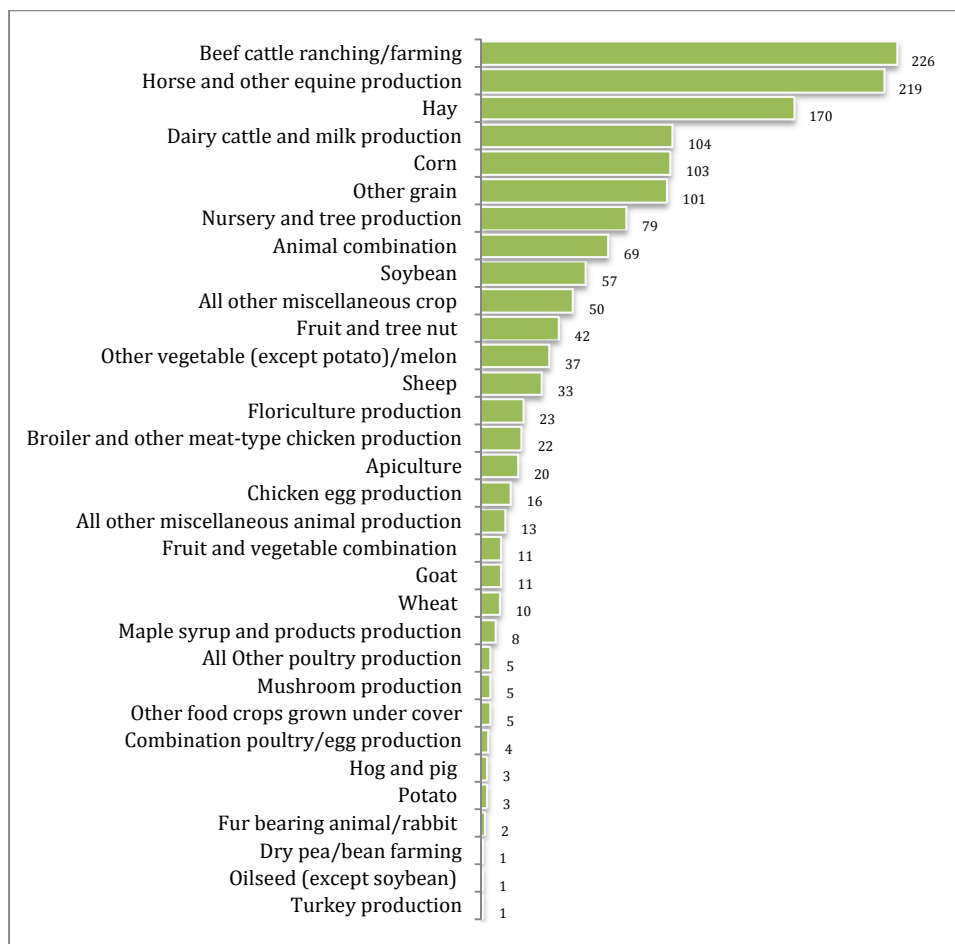
In 2011 there were 1454 farms in the region of Durham<sup>7</sup>, a decrease from 1686 in 2006<sup>8</sup>. The vast majority of these farms are located in Clarington, Scugog, Brock and Uxbridge (Figure 3). The decline in the number of farms has been accompanied by a decline in the farmland acreage in Durham. Over the 30-year period from 1981 to 2011, the total acreage of farmland in Durham decreased from 373,611 acres to 297,702<sup>9</sup>.

Beef and cattle are the primary commodity produced on Durham farms, followed by Horse and Equine, Hay, Dairy and Corn (Figure 4).





**Figure 3: Farms by Municipality in Durham (2011) <sup>10</sup>**



**Figure 4: Farms by Commodity Produced in Durham (2011) <sup>11</sup>**

It must be noted that although Durham has a diverse and strong agricultural sector, this is not all directed toward food production, and even less so toward local food distribution. The local industry is economically diverse, providing the raw materials for food production and processing, as well as for other industrial production processes. Further, it must be noted that the industrial agricultural processes that support the strong economy of agriculture in Durham may also be at odds with concerns related to environmental protection and climate change. In developing a healthy and sustainable food system, the economic diversity and sustainability of the agricultural sector needs to be balanced with the need to feed communities with locally grown foods and the need to protect and restore the environment.

### Demographics of Farmers

The average age of farmers in Durham is increasing and was 56.5 years in 2011<sup>12</sup>. This is slightly higher than the provincial and national averages (Figure 5). Given this trend, it is not surprising that nearly 75% of active farmers plan on retiring over the next decade<sup>13</sup>.

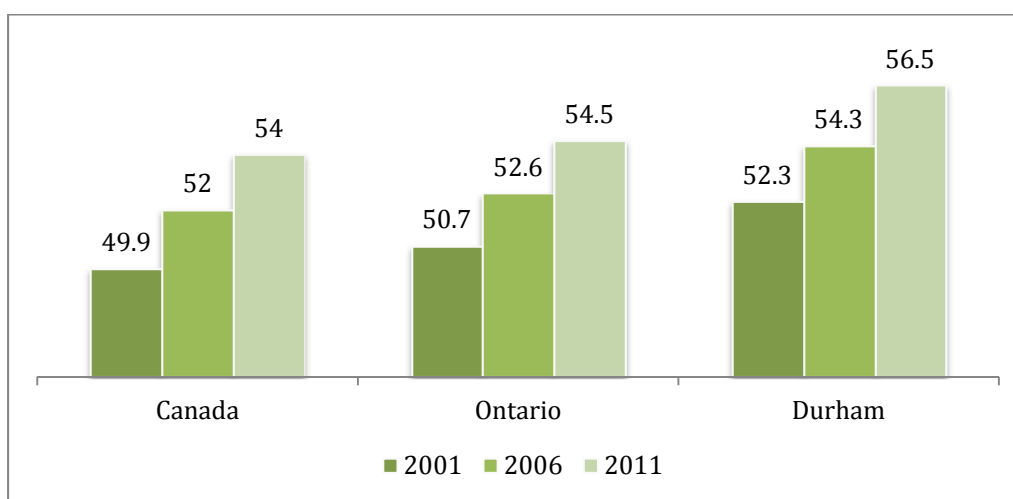


Figure 5: Average Age (years) of Farmers in Canada, Ontario and Durham (2011) <sup>14</sup>

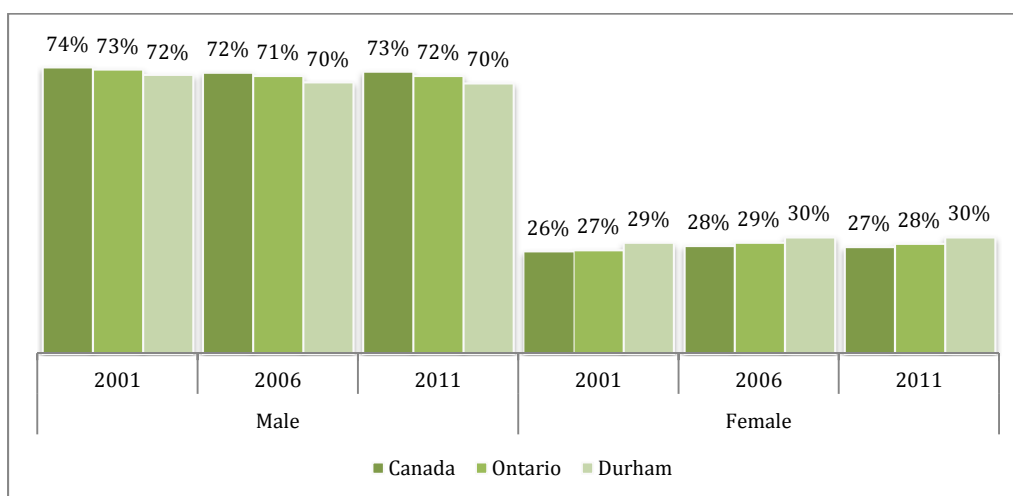


Figure 6: Sex of of Farmers as a % of the total number of farmers (2001, 2006, 2011) <sup>15</sup>

## ***Organic Farming***

Access to organically grown<sup>16</sup> foods and livestock that do not use chemicals or hormones in their growth or processing is considered to be a key component of food sovereignty. Organically grown food also has significant health and environmental benefits. For example, according to the David Suzuki Foundation organically grown food retains more carbon in the soil keeping it out of the atmosphere and thus impacting on climate change efforts<sup>17</sup>.

There are 9 organic farms listed with The Durham Organic Gardeners<sup>18</sup> and additional 3 organic farms registered with the Organic Council of Ontario<sup>19</sup>. In addition, in 2011 there were 21 farm operations in Durham selling organic agricultural products (either wholesale or directly to consumers)<sup>20</sup>. Of these, 15 operations were selling fully certified organic products and an additional 6 were selling transitional organic products<sup>21</sup> (i.e. products produced using organic methods that have not yet been fully certified under the Canadian Organic Standards).

## ***Urban Agriculture***

Urban agriculture may be simply defined as the growing of plants and the raising of animals within and around cities<sup>22</sup> and can include innovative food production processes with urban boundaries, such as aqua culture, urban greenhouses, living walls, the planting of edible fruit bearing trees and bushes in urban (public) spaces and the conversion of traditional display flower gardens to vegetable gardens<sup>23</sup>. Such initiatives are part of the cities infrastructure resource<sup>24</sup>, and when done well, integrate agricultural activities into the urban economic and ecological system. The RUAF<sup>25</sup> Foundation argues that this integration creates interactions between agricultural activities and other aspects of the urban economic, social, political and environmental landscapes<sup>26</sup>.

Economically, urban agriculture can support urban labour markets by employing city dwellers in both primary and secondary agricultural activities, and can create direct supply chains between primary production and food distribution points (grocers, restaurants) across urban centres. Socially, urban agricultural activities can support community engagement and integration activities (for example, through community gardens and the supplying of community kitchens or emergency food facilities). Politically, urban agriculture can create alternative planning and policy dialogues that challenge prevailing assumptions on how cities can, and should be developed and built. Finally, urban agriculture can support urban environmental and climate change initiatives. This is most easily seen in the greening effects that come from the planting of urban agricultural projects, but can also extend to other areas, such as the support of waste management processes (through the use of urban organic waste and waste water in urban agricultural projects)<sup>27</sup>. Currently, urban agricultural activities in Durham are generally restricted to three areas.

## ***Private Gardens***

The first is private gardening activities that individuals take up on private lands. Although these activities are important for the production of fruits and vegetables for individual and family consumption, they are not fully integrated into the urban social and economic landscape in Durham at this time. Some of the ways in which these private gardening activities could be integrated into

the communal urban landscape and food system more fully is through Garden Sharing programs or backyard based Community Supported Agriculture (CSA).

- Garden Sharing programs allow neighbours and members of a community to link together to share garden space that is on private land (generally in the backyard of one of the participants). These programs allow urban residents who may not have access to land to grow food, the opportunity to garden and connect with their community and the urban environment. These programs can be formalized and centrally managed or, as with the LifeCycles Sharing Backyards project<sup>28</sup>, simply help neighbours who have gardens, or who want access to garden space, connect to one another over the Internet.
- As with farm based CSA programs, backyard CSA programs grow and distribute food at regular intervals to members of the collective or a client base (depending on the structure of the program). This is achieved by using a number of separate garden plots on private land in an urban or suburban setting (as the name suggests, in the backyard of participants). Generally, a small group manages these programs, and landowners may or may not actually participate in the growing process. An example of a backyard CSA is the Edmonton based On Borrowed Ground project<sup>29</sup> where the project managers use private gardens to grow produce for a collective.

### **Near-Urban Agriculture**

The second area of current urban agriculture in Durham is near-urban or peri-urban farming activities. However, it must be noted that the majority of these activities in Durham are not deliberate urban agricultural projects. Rather, they are generally restricted to existing agricultural concerns that have been encompassed in urban and suburban development areas in Durham's southern municipalities. Although there have been moves by some of these farms to integrate into local urban and suburban life (through farm stores or pick-your-own operations) they are generally not fully integrated into the social and economic landscapes of the region's urban and suburban communities. A good example of activities designed to develop and maintain near-urban agricultural activities that integrate more fully into the local urban food system is the Toronto Region Conservation Authority's (TRCA) near-urban agriculture program<sup>30</sup> that is part of the organizations Living City plan<sup>31</sup>. Current projects supported under this program by the TRCA include the TRCA-FarmStart McVean Farmers Project<sup>32</sup>, located in the City of Brampton and the Black Creek Community Farm<sup>33</sup>, located on Jane Street, just south of Steeles Avenue in Toronto and which is currently the city's largest urban farm.

### **Community Gardens**

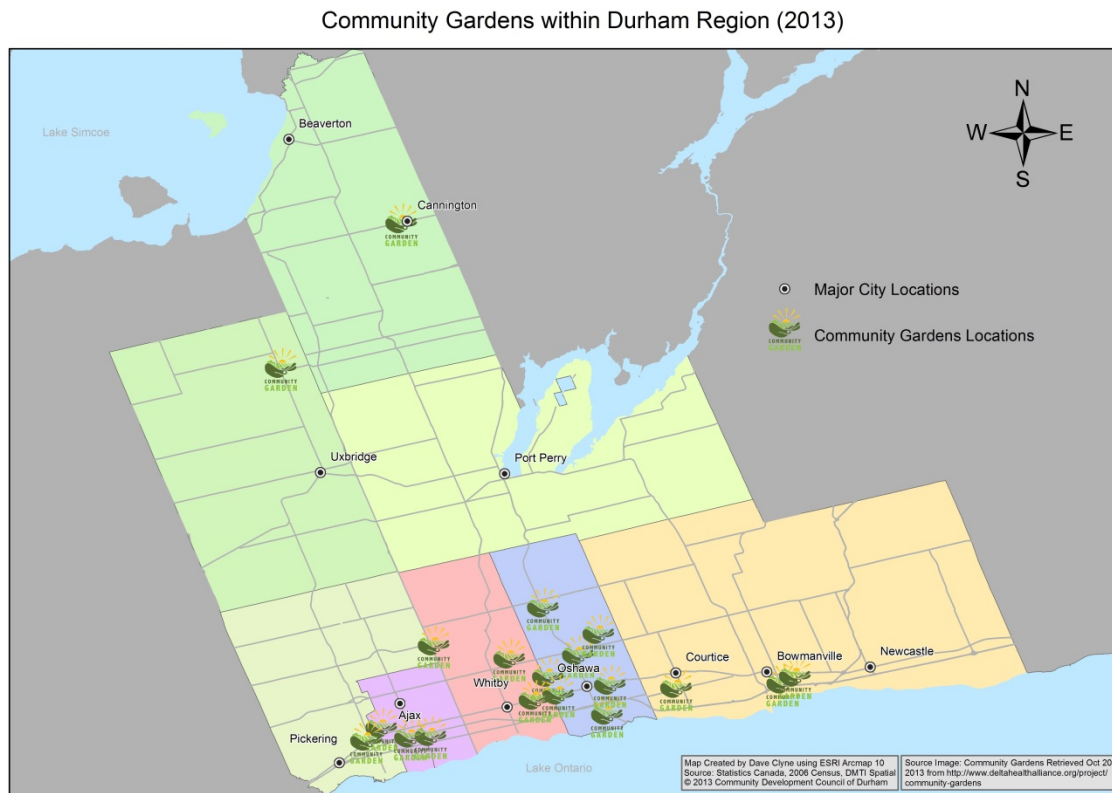
The final area of urban agriculture currently underway formally in Durham is the growing community gardens movement. Community gardens are collective gardening activities where people come together to share a gardening space<sup>34</sup>. Some are communal, where members share responsibility for food production and the harvest. Others have separate, individual allotments for each gardener, or small group of gardeners. Still others offer a combination of these two styles, allowing for gardeners to grow for their own consumption while also encouraging communal food production in order to, for example, donate to food security programs or to maximize space for

plants that require more space<sup>35</sup>. Community gardens can be developed for specific groups, such as seniors, low-income families, or newcomers to Canada. They can be program based (associated with a community organization) or open to members of a particular community (such as an apartment complex or co-operative).

Community gardens are an important part of the urban food system, as they can support individual physical and social health, while also supporting community development, local economies (if they expand to include entrepreneurial activities, such as supplying local restaurants or farmers markets), as well the greening of local urban space. Participants in community gardens not only have increased access to healthy food that they have grown themselves, but they interact in a communal environment, increasing social well-being and decreasing isolation.

In Durham, community gardens initially started on private lands, supported largely by faith communities and other community organizations. In recent years this has expanded, and there are now community gardens developed on municipal lands with the support of municipal governments. The growth in the local community garden movement can be seen in the example of Durham Integrated Growers (DIG)<sup>36</sup>, which was founded on the roots of the Durham Region Community Garden Network in 2009. DIG has influenced the increase in community gardens through sharing of resources, education, expert advice and partnerships. Membership in DIG has increased significantly over the years, and there are now 19 registered community gardens in the DIG network (see Appendix C for a list of these gardens). Figure 5 provides a general geographic overview of the locations of major Community Gardens in Durham.

Community gardens can be a starting point for more complex and large-scale urban farms. In Durham, for example, the Whitby Ajax Garden Project (WAGP) has expanded to the point where it could now be considered an urban farm utilizing approximately 5 acres of land to produce food and donating approximately 7000 pounds of fresh produce annually to local emergency food and other community programs in Durham. Further, WAGP is able to process some of the food that is grown as part of a farm gate operation social enterprise<sup>37</sup>, selling food products with the proceeds flowing back into the organizations operations and community service projects.



**Figure 5: Community Gardens in Durham Region (2013)**

### Urban Agriculture in Municipal Policy and Planning

Municipalities have a significant role in the development of urban agriculture as a fully integrated function of the urban social, economic and environmental landscapes. Specifically, municipalities: play three roles<sup>38</sup>:

1. Addressing urban agriculture as a component of land-use and food policy in local planning processes;
2. Creating, enabling, or funding community garden programs and urban agriculture organizations within their communities; and
3. Creating zoning and permitting processes that are friendly and supportive of urban agriculture<sup>39</sup>.

Currently, urban agriculture, in its full diversity, is virtually absent from municipal and regional planning strategies and policies in Durham, with agricultural planning focused on the preservation of traditional agricultural lands rather than the development of policies to support urban agricultural development (see Appendix F). Although it is important to preserve and maintain the primary agricultural resources in Durham, as they form the foundation of a healthy, sustainable and economically sound local food system, the development of innovative, urban and near-urban food production operations must become part of local planning dialogue and activities<sup>40</sup>.

The local exception to this general absence is the Town of Ajax, where urban agriculture has been explicitly noted as part of the planning process in the town's Official Plan<sup>41</sup>. The Town defines urban agriculture as:

The growing of produce (i.e., fruits and vegetables) and flowers in community gardens, and smaller scale gardening on public and private land, yards, and structures, such as rooftops, but shall exclude the raising of any animals, livestock or poultry, including chickens<sup>42</sup>.

And has the expressed goal of:

Promoting agriculture activities within the Urban Area that are compatible with planned land uses, while enhancing access to locally grown produce, lowering energy consumption, reducing transportation costs and greenhouse gas emissions, and augmenting supplies of fresh and preserved foods<sup>43</sup>.

The Town will promote urban food growing activities, such as:

- Community gardens;
- Fruit and vegetable growing in residential yards, and on clean commercial and clean industrial lands (i.e. those commercial and industrial lands that are cleaned of environmental toxins and other contaminants and thus suitable for food production);
- Development of food producing greenhouses;
- Encouraging container growing on balconies and porches and on rooftops;
- Support the development of local markets to support the distribution of locally grown and preserved foods

Although this policy addition is a welcome step in promoting new forms of food production within the Region's food system, we can see the limited scope of urban agriculture as defined by the Town. This being said, this approach is indicative of the limited vision of urban agriculture that is present in general urban planning discourses.

One of the reasons for this lack of targeted policy and planning for urban agriculture is the municipal division of responsibilities across departments. To effectively develop strategies that take full advantage of the potential benefits of urban agricultural practices, one needs to consider land use, healthy food production, environmental protection and climate change, infrastructure, economic development and social planning. A wide array of community interests needs to be considered and addressed in planning new, and maintaining existing, urban agricultural projects, and a balanced approach to implementation developed. This complexity requires internal cooperation within municipal bureaucracies and full engagement of the community and other stakeholders<sup>44</sup>. Further, planning for urban agriculture must not be secondary to other planning priorities if it is to be effectively integrated into the urban system. Rather, it needs to be considered as a primary part of municipal planning and development processes. Thus, planning urban agriculture requires an integrated and inclusive process that considers agriculture as part of a broader, mixed used urban planning and development process.

## Processing

Food processing is the transformation of primary agricultural materials (harvested fruits, vegetable, grains or oilseeds, animal products, or meat) for use in marketable food products or ingredients for marketable food products or for use as raw materials for other industrial or consumer products. The development of local food processing options is key to the development of a sustainable local food system. This fact is recognized in both the *Region of Durham: Food Processing Action Plan*<sup>45</sup> and the *Region of Durham Agricultural Strategy 2013 -2018*<sup>46</sup>.

Currently, meat processing and meat packaging dominate the local food processing industry, with thirteen officially listed in the Region<sup>47</sup>. However, this listing includes several small-scale meat processors and butchers and there are two provincially licensed abattoirs (i.e. slaughterhouses) in Durham Region. In addition, The *Food Processing Action Plan*<sup>48</sup> identified that there is also one (1) local processor of fats and oils, one (1) local processor of flour, one (1) local confectionary and two (2) local producers of sauces and condiments. The Plan identifies gaps in most other areas of food processing in Durham<sup>49</sup>, including:

- The processing of grains (including the production of dry goods, rice/noodles, breakfast cereals, and pasta);
- The processing of dairy products (including the primary production and processing of milk and cheese, the processing of dairy spreads, the processing of yogurt); and
- The processing of fruits and vegetable (including the production of jams, spreads and soups)

This action plan also notes that there is a need for a federally inspected abattoir in Durham that would pride local producers with access to local processing options and ultimately new markets for their meat products. In response, the Durham Region Cattleman's Association spearheaded the development of a business plan for the development of a federal abattoir in the community<sup>50</sup>.

In a recent development in food processing locally, Del Monte Fresh Produce announced in July 2013 that the company would be opening its first Canadian food processing plant in Oshawa<sup>51</sup>. Although full plans for the plant are not yet available, the facility will be processing fruit and vegetable products and may provide new opportunities for the development of more fruit and vegetable production in the region. However, it is not yet clear if the facility will source local produce, and if so, if the local market can meet the demand. Further, this plant is indicative of the mixed impact of localized industrial food processing activates. For example, although the plant will have a positive impact on the local labour market, providing new jobs in the host municipality, its positive impact on the environment may be negligible, especially if raw produce processed at the plant is imported from outside of the region.

This being said, food processing is poised to become a key industry in Durham, as more local food producers identify the need and economic benefit of local food processing. This fact has led the food processing industry to be identified recently as the industry of focus in the Durham Career Ladders initiative. This project is funded through Essential Skills Ontario, and is being managed by the Literacy Network of Durham Region and the Durham Workforce Authority. The goal is to develop



targeted career training processes to support the transition of under-employed and displaced workers in Durham into new industries and careers<sup>52</sup>.

In addition to industrial processing, there are a many farming operations in Durham that utilize direct farm marketing processes to sell produce directly to consumers. This often includes the small scale processing of locally grown foods (such as jams, pies, or wine) destined primarily local distribution at farm gate operations<sup>53</sup>, farm stores, u-pick (pick-your-own) operations<sup>54</sup> and off-farm distribution at farmers' markets<sup>55</sup>.

## Local Food Distribution

Food distribution is a complex process that ranges from direct farm to table operations, to warehousing, grocery operations, and restaurants. This section provides a summary of these operations in Durham.

### *Direct Farm Marketing*

Direct Farm Marketing includes farm gate operations<sup>56</sup>, u-pick (pick-your-own) operations<sup>57</sup>, Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) operations and farmers' markets.

Farmers' Markets offer local distribution points for produce that may, or may not, be locally grown (i.e. in the Region of Durham<sup>58</sup>). In the region, Durham Farm Fresh<sup>59</sup> lists 8 farmers markets, 14 farm gate operations, 25 farm stores and 10 u-pick (pick-your-own) operations<sup>60</sup>. Figures 6 and 7 show the geographic distribution of these operations in Durham.

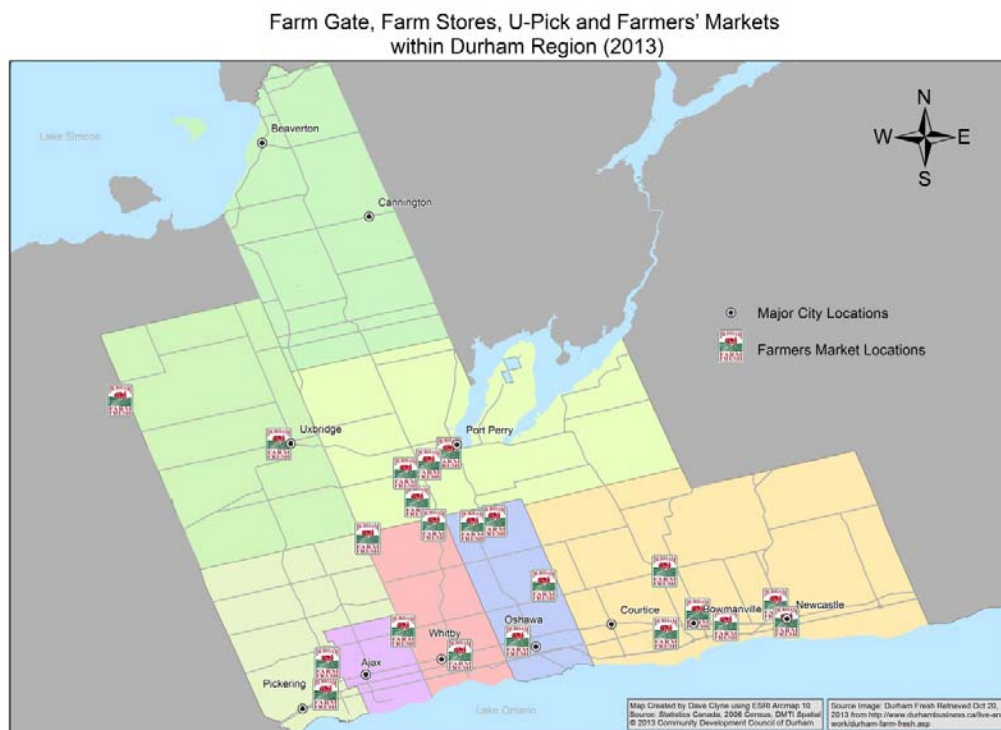
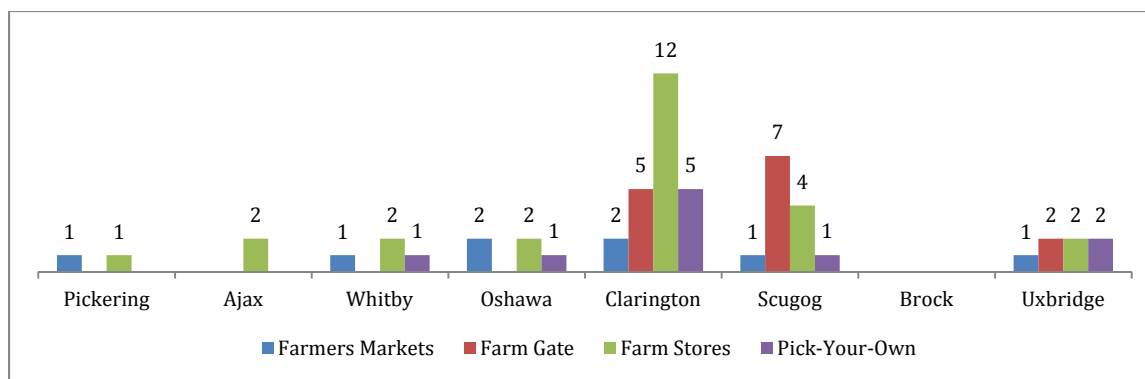


Figure 6: Farm Gate, Stores, U-Pick and Farmers Markets listed with Durham Farm Fresh (2013)<sup>61</sup>



**Figure 7: Farm Gate, Stores, U-Pick and Farmers Markets listed with Durham Farm Fresh by Municipality (2013)<sup>62</sup>**

In addition to supporting local agricultural operations, buying local has been shown to have a multiplier effect on the local economy. The multiplier effect is the amount of local economic activity that is triggered by the purchase of any one item<sup>63</sup>. As a result of this effect, the potential impact of buying local can be substantial. For example, research supported by Sustain Ontario estimates that that if every household in Ontario spent \$10 a week on local food, we would have an additional \$2.4 billion in our local economy at the end of the year and create 10,000 new jobs<sup>64</sup>. This argument is supported by research done in other North American jurisdictions, where buying local food created jobs<sup>65</sup> and supported the generation of revenue in other parts of the economy<sup>66</sup>.

### ***Community Supported Agriculture (CSAs)***

Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) operations are a growing trend in many communities across Ontario and Durham is no exception. Although the specific parameters and products may vary, CSA's are operations that provide fresh produce to a membership/shareholder base who pay an annual fee to participate in the programs. Generally, these operations are small in scale and provide seasonal, miscellaneous produce, meant for individual and family consumption. They are often tied to larger, family run, farming operations, providing a supplement to other agricultural income.

By purchasing shares, the consumer becomes invested in local farming operations. This has the benefit of helping communities that are generally disconnected from food production maintain at least a marginal connection to the source of their food. This contributes to a healthier connection to food and food production and can contribute to community awareness of the relationships between food, health and the environment. These programs may also contribute to climate change efforts as they can increase access to locally grown food.

Currently, there are ten (10) registered CSA operations in Durham<sup>67</sup>.

### ***Community Kitchens***

Community kitchens are operated as a public space where individuals and groups may gather to share and cook together on a regular basis. They may offer opportunities to share food knowledge and skills, socialize, and reduce food costs for participants and users by purchasing collectively. Such kitchens are as diverse in their purpose and organization as the

people who participate in them, with some supporting programs that allow groups to prepare and share a meal, and others providing collective space for the preparation of meals and other food products (for example, jams and other preserves) for themselves or for commercial distribution<sup>68</sup>.

Currently, in Durham there are few spaces that may be truly considered to be community kitchens. In 2013, the Region of Durham Health Departments Facility Listing noted 7 official community kitchens across the region<sup>69</sup>. In addition, there are organizations that have developed kitchen space that may be used for collective cooking, basic food processing activities and food education. For example, the kitchen available at the Ajax Welcome Centre, operated by the Community Development Council Durham, may be considered to be community kitchen. This kitchen is available to users of the Welcome Centre for both programming and general use. The CDCD has focused on developing opportunities for new Canadians to use the kitchen as a focal point for education on health and nutrition, cooking in a Canadian context, and cross-cultural engagement through food preparation and sharing. The kitchen is also used in conjunction with the CDCD's community garden and provides opportunity for participants to both grow and share food together. More opportunities such as this across Durham would encourage community engagement through food, support marginalized populations in the community, and promote increased understanding of the local food system.

If these kinds of spaces are developed in conjunction with food growing programs and activities (e.g. community gardens) then there is an opportunity for small scale food processing (e.g. the preparation of preserves) for both personal and commercial use. Thus, these spaces can promote entrepreneurship as well as engagement with the local food system.

### ***Grocers and Retailers***

Grocery stores and other food retailers are generally the primary source of affordable food for residents in a community. The ability to access these locations easily can have an impact on food security, health and well-being.

In Durham in 2013, there were a total of 101 grocery retailers listed in the Region of Durham Health Departments facility listing<sup>70</sup>. In addition there were 547 convenience stores listed.

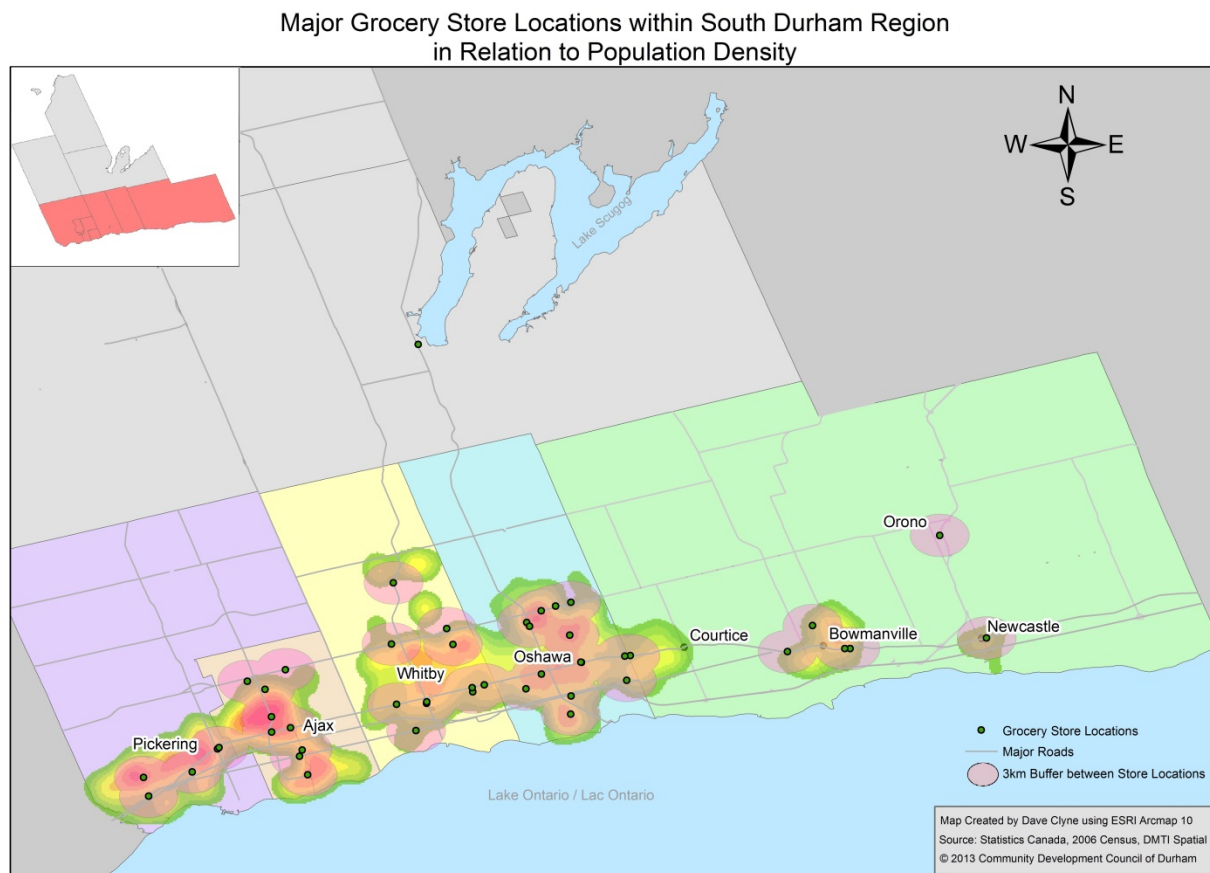
### **Food Deserts**

Food deserts can be described as geographic areas where residents' access to affordable, healthy food options (especially fresh fruits and vegetables) is restricted or nonexistent due to the absence of grocery stores within convenient travelling distance<sup>71</sup>. The exact definition of convenient travelling distance is debatable and is dependent upon other factors within a community (e.g. road infrastructure, public transportation options).

For the purposes of this report, we have defined a convenient travel distance as between 3 to 5 kilometres from an individual's residence to a grocery retailer. This definition is predicated on the following assumptions:

- Grocery retailers are the primary source of healthy and nutritious food for residents of our community;
- Transportation in Durham is car based, with limited public transportation in many areas; therefore, those using public transit to access grocery retailers face additional limitations in their grocery options.

Based on these assumptions, the map in Figure 8 was created, overlaying primary grocery retailer locations with population density in the southern municipalities of Durham. The grocery store locations are aggregated, as many retailers are groups together into small areas within communities. Each aggregated location has a 3 kilometre buffer zone surrounding it, indicating the reasonable travel distance for residents.



**Figure 8: General Grocery Retailer Locations in Durham Related to Population (2013)<sup>72</sup>**

## Procurement

Durham based institutions and businesses purchase food either raw or processed for distribution to their clients, attendees, patients, students, members or staff. This may be as simple as a work place cafeteria, catering for meetings, to meals at child care centres, long term care facilities and hospitals. As significant purchasers or customers within the food system, organizational policy for

procurement and processing to buy local would have a positive economic, environmental and health benefit to Durham Region. Many organizations including levels of government do not have “buy local” procurement policies..

There appeared be few formal buy local procurement policies of organizations in Durham however, the Durham District School Board (DDSB) has implemented such a policy:

*“Within the procurement policy 1.0 the DDSB sites the objective that all procurements are the most economical value however, includes environmental concerns as a consideration<sup>73</sup>. More specific to food and beverage policy under practices for consideration the DDSB includes consideration policy 6.0 the purchase of Ontario produce when able and available and being environmentally aware in practices.<sup>74</sup> The DDSB also provides an Outdoor Education Policy that may be adapted to involvement in a community garden.<sup>75</sup>*

There are examples of school boards in Ontario moving toward local food procurement plans. In Peel Region, the Peel District School Board (PDSB) has partnered with multiple community stakeholders (including the Peel Public Health Unit, third party food service provider Compass/Chartwells and the non-profit environmental organization, Ecosource) to develop the School Food Action Coalition, supporting local food purchasing in PDSB cafeterias<sup>76</sup>. Work has begun in 2013 to bring this program to Durham Region<sup>77</sup>.

Local food procurement by institutions is not limited to school boards. Many colleges and universities, municipalities and hospitals are now examining their food supply chains and exploring the benefits of local food procurement<sup>78</sup>.

Healthy food procurement goes beyond buying local as it must also ensure that institutions are purchasing and distributing healthy and nutritious foods in their facilities. This is especially true in schools, and has been recognized by the Ontario Ministry of Education<sup>79</sup>. The Ministry has further developed guidelines for the development of healthy school environments, which include ensuring access to healthy food for all students in the school setting<sup>80</sup>.

## **Recycling and Waste**

The final aspect of a community’s food system is the waste management process. This process can have an impact on the sustainability of the food system as it concerns environmental impact. Many communities, including Durham have recognized this, and are developing and maintain strong waste diversion programs.

A primary aspect of this diversion process is Durham’s Green Bin program, that collects food waste and creates compost. In 2012 the Region of Durham’s Green Bin program diverted 26,899 tonnes of food waste into composting facilities. The compost output is marketed to farmers, landscapers and soil remediation firms, with approximately 500 tonnes of it going back to the Region for distribution to local residents<sup>81</sup>.

The transformation of food waste into biofuels is an option not yet explored in Durham, and there are arguments that this remains an untapped resource for communities that may provide both

economic and environmental benefits<sup>82</sup>. Although a Waste-to-Energy facility is in development in the community, this facility is focused on electrify production rather than biofuels. In order to explore how Durham may develop such facilities, we can look to the example of the Edmonton waste-to-biofuels facility currently under development<sup>83</sup>.

## Food Security & Food Sovereignty

If a food system is functioning in a healthy and sustainable way, then a community may achieve food security and food sovereignty.

Food security is a condition in which all people at all times have both economic and physical access to sufficient safe, nutritious, culturally appropriate foods to maintain a healthy and active life<sup>84</sup>.

According to the World Health Organization<sup>85</sup>, food security is built on three pillars:

- Food availability: sufficient quantities of food available on a consistent basis.
- Food access: having sufficient resources to obtain appropriate foods for a nutritious diet.
- Food use: appropriate use based on knowledge of basic nutrition and care, as well as adequate water and sanitation.

The WHO further postulates that food security is a complex issue, linked to health through malnutrition, but also to sustainable economic development, environment, and trade<sup>86</sup>. In order to promote food security in our community we need to understand the complexities of our food system: how food is grown, distributed and consumed.

Food sovereignty is the methodology that defines action not only to the provision of food but involves the food system in its entirety. One of the most recognized understandings of food sovereignty addresses six pillars<sup>87</sup>:

1. Focuses on Food for People:
  - insists on the right to food for everyone
  - insists that food is more than a commodity.
2. Values Food Providers:
  - supports the right to produce food
  - supports sustainable livelihoods
3. Localizes Food Systems:
  - places providers and consumers at the centre of decision-making
  - rejects dumping and inappropriate food aid
4. Puts Control Locally:
  - places control in the hands of local food providers
  - recognizes the need to inhabit and to share territories
  - rejects the privatization of "natural resources"

#### 5. Builds Knowledge and Skills:

- builds on traditional knowledge
- uses research to support and pass this knowledge to future generations
- rejects technologies that undermine or contaminate local food systems

#### 6. Works with Nature:

- uses the contributions of nature in sustainable food systems
- maximizes resilience
- rejects energy intensive, mono cultural, industrialized, destructive production methods<sup>88</sup>.

### **Food Insecurity in Durham**

In 2013, 7.7% of families in Durham were food insecure<sup>89</sup>, resulting in increased stress and worry that food will run out, a need to compromise the quality and/or quantity of food eaten, and a reduction in food intake by members of these families<sup>90</sup>. Food insecurity does not affect everyone in the community equally as those on social assistance, single mothers, the working poor and other marginalized groups find themselves more vulnerable than others. For example, in Canada<sup>91</sup>:

- 55.5% of households receiving social assistance are food insecure, with 28.2% of these households being severely food insecure<sup>92</sup>;
- 25.3% of households with one member receiving Worker's Compensation are food insecure, with 11.1% being severely food insecure;
- 20.9% of Aboriginal households are food insecure, with 8.4% being severely food insecure;
- 17.2% of renters are food insecure, with 6.9% being severely food insecure; and
- 14% of households with less than a high school education are food insecure, with 5.6% being severely food insecure.

A detailed review of poverty data in Durham will allow us to gain further insight into the extent and distribution of food insecurity in our community.

### **Poverty in Durham**

The Ontario Ministry of Finance (2011) projected that the population of the Region of Durham would reach 628,920 in 2011<sup>93</sup>, an estimated increase of 8,490 persons from 2010. This growth is not new in the community, with the population in Durham increasing by approximately 29% between 2000 and 2009 (Earle, 2008). This growth is expected to continue, with the population in Durham projected to reach 670,950 in 2015, 736,980 in 2020, and 992,830 in 2036 (Ontario Ministry of Finance, 2011).

Overall population growth in Durham has been accompanied by increasing diversity. For example, immigrants accounted for 34% of the overall population growth in Durham in the period between 2001 and 2006; of this group, 53.5% were recent immigrants, having arrived in Canada between 2001 and 2006. These new Canadians are increasingly coming from non-traditional source countries in East and South Asia, the Middle East, and Latin America. The vast majority of this population is located in the lakeshore communities of Pickering, Ajax, Whitby, Oshawa, and

Clarington (Courtice, Bowmanville and Newcastle), with growing pockets in Township of Scugog (Port Perry) and the Township of Uxbridge (Uxbridge).

#### Low Income Cut-Off (LICO)<sup>94</sup> and Low Income Measure (LIM)<sup>95</sup> Based Poverty Rates in Durham

According to Statistics Canada, approximately 9% of the population of Durham were living with low incomes in 2005 (LICO), an increase of 25% from the year 2000. Of these individuals the highest rates of low income were experienced by women over the age of 65 (36%), working age women (32%), lone parents with children under the age of 18 (34%) and recent immigrants (25%). In addition data on low income after-tax by family structure in the region shows that the prevalence of poverty among couple families is 5.7% as compared to 18.6% for lone female parent families (Earle, 2008).

If we use the Low Income Measure (LIM) we can estimate that in 2005 there were 149,315 individuals in the Region with low-income, or 26.6% of the population (Earle, 2008). Of this number 63.5% were women (Earle, 2008).

Using both the LICO and the LIM, the Children's Aid Society of Toronto (2008) estimate that the child poverty rate in Durham was between 9% (LICO) and 15% (LIM) in 2005.

From these divergent statistics we can see the issues with poverty measurement that exist. For our purposes it is significant to note that the income poverty rate in Durham is somewhere between 9% and 15% overall and that several groups in the community, such as new Canadians and lone female parents are more likely to experience income poverty than other groups.

"Giving Voice to Poverty in Durham Region" was published by Community Development Council Durham in 2011<sup>96</sup> and is a far more extensive report that should be considered to identify food insecurity in the Region. The Report provides insight as to the challenges of balancing housing, child care, access to food and ultimately health. The report recommended that:

"The Region of Durham needs to take the lead in local efforts to advocate for changes to relevant policies and programs that will reduce poverty at the provincial and federal levels. This must include, advocacy for increased Social Assistance rates, investment in childcare, investment in affordable housing, and the further increase of minimum wage to a livable standard."<sup>97</sup>

This is an example of needed legislation that goes beyond the Region's capacity as benefits are determined by the Province of Ontario

Figures 9 – 12 provide a geographic profile of low income in Durham, allowing us to gain insight, indirectly into food insecurity in Durham.



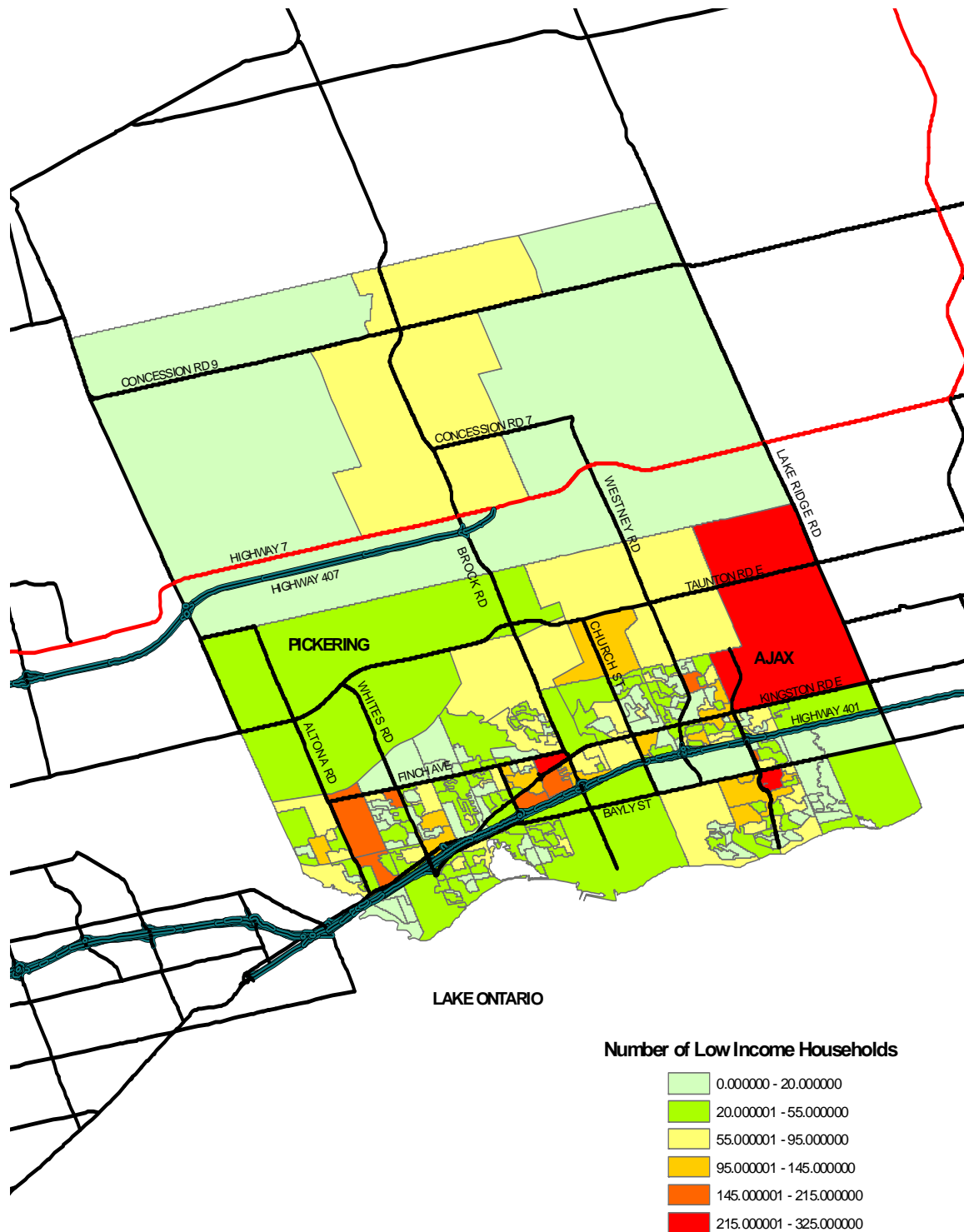


Figure 9: Pickering-Ajax: Distribution of Low Income Households<sup>98</sup>



Figure 10: Whitby-Oshawa: Distribution of Low Income Households<sup>99</sup>

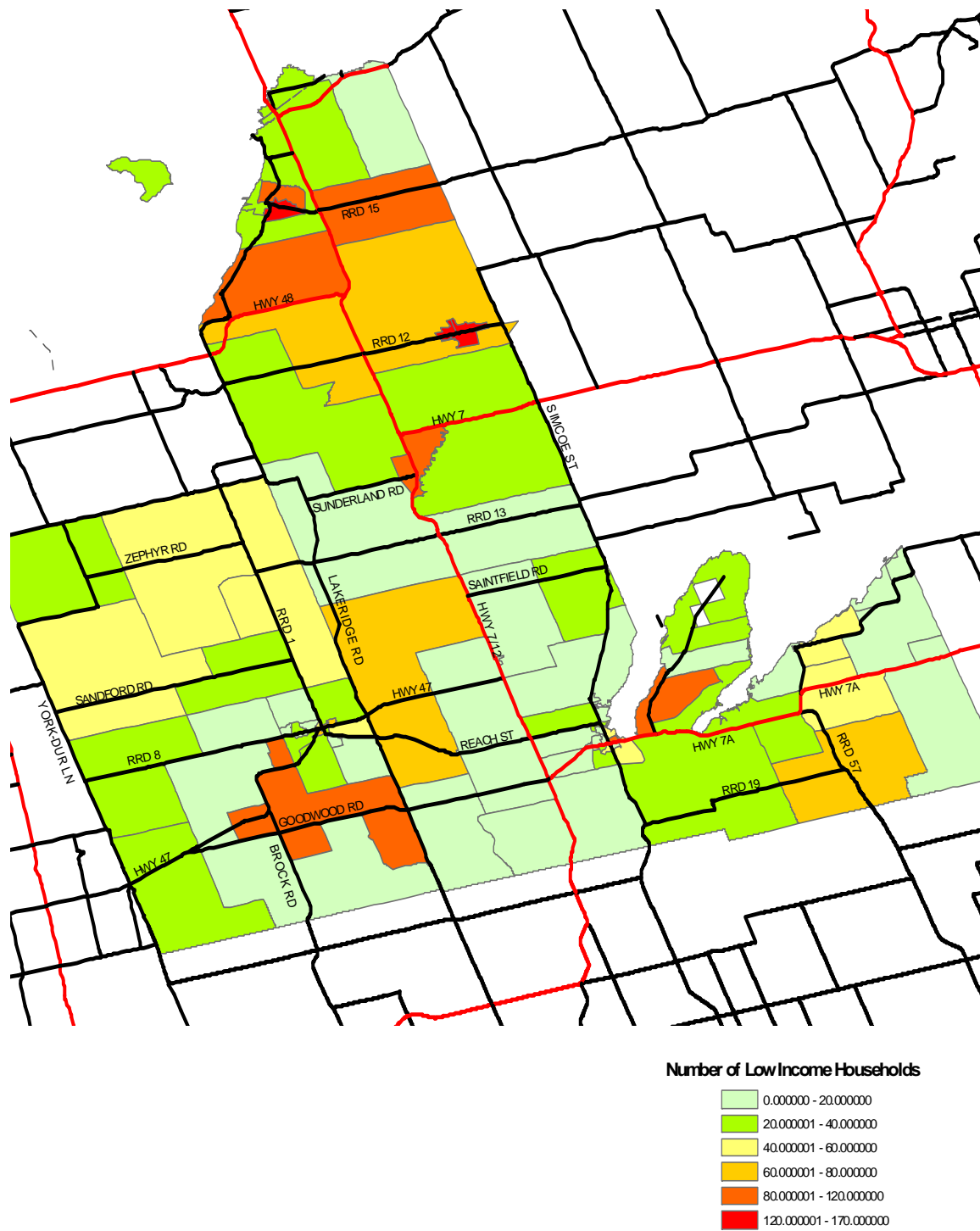


Figure 11: Scugog-Brock-Uxbridge: Distribution of Low Income Households<sup>100</sup>

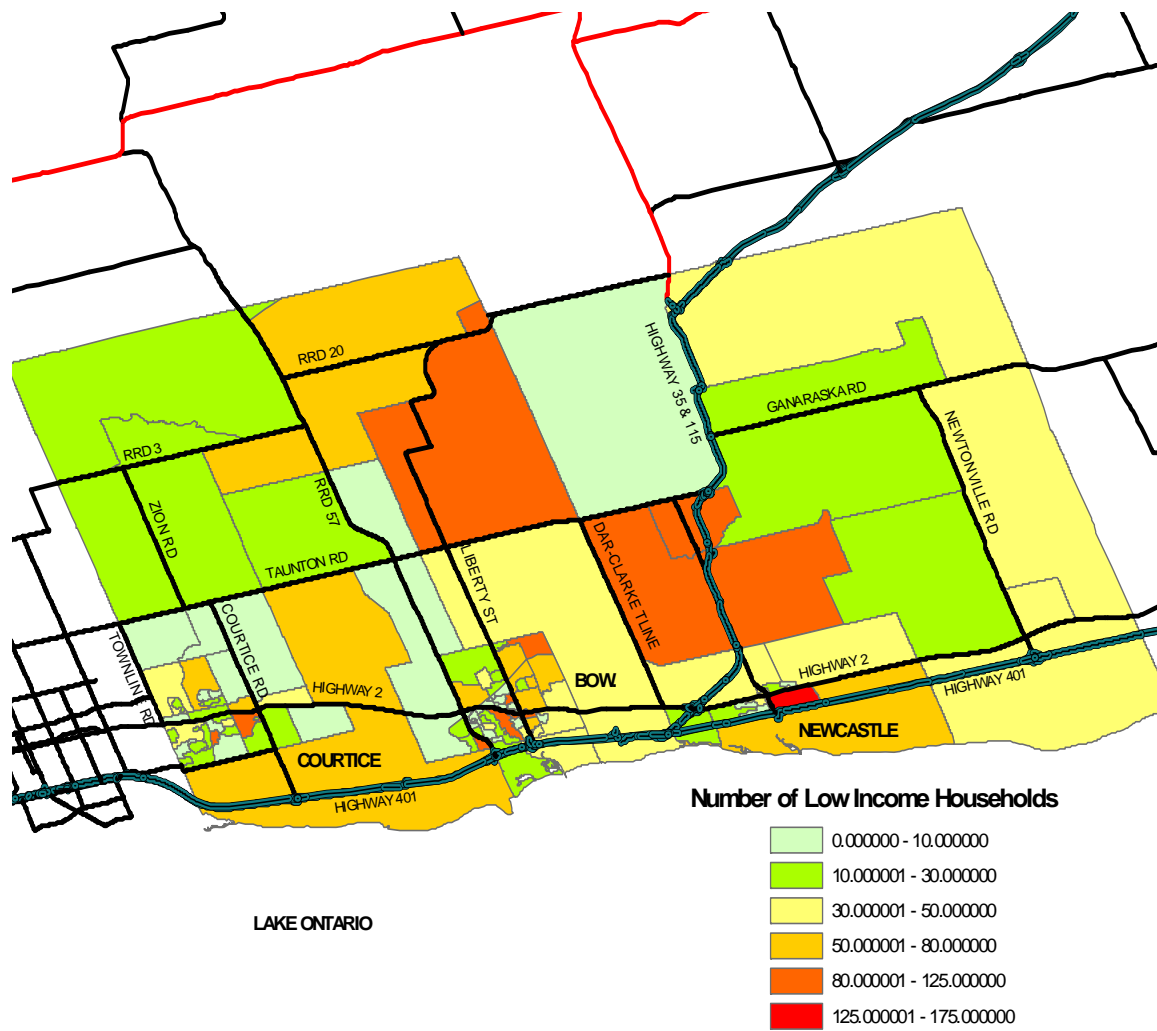


Figure 12: Clarington: Distribution of Low Income Households<sup>101</sup>

## Social Assistance and Rent-Geared-to-Income-Housing in Durham

In 2013 there is a reported 9,441 individuals receiving Social Assistance in Durham.<sup>102</sup>

At the time of this report Housing Help Durham advises that the waiting list for RGI housing is approximately 5000.

<b>Figure 13: Income Support Case Loads by Municipality (2013)</b>				
<b>Municipality</b>	<b>2011 Population</b>	<b>2012 Population Estimates<sup>103</sup></b>	<b>Income Support Case loads</b>	<b>Ratio per capita based on 2012 pop.</b>
Ajax	109,600	115,505	1,151	1.0%
Brock	11,341	11,760	170	1.44%
Clarington	84,548	89,410	840	.94%
Oshawa	149,607	156,905	5,096	3.25%
Pickering	88,721	92,880	830	.89%
Scugog	21,569	22,475	151	.67%
Uxbridge	20,623	21,510	104	.48%
Whitby	122,022	129,205	1,095	.85%
Regional Totals	608,031	639,655	9,441	1.48%

Eating Well in Durham, 2012 published by the Region of Durham Health Department<sup>104</sup> identifies that the cost of the 'Nutritious Food Basket' increased by 5% between May 2012 and May 2011. They also identified that 8% of all households in Durham Region are food insecure. The existence of food insecurity will not be argued by any of the participants in the food system. The Durham Food Charter identifies the need for adequate income and resources to provide nutritious and appropriate food for all citizens of the Region and is identified in the Charter under Health and Well Being.

## Food Support Services

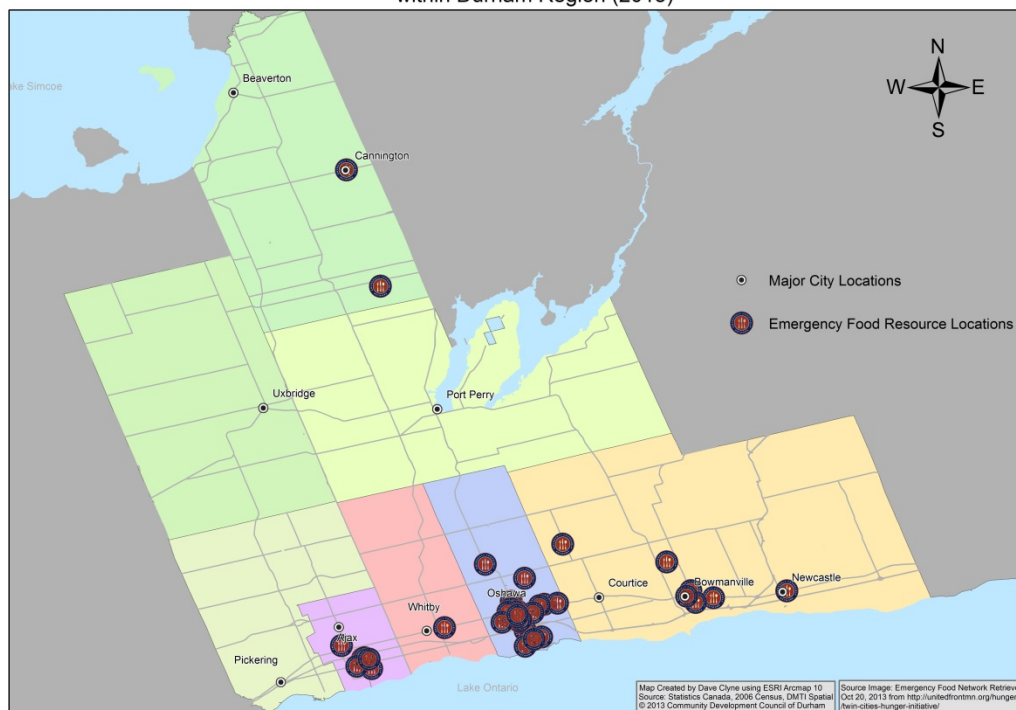
To address poverty and food insecurity, the community in Durham has established many independent food support services. These programs include emergency programs, such as food banks and soup kitchens, as well as breakfast programs for children and youth (e.g. Durham's Child Nutrition Project) and meal programs for seniors (e.g. Meals on Wheels). These programs are run by various faith groups and community organizations.

Feed the Need in Durham is the regional food distribution warehouse in Durham Region that provides food and personal hygiene items to organizations such as food banks, food pantry's, meal programs, soup kitchens and shelters. They currently have over 46 member organizations, but in some cases, one organization may have more than one point of distribution. The number of food support services in Durham Region has increased since 2006. It is recognized that there are other food programs that are not currently members of Feed the Need in Durham. Today, Feed the Need in Durham distributes approximately 250,000 pounds of food each month. Addendum "E" provides a listing of 'Feed the Need in Durham's membership.

**Figure 14: Food Banks & Food Security Programs Food Banks that are part of the Feed the Need in Durham network related to Population Receiving Income Assistance in 2013 <sup>105</sup>**

Municipality	# of permanent food banks in Network	Programs, shelters other points of distribution	# of households receiving income assistance (July 2013) <sup>106</sup>
Ajax	4	3	1,151
Brock	1	2	170
Clarington	4	2	840
Pickering	1		830
Oshawa	13	18	5,096
Scugog	0	0	151
Uxbridge	1		104
Whitby	1		1,095
Region	25	25	9,437

**Food Banks and Emergency Food Resources within Durham Region (2013)**



**Figure 15: Food Banks and Other Emergency Food Resource in Durham (2013)**

Food Banks and Emergency Food Resources within Oshawa (2013)

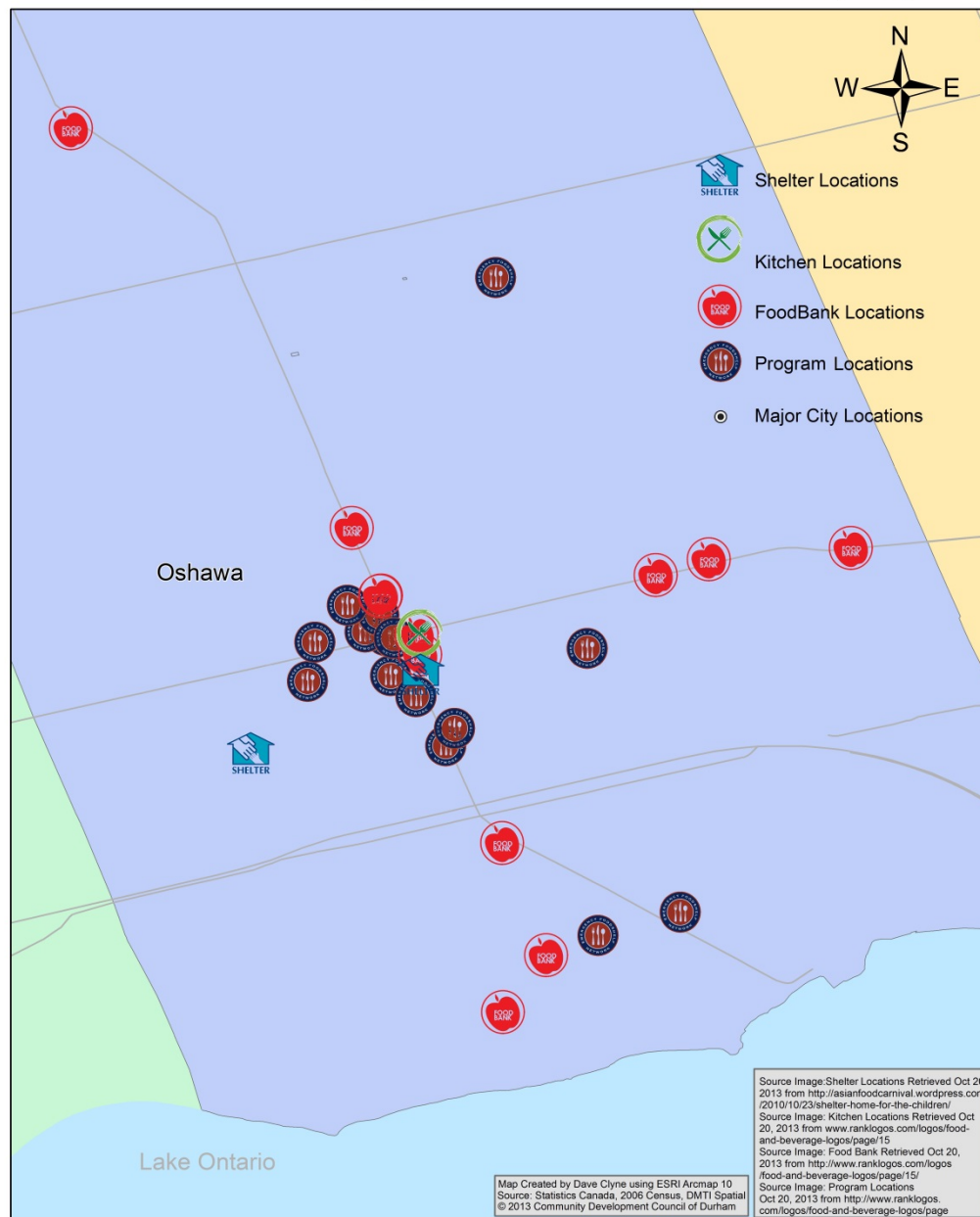


Figure 16: Food Banks and Emergency Food Resources in Oshawa (2013)

## POLICY

Despite the fact that food is an enduring necessity for all population, food system planning is conspicuously absent from many of the policy and planning process in Durham. This is not specific to our community. Planners and policy makers have specifically neglected food in their processes across jurisdictions. When it does enter into the dialogue it is generally in the context of agricultural and agri-business planning, as can be seen in the Region of Durham Agricultural Strategy and the Food Processing Action Plan. Both of these Regional Planning documents focus on economic development of industry in Durham. This focus has moved down into local municipal planning as well, with all but one local municipal plan referring to the food system solely through agricultural land protection and development. This is not to say that other aspects of food system planning are absent completely from the local policy dialogue. The Local Action Plan on Climate Change does include specific references to food system planning as it relates to environmental sustainability, and the Agricultural Strategy does acknowledge the Durham Region Food Charter as an important framework for planning. However, these remain isolated references in a broader planning dialogue.

This critique is not to say that economic sustainability and the development of a strong agricultural and agri-business sector are not vital to developing a healthy and sustainable food system. In fact, these processes can be the foundation for good food system planning. But the discourse needs to be expanded. We need to encompass environmental sustainability, social interaction, food security and food sovereignty into our local policy dialogue on the food system. These connections are not being made in local planning and policy dialogue. For example, the Durham Agricultural Strategy does not make reference to the Local Action Plan on Climate Change, despite the significant connections between local environmental sustainability and the food system.

In moving this dialogue forward, it is important to be aware of the policy and legislative frameworks under which this planning must take place. In Durham, we need to specifically consider the following:

- Provincial:
  - The Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Act and Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan, 2001
  - The Nutrient Management Act, 2002
  - Provincial Policy Statement (PPS), 2005 pertaining to the protection of prime agricultural areas for the long-term use of agriculture
  - The Greenbelt Act and Greenbelt Plan, 2005
  - The Places to Grow Act and the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe, 2006
  - The Clean Water Act, 2006
  - The Lake Simcoe Protection Act and Lake Simcoe Protection Plan, 2009
  - The Local Food Act, 2013
- Regional:
  - The 2009-2014 Durham Region Strategic Plan, Growing Together
  - The Durham Region Official Plan
  - The Durham Region Food Charter, endorsed by Regional Council in 2009



- The Region of Durham: Food Processing Action Plan
- The Region of Durham Agricultural Strategy, 2013-2018
- The Integrated Community Sustainability Plan
- The Golden Horseshoe Food and Farming Action Plan, 2001
- The Durham Local Action Plan on Climate Change
- Municipal:
  - The Official Plans of each of Durham's lower tier municipalities
  - Local zoning and by-laws

In light of this extensive body of legislation and planning policy, how are communities to move forward in developing comprehensive and integrated approaches to food system planning? A recent report, *Best practices in local food: A guide for municipalities*<sup>107</sup>, prepared by Deloitte for the Ontario Municipality Knowledge Network (OMKN) provides some starting guidelines for municipal governments who wish to embark on full food system planning projects. As a starting point, the report argues that there are several key factors that municipalities need to consider in order to ensure the success of local food planning and initiatives<sup>108</sup>:

- Policies and programs must be embedded in the municipality to create a culture that support and values local food.
- When considering new policies or programs, diverse stakeholders must be actively engaged to set a consistent direction and build buy-in across the community.
- Municipalities must assess their current situation and identify the mix of local food practices that will work best for them. Municipalities facing resource constraints must prioritize high-impact initiatives and explore cost-effective means of implementation (e.g. partnerships).

It is critical for municipalities to measure and monitor the outcomes of their local food initiatives to ensure these initiatives are truly impacting the local food system in a positive way.

### ***The Continuous Productive Urban Landscape***

When we look to the specific benefits of urban agricultural activities the dialogue generally focuses on the areas of food security and income support for those living in poverty<sup>109</sup>. Despite the importance of these impacts, however, the benefits of urban agriculture extend beyond these areas and can, when integrated broadly into the urban landscape, support a far greater population than those with low-income. In fact, urban agriculture can have a positive social impact on communities, can support health improvement and proper nutrition, and can improve urban environments, leading to sustainability and the greening of urban space<sup>110</sup>.

One way in which these benefits may be capitalized in urban planning and development is through the application of the concept of the Continuous Productive Urban Landscape (CPUL). This model integrates urban agriculture into a broader system of mixed-use urban design, creating city landscapes that support the social, economic and environmental health. Such landscapes:

May be thought of as a new kind of extended public park, integrating traditional recreations and leisure facilities, with areas devoted to urban agricultural fields,

ecological corridors, cycle and pedestrian routes. CPULs aim to be productive in economical (food production), socio-economic (quality of life) and environmental (carbon dioxide emission reduction, improved biodiversity, air quality and the provision of heat island sinks) terms<sup>111</sup>.

Thus, through the application of a CPUL paradigm, urban agriculture becomes an essential urban infrastructure, akin to transportation and sanitation systems<sup>112</sup>. Within CPUL models urban agricultural infrastructure generally refers to edible fruit and vegetable production and can range from small-scale gardening (e.g. community gardens and allotments) to high-yield market gardening that can supply private enterprise as well as community programs (e.g. food security programs). The model may be thought of as supporting the development of an edible city landscape<sup>113</sup>, integrating urban food production into a sustainable ecological framework.

The CPUL model is significant not only for its development of the concept of urban agriculture as essential urban infrastructure, but also for its explicit delineation of the environmental benefits of urban agricultural practices on city landscapes. The leading proponents of this model, architects and urban designers Katrin Bohn and Andre Viljoen argue that CPUL posit three discernable environmental benefits from urban agriculture within a CPUL planning model<sup>114</sup>:

First, the model promotes the development of sustainable urban ecoscapes that promote the development and maintenance of biodiversity in urban environments. Second, the model proposes a closing of urban waste cycles by supporting the diversion and local use of compostable waste and waste water in the urban food production process. Finally, the model supports a reduction in the energy used in the production and distribution of food in the urban environment<sup>115</sup>.

A prominent example of the CPUL model impacting on urban and city planning can be found in London, England, where a 2010 London Assembly report, *Cultivating the Capital: Food growing and the planning system in London*, outlined the ways in which agricultural activities could be further integrated into the cities urban landscape<sup>116</sup>. However, despite the growing interest in the development of urban food production in North American and Western Europe, there is a need to further educate existing municipal planners on how to better integrate greening and agricultural features into planning policy and practice<sup>117</sup>.

### ***A Report Card for Measuring Success***

The Durham Region Food Charter provides a sound starting point for local policy and planning dialogue that will support the development of a healthy and sustainable food system in Durham. As noted above, this document has been noted in the recent Agricultural Strategy, and this is a good place to start. However, as the Ontario Municipal Knowledge Network suggests, municipalities will need tools to help them track and monitor their food system project to ensure success. To support and initiate discussion about this measurement process, we have included a proposed analysis framework for assessing food system development in Durham in Appendix E.

## RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Recognizing, endorsing and supporting the Durham Region Food Charter is the foundation to develop and implement policies and activities to address food sovereignty. The active involvement of the Region of Durham and its Municipalities is paramount for the success of these activities.
  - a. That the Region and each of its member Municipalities adopt the Durham Region Food Charter as a key policy document and include the reference to the Charter in their Official Plan and all other major planning strategies and policy documents.
  - b. That the Region and each of its member Municipalities commit to ongoing active involvement to develop and implement sustainable food system policies and action plans coordinated by the Durham Food Policy Council.
  - c. That the Region and each of its member Municipalities adopt a Durham Region Report Card as a benchmark tool for monitoring activities relating to food sovereignty (see proposed Report Card in Appendix E). Because the responsibilities and activities related to food sovereignty and climate change are spread over many departments and divisions and Council itself, there is no one depository for information about their activities. To this end, that the report card be circulated for completion at the soonest possible date.
  - d. That a central “food” depository for information be established that will address the needs of consumers, business, agricultural sector, not for profit organizations and council. That the information will be provided to the Durham Food Policy in a timely manner to be regularly added to a “food” web site
  - e. That the Region and each of its member Municipalities contribute financially and with other resources (including space) for a full time food coordinator who will work with all stakeholders of the food system
  - f. Municipalities will designate and support a lead to liaise with and support the Durham Food Policy Council.
  - g. Municipalities will fully review their role within a sustainable food system and engage their departments and divisions in an integrated way to work with a Region wide working group on food security lead by the Durham Food Policy Council.
2. Food Sovereignty is one of the most important and key requirements of health and wellbeing and as such require significant resources and supports to develop further policies and action plan. While the participants in the food system have each developed recommendations for the sustainability and success of their sector, each work in silos rather than in a unified effort that will support the food system in its entirety. Most of these reports recommend a broader community sector coordinated efforts.

- a. That the Durham Region Food Policy Council will engage the stakeholders in the food system to create an inclusive cross sector action committee to implement the Durham Region Food Charter.
  - b. That the Region of Durham Food Policy Council will incorporate and will include all sectors of the food system and institutional bodies who may positively influence the food system in its membership.
  - c. That Durham Region Food Policy Council work towards an educational program providing people with greater knowledge about engagement in and control over the food in our communities. This would also includes food democracy, food skills and food education. As a result of the limited resources, an educational program be developed and volunteers trained to implement the program.
  - d. That the Durham Food Policy Council facilitate a “food” consultation with all sectors to support the development of a user friendly website that will include information:
    - i. Part “A” access to locally grown food; nutritional and food preparation information; encouraging involvement with community gardens; volunteer participation in other sectors of the food system. and emergency food availability
    - ii. Part “B” (part B primarily serves the agricultural sectors and the information that would be most relevant should be determined by that sector, these are only a few suggestions) incentives for producers, processors and distributors in the food system; information about farm to table produce including farm gate, farm store, u-pick, farmers markets, community supported agriculture; news and information relevant to the agricultural community;
    - iii. Part “C” information related to food security in other sectors and communities, access to reports and best practice; access to the Report Card for the Region and Municipalities.
    - iv. That the web site be administered outside of the Region by a community organization.
  - e. That the Durham Food Policy Council work with local government, business interests, and community organizations to support the development of food related community enterprises that both encourage economic development and sustainability.
3. Access, purchase and consumption of locally grown nutritious food reduces emissions by reducing food miles. By encouraging and supporting “buy local” campaigns through education and incentives supports the activities of the Durham Region Roundtable on Climate Change.

- a. That a “Buy locally produced and processed nutritious food” campaign and ongoing educational program be developed.
  - b. That an education program with recommendations relating to local food procurement be developed for adoption by institutions and organizations in the Region.
  - c. That incentives be offered to local restaurants, banquet facilities and other outlets of prepared food to encourage the use of locally grown and produced food.
  - d. Call for stronger connections and shared strategy among economic developers and the business sector
  - e. Continue to support the processing and distribution infrastructure required to make more local foods available to local residents. Also includes ‘public institutions’ to buy more local foods.
  - f. That incentives be offered to farmers who participate in farmers’ markets.
  - g. The Region should support the establishment of *Community Food Hubs* throughout the community as a key best practice for a healthy sustainable food system.
4. Urban agriculture is a key resource for nutritious food that not only supports the health and well being of the community but supports the reduction of emissions impacting climate change. As a community we need to encourage and support the expansion of food grown or raised in urban areas. Thus, we recommend:
- a. That the Region and each of its member Municipalities support both existing and new community gardens by providing resources including zoning for their sustainability.
  - b. That the Region and each of its member Municipalities determine protocol for supporting urban agriculture initiatives including community gardens on both public and private lands.
  - c. That the Region and each of its member Municipalities review existing plans and zoning and make appropriate changes to support urban agriculture initiatives including community gardens.
  - d. That land is designated for urban agriculture initiatives including community gardens and is protected through zoning and becomes part of the municipality’s official plans. That the Region of Durham Social Services Department educates and promotes participation in community gardens for its clients.
  - e. That the Region and its member municipalities engage with the Durham Food Policy Council and other community organizations to consider and develop innovative planning models that will consider the food system as essential infrastructure and

will fully integrate urban agriculture into the region's communities as part of a mixed urban planning strategy.

- f. That the Region of Durham Social Services Department provides supports required for participation in community gardens

## Appendix A: Durham Region Food Charter

Durham Region

May 28, 2009, revision 1, approved

# Food Charter

“Planning Food Into Our Future”

*The Durham Region Food Charter reflects the community’s vision for a food secure Durham Region focused toward building a just and sustainable local food system as a foundation for population health.*

*Based on community participation a sustainable local food system will improve the economic viability of Durham Region’s food industry, work in harmony with natural heritage systems as well as the built environment, and promote overall health.*

*“Food Security: means a situation in which all community residents are able to obtain a safe, culturally acceptable, nutritionally adequate diet through a sustainable food system that maximizes community self-reliance and social justice, and the ability of the agricultural community to support this system.”*  
(Growing Durham Regional Official Plan Amendment No. 128 (2009))

*A food secure Durham Region is financially sound, environmentally responsible and socially just, contributing to the future well being of our region and its residents.*

### Essential Foundations To Build Upon

*A just and sustainable local food system will be resilient when supported by comprehensive and integrated mechanisms. These will incorporate physical elements with sound economic, environmental, social, and political policies to ensure a secure food supply.*

- Establish a citizen based advisory committee which would oversee the principles of the Food Charter with quantifiable benchmarks and set goals.
- Calculate the food needs for anticipated population growth and establish a baseline to work towards self-reliance in food security.
- Incorporate food security principles into key strategic regional and local policy documents as an integral part of creating sustainable and complete communities.
- Promote the development of a local food system that supports local agricultural production.
- Establish an educated consumer base that understands and supports the local agricultural sector.
- Encourage establishment of institutional, industrial and commercial local food procurement policies.
- Influence sustainable resource management through water conservation, protection of natural heritage systems, reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, responsible waste management and protect agricultural land for production by minimizing encroachment through responsive land-use planning.
- Identify potential impacts to farmers and food production attributing from climate change and include in mitigation and adaptation strategies.
- Develop Durham’s local food economy as a key economic driver for the Region.
- Measure Regional Food Security annually to assess effectiveness of multi-sector initiatives.

### Sustaining Local Agriculture

*Cultivation of a sustainable local agriculture will enhance Durham Region’s urban and rural economic development, create employment, secure a regional food supply, encourage a culture of environmental stewardship and conserve resources.*

#### Build Capacity through Local Food Production

- Protect agricultural lands for production.
- Promote the agricultural industry as a viable career option.
- Extend local education and training opportunities.
- Develop local food processing capacity.
- Encourage the diversification of the local agricultural sector.
- Support networks that provide information about local food choices and availability.

#### **Environmental Stewardship**

- Acknowledge and promote sustainable urban and rural agricultural practices.
- Recognize the sustainable food system cycle from production to responsible waste resource management.
- Value the rural community's role in providing environmental services to the general public.
- "Protect the long-term ecological function, connectivity and biodiversity of natural heritage systems"  
(Provincial Policy Statement, 2005).
- Ensure the supply and the quality of water for local agriculture.

#### **Facilitate Access to Locally Produced Food**

- Produce foods locally to support regional self-reliance and food security.
- Ensure the availability of local foods within neighbourhoods.  
(Examples: Community supported agriculture, Farm Gate, Farmer's Markets, Retail and Wholesaling, Urban food production in parks, residential and school yards, "green" building design including rooftop gardens, community and market gardens...)

#### **Community Partnership**

*A just and sustainable food system will be supported by a regional community where residents are connected participants working in partnership with each other and with all levels of government. It acknowledges the importance of its interconnection with other food systems.*

- Nurture and improve communication between the community, food producers, and key stakeholders in developing regional food system solutions.
- Engage the broader community in research and development of local initiatives that improve regional food security.
- Encourage community participation in the decision making process.
- Foster social cohesion by embracing cultural diversity and food traditions.

#### **Health and Well Being**

*A just and sustainable food system will be equitable and respect human dignity. It is a system in which all residents will have access to safe, nutritious, affordable, culturally appropriate food.*

#### **Accessibility and Social Equity**

- Advocate for social equity  
(Example: Sufficient social assistance and disability benefits, jobs at living wages, adequate transportation and affordable housing to enable individuals and families to afford Durham's Nutritious Food Basket)
- Support access to nourishing food to meet the lifelong nutritional needs of all Durham Region residents.

#### **Education**

- Develop educational tools to inform residents about the connections between health, nutrition, food choices and disease prevention in homes, schools, and other institutions.
- Build food skills and food safety knowledge.
- Initiate social marketing to raise awareness and encourage consumers to purchase locally produced and processed food.
- Support community food programs and planning that reduce the need to access emergency food resources.
- Encourage individual and communal self-reliance.

#### **Culture of Food**

- Enhance the dignity and joy of growing, preparing and eating food.

**"Planning food into our future ensures healthier people and healthy communities"**



## **Appendix B: Durham Food Policy Mission Values and Objectives**

### **Mission Statement**

To create an environment that supports community food security through food sovereignty and a sustainable local food system in the Region of Durham.

### **Values**

The work of the DFPC is directed by the Durham Region Food Charter. The Durham Food Charter is a community-based document that reflects the communities' shared values and principles about community food security upon which food-related policies and actions can be based. On November 25th 2009, the Regional Municipality of Durham passed a motion to endorse the Durham Region food charter as a community document.

### **Objectives**

To bring together stakeholders from the food system (which include: farmers/growers, processors, distributors, consumers, and waste recycling), as well as government representatives, civil society organizations, food interest groups, and concerned residents.

To promote the goals of the Durham Region Food Charter and oversee its promotion and implementation.

To educate and empower local residents about the food system, benefits of local food, and how to access/grow local food.

To promote a sustainable local food infrastructure that will support the economic viability of farmers and connect local food with the community in a safe, relevant, and affordable manner.

To support the promotion and development of local food initiatives.

To influence and advise on the development of personal, organizational, and government food policies.

To create opportunities for youth to influence and advise on local food initiatives and policies.

## Appendix C: Community Gardens in Durham

Location/Garden	# of plots	Fee for Plot	Land Owned by Municipality	Land Owned by other	Ecological / organic practice	Access by Public Transit	Plans for Expansion	Contributes to community services
Ajax								
Forest Brook Community Garden	2 large	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Community Development Council Durham	2 raised beds	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
St. Andrew Community Garden	70	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Brock								
Maple Tree Community Garden	20	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Clarington								
Bowmanville Community Garden	17	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Bowmanville Allotment Garden	40	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Hope Fellowship Community Gardens	6	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Oshawa								
Grassmere Garden of Health OCHC	20	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Mary Street Com. Garden	40	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Salvation Army Garden	21	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Windfield Community Garden	18	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Legend Centre	45	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
St. Matthews Community Garden	6	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Trent University Campus Garden	6	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Pickering								
Valley Plentiful Community Garden	71	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Uxbridge								
Garden of Eatin	2 large	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes
Whitby								
Hebron Community Garden	20	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Whitby Ajax Community Garden	116	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Glenhill Senior Apartments	16	No	No	Yes	Yes	n/a	No	Yes

## Appendix D: Feed the Need in Durham Membership<sup>118</sup>

AGENCY NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE	SERVICE TYPE
Faith Family Church	158 Harwood Ave. S., Ste 203, Ajax, ON L1S 2H6	905-619-1109 ext 305	Food Bank
Life Point Church	15 Harmony Road N. Ajax, ON L1T 3T8	905-686-0641	Food Bank
Southside Worship Centre / Storehouse Food Bank	55 Emporor Street Ajax ON L1S 1M9	905-428-1985	Food Bank
The Salvation Army - Ajax (Pickering)	37 King's Crescent Ajax, ON L1S 2L8	905 427-7123	Food Bank
Seventh Day Adventist - Bowmanville	2850 Hwy#2 East Bowmanville, ON L1C 3K8	Church 905-623-6031 Director 905-697-9701	Food Bank
St. Vincent de Paul Society - St Joseph's (Bowmanville)	127 Liberty Street Bowmanville, ON L1C 2P5	905-623-6371	Food Bank
The Salvation Army – Bowmanville	75 Liberty St South Bowmanville, ON L1C 2N8	905-623-2185	Food Bank
Brock Healthy Harvest Food Program (Nourish & Develop Foundation)	33 Cameron St. East Cannington ON L0E 1E0	705-432-2444	Food Bank
Newcastle Baptist Church	200 King St East Newcastle, ON L1B 1H5	905-987-5549	Food Bank
Durham College / UOIT	2000 Simcoe Street Oshawa, ON L1H 7L7	905-721-2000 ext 2315	Food Bank
Eating Well Ministries	73-2 Celina Street Oshawa, ON L1H 4N1	905-579-1706	Food Bank
Erie Street Gospel Centre	17 Erie Street Oshawa, ON L1H 3R1	Church 905-433-1438	Food Bank
Knox Presbyterian Church	147 Simcoe St N Oshawa ON L1G 4S6	905-728-8673	Food Bank
Seventh Day Adventist Community Services Centre	1170 King Street East Oshawa, ON L1H 1H9	905-433-8800	Food Bank

Simcoe Hall Settlement House	387 Simcoe St S Oshawa, ON L1H 4J2	905-728-7525	Food Bank
St. Peter's Food Bank	1175 Cedar Street Oshawa, ON L1J 3R8	905-725-5471	Food Bank
St. Vincent de Paul Society - St. Gertrude's (Oshawa)	690 King Street East Oshawa, ON L1H 1G5	905-431-1796	Food Bank
St. Vincent de Paul Society - St. Gregory's (Oshawa)	194 Simcoe Street North Oshawa ON L1J 7V9	905-720-0003	Food Bank
St. Vincent de Paul Society - St. Phillip's (Oshawa)	1314 Oxford Street Oshawa, ON L1J 3W6	905-725-3275	Food Bank
The Refuge	300 Court Street Oshawa, ON L1H 4X3	905-404-2420	Food Bank
The Salvation Army - Oshawa	45 King Street East Oshawa, ON L1H 1B2	905 723-7422 ext 21	Food Bank
Brock Community Food Banks (Beaverton & Sunderland)	P.O. Box 500 Sunderland, ON L0C 1H0	705-426-7117	Food Bank
Community Hope Ministries	1630 Concession Road 6 Hampton, ON L0B 1J0	905-263-8487	Food Pantry
St. Vincent's Kitchen (Durham Outlook for the Needy)	51 King Street East Oshawa, ON L1H 1B4	905 434-7543	Kitchen
John Howard Society	132 Church St. Bowmanville, ON L1C 1T5	905-623-6814	Program
Aids Committee of Durham Region	202-22 King Street W Oshawa, ON L1H 1A3	905 576-1445	Program
Boys and Girls Club Durham	433 Eulalie Avenue Oshawa, ON L1H 2C6	905-728-5121 ext 222	Program
Canadian Mental Health Association of Durham	60 Bond Street West Oshawa, ON L1G 1A5	905 436-8760	Program
Community Living Oshawa/Clarington	39 Wellington St E Oshawa, ON L1H 3Y1	905-576-3261 ext 119 905-576-3011	Program
Durham Continuing Education	120 Centre St S Oshawa, ON L1H 4A3	905-436-3211	Program
Durham Family Court Clinic DFCC	44 Richmond St. W., Ste. 201 Oshawa, ON L1G 1C7	905-436-6754	Program
Gate 3:16 Outreach Centre	394 Simcoe St.S Oshawa ON L1H 4J4	905 432-5316	Program

Hearth Place Cancer Support Centre	86 Colborne St. W. Oshawa, ON L1G 1L7	905 579-4833	Program
Ministry of Children & Youth Services (Youth Justice Services)	3-470 King St W Oshawa ON L1J 2K9	905-433-7612 ext 313	Program
Ajax Branch	12-235 Bayly St W. Ajax, ON L1S 3K3	905 683-1250 ext 209	
New Life Neighbourhood Centre	33 Olive Avenue Oshawa ON L1H 2N7	905-836-5906 or 905-404-2004	Program
Oshawa Community Health Centre	115 Grassmere Avenue Oshawa, ON L1H 3X7	905 723-0036	Program
Park Road South Community Home	81 Park Road South Oshawa L1G 4G7	905 243-5505	Program
Rose of Durham	200 Bond Street West Oshawa ON L1J 2L7	905-432-3622	Program
Willow Park Co-operative Homes	610 Beatrice Street East #15 Oshawa, ON L1K 2J1	905-432-6809	Program
YWCA Durham	33 McGrigor St. Oshawa, ON L1H 1X8	905 576-6356	Program
Durham Youth Housing & Support Services - Joanne's House	82 Kings Cres. Ajax, ON L1S 2M6	905 239-9377	Shelter
W.I.N.G.S.	1 Radford Drive Ajax, ON L1T 1V9	289-314-2705	Shelter
Bethesda House	P.O. Box 82 Bowmanville, ON L1C 3K8	905 623- 6045	Shelter
The Denise House	P.O. Box 30560 Oshawa, ON L1J 8L8	905-728-7311	Shelter
Muslim Welfare Home	425 Dundas St East Whitby, ON L1N 2J2	905 665-0424	Shelter
Cornerstone Community Assoc. of Durham Inc.	133 Simcoe St. South Oshawa, ON L1H 4G8	905-433-0254 ext 234	Shelter for Men

## Appendix E: Proposed Food System Report Card (Policy Framework)

	Region of Durham	Ajax	Clarington	Brock	Oshawa	Pickering	Scugog	Uxbridge	Whitby
<b>Food Sovereignty</b>									
- endorses the Region of Durham Food Charter									
- member of Food Policy Council									
- has included the DRFC in its official plan									
Has designated a council champion									
Has identified the role of each of their Departments and standing committee									
- walkable access to nutritious food									
- works to eliminate food deserts by encouraging development of grocery stores and farmers markets within 10 kilometers of each residential area									
- provides education and informational materials on healthy lifestyles and nutritious food									
- promotes and accommodates through zoning and incentive programs the development of community food hubs									
<b>Community gardens</b>									
- has identified lands close to residential areas for community gardens									
- has set targets for community gardens									
- permits community gardens in all land use designations									
- has converted historically flower beds to edible gardens									
- included in plans for neighbourhood green space									
- ensures appropriate zoning for									

protection of gardens									
- provides infrastructure for gardens									
- provides compost									
- provides water (rain water collection etc.)									
- provides top soil									
- provides garden tools									
- provides support and incentives to those on social assistance and limited income to participate in community gardens									
<b>Other forms of Urban Agriculture</b>									
- has designated staff person for urban agriculture									
-permits roof top gardens in all land use designations									
- permits bee keeping									
- permits small animal husbandry (rabbits, chickens)									
- permits cultivation of fish (aquaculture)									
- includes urban agriculture in municipal open space									
- encourages the use of Institutional open space for urban agriculture									
- encourages and supports the not for profit and cooperative housing sector to develop urban agricultural projects and community gardens									
- provides incentives for the development of innovative urban agriculture									
<b>Food Processing</b>									
-support for small scale food processing operations									
- appropriate land use designation to support and encourage food processing for locally grown food									
- provides incentives for the development of food processing operations for locally									

produced food									
- promotes value added and value retention facilities for processing facilities e.g. incubator kitchens									
- promotes incubator kitchens to promote business start-up for locally grown food processing									
- encourages and supports the use of mobile abattoirs									
<b>Distribution</b>									
- promotes “buy local” and provides consumers with information about local food resources									
- encourages local food hubs to manage aggregation, distribution and marketing of source-identified food products from local and regional producers and processors									
- provides appropriate zoning and adequate space and incentives to farmers markets									
- encourages mobile vendors (including trucks, carts, mobile grocery stores etc.) in underserved communities particularly in food deserts									
<b>Procurement and Consumption</b>									
- strongly promotes “buy local” through farmers markets, U-pick, farm gate operations etc.									
- provides locating information to buy local									
- provides information to access emergency food									
- has procurement policy to buy local									
- promotes local produce to restaurants, commercial kitchens and banquet halls through incentives									
- encourages local institutions and									



business to develop a procurement policy to buy local									
<b>Waste Management</b>									
- provides composting bins									
- promotes opportunities for gleaning									
- provides education on climate change									
<b>- Health and Wellbeing</b>									
- promotes healthy lifestyle including participation in community gardens									
- promotes purchasing local nutritious food									
-provides information and recipes for nutritious food									
<b>Education</b>									
- liaises with local school to promote health program for youth									
- makes available information available on how to start a garden									
- provides information and referral to Durham Integrated Growers									
- provides information on Upick, CSAs and Farmers; Markets									
- provides information and referral for emergency food									
- provides information as to volunteer opportunities									
- makes available information on web site									
<b>Have developed measures to monitor outcomes of food initiatives</b>									
<b>Has developed measures to monitor outcomes of actions relating to climate change</b>									

## Appendix F: Summary of Local Policy References

Region of Durham	
Official Plan	9.1.1 To establish a Rural System that supports agriculture and aggregate extraction as key economic industries, and existing rural settlements which support residential, social and commercial functions for the surrounding area.
	9.1.2 To protect and maintain agricultural land for future generations.
	9.1.3 To support a healthy and productive agricultural industry as an important element to the Region's heritage, identity and its economic base.
	9A.1.1 Prime Agricultural Areas consist of areas where <i>prime agricultural lands</i> predominate. They also include areas of lesser agricultural significance (Canada Land Inventory Classes 4 to 7 soils) and additional areas where there is a local concentration of farms which exhibit characteristics of ongoing agriculture. Agricultural Areas shall be used primarily for agriculture and farm-related uses.
	9A.1.2 Regional Council shall discourage fragmentation of the agricultural land base.
	9A.1.3 Regional Council shall encourage the consolidation of agricultural parcels of land.
	9A.1.4 Regional Council shall pursue actions by the Federal and Provincial Governments, and any other authorities having jurisdiction, to support the Region's agricultural industry.
	9A.2.2 Within Prime Agricultural Areas a full range of <i>agricultural, agricultural-related</i> and <i>secondary uses</i> shall be permitted. The establishment of non-agricultural uses in Prime Agricultural Areas shall be strictly limited to forest, fish and wildlife management, conservation, infrastructure, aggregate extraction, existing uses, in accordance with the policies of this Plan, and the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan and Greenbelt Plan where applicable.
	9A.2.3 <i>Agricultural-related uses</i> , such as grain drying and storage for farm produce may be permitted, provided such uses are small in scale and exclusively devoted to the farm operation. Severances for <i>agricultural-related uses</i> shall not be granted.
City of Pickering	
Official Plan	<p>CITY POLICY <i>Rural Goals</i></p> <p>2.21 City Council adopts the following as its goals for its rural system,</p> <p>(a) to protect and enhance the cultural and natural heritage of the rural area, and conserve the rural resource base, including agricultural lands, for existing and future generations;</p>

	<p>(b) to encourage a vibrant rural economy with a wide range of rural uses and activities, including, (i) primary agricultural uses;</p> <p>(ii) complementary and supportive agricultural uses;</p> <p>(iii) outdoor rural recreational uses; and</p> <p>(iv) other compatible rural uses that contribute to the diversity of economic activities in the area;</p>
<b>CITY POLICY</b> <b>TABLE 12:</b> <b><i>Agricultural Areas</i></b> <b><i>and Oak Ridges Moraine Countryside Areas:</i></b> <b><i>Permissible Uses</i></b>	<p>Primary agricultural uses such as,</p> <p>Growing crops, including nursery and horticultural crops;</p> <p>Raising livestock and other animals, including poultry and fish; Aquaculture, agro-forestry, maple syrup production;</p> <p>Farm-related residential dwellings, existing lawful residential dwellings, a new residential dwelling on a vacant lot, home occupations. Complementary and supportive agricultural uses such as, Agricultural industries; Home businesses; Farm-related businesses producing agricultural products from farm operations, such as value-added processing and packing operations of agricultural products, roadside produce stands retailing products from the farming operation, farm vacations as part of a farming operation, and cottage wineries processing produce from local farming operations;</p> <p>Other farm-related businesses, such as horse shows and riding schools and auctions of farm produce, livestock and equipment as a component of a farming operation.</p>
<b>Town of Ajax</b>	
<b>Official Plan</b>	<p><b>2.1.7 Urban Agriculture</b></p> <p><i>Urban agriculture</i> shall mean the growing of produce (i.e., fruits and vegetables) and flowers in community gardens, and smaller scale gardening on public and private land, yards, and structures, such as rooftops, but shall exclude the raising of any animals, livestock or poultry, including chickens.</p> <p>The Town's goal is to promote agriculture activities within the Urban Area that are compatible with planned land uses, while enhancing access to locally grown produce, lowering energy consumption, reducing transportation costs and greenhouse gas emissions, and augmenting supplies of fresh and preserved foods.</p> <p>To achieve this goal, the Town shall:</p> <p>a) Promote the growing and sharing of a wide variety of local produce and preserved foods and flowers year-round;</p> <p>b) Encourage the establishment of community gardens in suitable locations having maximum exposure to sunlight. Community gardens shall not be permitted in the Environmental Protection designation and in areas contaminated by existing or previous land uses. Community gardens and associated accessory structures, such as garden sheds, shall be minor in scale and secondary to the primary permitted land use(s);</p> <p>c) Require proponents of community gardens, on privately and publicly owned land, that are to be open to public use, to enter into an agreement with the Town, including addressing the requirements, if any, of the owner(s) of the land on which</p>

	<p>such a garden is to be located. This agreement would include, as a minimum, the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) the organizational structure for those persons or groups proposing to manage the garden;</li> <li>ii) a concept sketch of the garden, indicating provision of adequate parking, drainage, and access for the location and scope of operation;</li> <li>iii) the source of water for irrigation, with preference for efficient use of precipitation captured in rain barrels and cisterns, rather than municipally-treated water, whenever possible;</li> <li>iv) the prohibition of lighting;</li> <li>v) a maintenance plan detailing daily and seasonal operations, procedures, and requirements, for spring start-up, the growing season, and garden closure in the fall; and,</li> <li>vi) indication that there will be no <i>adverse effects</i> on the enjoyment of nearby properties;</li> </ul> <p>d) Encourage gardens on public and private lands designed to capture and infiltrate surface runoff;</p> <p>e) Require the use of clean topsoil, compost and mulch;</p> <p>f) Encourage gardens to be designed with elements, such as elevated or tiered planting beds with wide aisles/paths between plots, that accommodate access by gardeners with disabilities and situational impairment;</p> <p>g) Promote fruit and vegetable gardening in the yards of residential, “clean” commercial and “clean” industrial properties, greenhouses, and containers on balconies and porches, and on rooftops;</p> <p>h) Support the establishment of seasonal or year-round marketplaces in key locations where locally grown and preserved foods can be sold, and function as places of social interaction; and,</p> <p>i) Consider establishing permanent agricultural easements to secure lands for community gardens in perpetuity.</p>
<b>Town of Whitby</b>	
<b>Official Plan</b>	<p>4.10 Agriculture</p> <p>4.10.1 Goals</p> <p>4.10.1.1 To maintain the agricultural area of the Municipality consistent with the preservation of its natural amenities, its agricultural function and existing rural settlement pattern.</p>

	<p>4.10.2 Objectives</p> <p>4.10.2.1 To preserve high capability agricultural lands for farming and related uses on a long-term basis.</p> <p>4.10.2.2 To promote conditions which encourage the efficient operation of agricultural uses within the Municipality.</p> <p>4.10.2.3 To control development of non-farm uses in the rural area.</p> <p>4.10.3 Policies</p> <p>4.10.3.1 Areas designated as Agriculture on Schedule "A" shall be predominantly used for agricultural activities and farm related uses, including the use of land, buildings or structures for food production, animal husbandry, nurseries, floral and greenhouse products, market gardening, secondary agricultural uses, and agricultural related uses that are ancillary to agricultural production, the primary function of which is to serve the needs of the local rural population. Retail stands for the sale of agricultural products originating from the farm unit upon which the stand is to be situated shall be permitted in accordance with the Zoning By-law.</p> <p>4.10.3.2 Notwithstanding Section 4.10.3.1, kennels and fur farms may be permitted on existing lots of record provided that such uses are zoned in the Zoning By-laws an exception, do not create nuisance for surrounding uses and have no adverse impacts on surrounding farm operations.</p> <p>4.10.3.3 Fish, wildlife and forest management uses as well as conservation projects and erosion control projects may be permitted in addition to the uses identified in Section 4.10.3.1 within the Oak Ridges Moraine Secondary Plan Area.</p> <p>4.10.3.4 A bonafide farmer may be permitted to establish an accessory dwelling on the existing farm to accommodate persons employed full time in the farm operation in accordance with the Zoning By-law. The severance of such accessory dwelling shall not be permitted.</p> <p>4.10.3.5 Severances in designated Agricultural areas shall not be permitted for purely non-farm residential purposes outside of recognized rural settlement areas on Schedule "A".</p> <p>4.10.3.6 Farm related severances for the purposes of property consolidations, lot line adjustments, the disposing of farmhouses made surplus through abutting farm consolidations, and farmer retirement lots shall be permitted in accordance with the provisions contained in Section 12 of the Durham Regional Official Plan.</p> <p>4.10.3.7 No new residential development will be permitted in close proximity to livestock operations and shall comply with the minimum distance separation requirements of the Agricultural Minimum Distance Separation Formulae. Conversely, no new large scale animal or poultry establishments, or extensions thereto to create large scale animal or poultry establishments, will be permitted in close proximity to residential uses, and shall comply with the Agricultural Minimum Distance Separation Formulae.</p> <p>4.10.3.8 Golf courses may only be permitted subject to an application to amend this Plan and in accordance with the provisions set out in Section 12 of the Durham Regional Official Plan. Notwithstanding this policy, no new golf courses shall be permitted within the Oak</p>
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	<p>Ridges Moraine Secondary Plan Area.</p> <p>4.10.3.9 Lands designated as Agriculture are to be kept free from urban encroachment. The creation of parcels of land will maintain a size that will be useful for agricultural purposes in the long term.</p> <p>4.10.3.10 Lands designated for future urban purposes and vacant lots of record shall be encouraged to be used for agricultural purposes until such time as development occurs.</p> <p>4.10.3.11 No new commercial facilities will be permitted in rural areas outside of the hamlets unless by amendment to this Plan. Any existing or proposed commercial facilities will be encouraged to locate in hamlets, and to consolidate in nodes with common entrances and exits.</p>
<b>City of Oshawa</b>	
<b>Official Plan</b>	<p>2.8 Agricultural</p> <p>2.8.1 General</p> <p>2.8.1.1 It is the intent of this Plan to preserve quality farmland in order to protect a non-renewable resource and to encourage agricultural operations.</p> <p>2.8.1.2 Areas designated as Agricultural on Schedule "A" shall be used predominantly for agriculture and farm-related uses which shall include the use of land, buildings, or structures for uses such as farm-related residential dwellings, field crops, livestock and dairy operations, fruits and orchards, nurseries, poultry operations, forestry, market gardening and retail stands for the sale of agriculture products produced on the farm unit.</p> <p>2.8.1.3 Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 2.8.1.2, a farm implement dealership may be allowed in any specific location in areas designated as Agricultural provided that such use:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Is compatible with the surrounding uses;</li> <li>(b) Is not located on highly productive agricultural lands; and</li> <li>(c) Is recognized in a special zoning category for that use.</li> </ul> <p>2.8.1.4 New developments in the areas designated as Agricultural shall comply with the Agricultural Code of Practice.</p> <p>2.8.1.5 Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 2.8.1.2, to the contrary, kennels or fur farms may be permitted in areas designated as Agricultural provided that such uses are compatible with their surrounding uses, comply with the requirements of the Agricultural Code of Practice, and are recognized in a special zoning category in the zoning by-law. (OPA 78)</p> <p>2.8.2 Farm Related Residential</p> <p>2.8.2.1 In areas designated as Agricultural, a second permanent or portable manufactured farm-related dwelling on the existing farm parcel for persons employed on the farm may be permitted provided that a severance to create a separate parcel is not required. (OPA 78)</p> <p>2.8.2.2 The development of new non-farm residential dwellings and other uses unrelated to agriculture shall not be permitted in areas designated as Agricultural except in accordance with Section 2.8.2.3 and Section 2.8.2.4.</p> <p>2.8.2.3 Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 2.8.1.2, non-farm residential uses</p>

	<p>may be allowed through the consent process in areas designated as Agricultural in accordance with the relevant provisions of Sections 2.7.4 and 9.9 of this Plan and the relevant provisions of the Durham Regional Official Plan.</p> <p>2.8.2.4 Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 2.8.1.2, a single family residential dwelling may be permitted on an existing lot of record subject to the following:</p> <p>(a) Inclusion of appropriate provisions in the zoning by-law, and</p> <p>(b) The lot having frontage on a public highway which has been assumed for public use as a highway and is fully maintained year round including winter snow and ice control by the City of Oshawa or the Region.</p> <p>2.8.2.5 To maintain viable sized farming operations and minimize the fragmentation of lands designated as Agricultural, the creation of new land parcels for farming purpose shall generally not be less than 40 hectares (99 ac.) in area.</p> <p>(OPA 78)</p> <p>2.8.3.3 Areas designated as Agricultural ORM – Natural Linkage on Schedule "A" shall be used predominantly for agricultural and accessory uses which shall include the use of land, buildings, or structures for uses such as field crops, livestock and dairy operations, fruits and orchards, nurseries, poultry operations, stables, forestry, market gardening and retail stands for the sale of agriculture products produced on the farm unit. Areas designated as Agricultural ORM – Natural Linkage may also be used for fish, wildlife and forest management, conservation projects, flood and erosion control projects, and low intensity recreation uses.</p>
<b>Municipality of Clarington</b>	
<b>Official Plan</b>	<p>13.1 GOAL</p> <p>13.1.1 To encourage and support the agricultural industry as an important part of the Municipality's economic base.</p> <p>13.2 OBJECTIVES</p> <p>13.2.1 To preserve high quality agricultural lands for farming purposes.</p> <p>13.2.2 To promote stewardship of agricultural lands for future generations.</p> <p>13.2.3 To direct non-farm uses to settlement areas.</p> <p>13.3 POLICIES</p> <p>13.3.1 Prime Agricultural Areas and General Agricultural Areas are designated on Map A. Unless otherwise stated, the policies within Chapter 4 are applicable on lands designated Prime Agricultural Area and General Agricultural Area located within the limits of the Oak Ridges Moraine as shown on Map A.</p> <p>13.3.2 Prime Agricultural Areas shall be used only for farm and farm-related uses including the use of land, buildings and structures for nurseries, the growing of crops and the raising of livestock. <i>Home-based occupations</i> in accordance with Section 9.3.6 of this Plan and limited <i>home industry</i> uses are permitted. Seasonal farm produce stands may be permitted provided the produce is grown locally.</p> <p>13.3.3 General Agricultural Areas shall be predominantly used for farm and farm-related uses in accordance with</p>

	<p>Section 13.3.2. In addition, lands so designated may also be used for farm-related industrial/commercial uses in accordance with Section 13.3.6, <i>home-based occupations</i> in accordance with Section 9.3.6 of this Plan, limited <i>home industry</i> uses, riding and boarding stables, dog kennels, fur farms, sod farms, <i>farm produce outlets</i> and other similar uses provided that such uses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) are compatible with the <i>existing</i> and/or designated land uses in the surrounding areas and do not generate excessive amounts of odour, traffic and other nuisances;</li> <li>b) do not conflict with any surrounding agricultural operations;</li> <li>c) are not located on Class 1 or Class 2</li> </ul>
<b>Township of Scugog</b>	
<b>Official Plan</b>	<p><b>2.3 AGRICULTURE</b></p> <p>Agricultural lands are an integral part of the economy of the Township. As such, the Township will continue to protect agricultural and value-added agricultural operations and resources. This goal will be achieved by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Protecting Prime Agricultural lands and ensuring that non-agricultural uses that may have an impact on the viability of farm operations are not permitted;</li> <li>b) Prohibiting fragmentation of agricultural lands and encouraging the consolidation of farming parcels to improve efficiency and productivity;</li> <li>c) Encouraging small scale secondary uses to develop on farm properties to ensure value-added operations and to improve the livelihood of area farmers; and,</li> <li>d) Encourage local agricultural food production, processing and distribution.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>5.1 AGRICULTURAL</b></p> <p>The <i>Agricultural</i> designation applies to lands that are within the Greenbelt Plan established by the Province of Ontario. Lands within the <i>Agricultural</i> designation are considered by this Plan to be lands which have a high capability for agriculture. Lands that generally have soil Classes 1, 2 and 3 according to the Canada Land Inventory and lands that are predominantly used for agriculture are in the <i>Agricultural</i> designation as identified on Schedule A.</p> <p><b>5.1.1 Objectives</b></p> <p>The objectives of this designation are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Recognize agriculture as the primary activity and land use;</li> <li>b) Maintain and preserve the agricultural resource base of the Township and encourage the consolidation of agricultural farm parcels;</li> <li>c) Protect land suitable for agricultural production from fragmentation, development and land uses unrelated to agriculture;</li> <li>d) Promote the agricultural industry and associated activities and enhance their capacity to contribute to the economy of the Township;</li> <li>e) Preserve and promote the agricultural character of the Township and the maintenance of the natural countryside as an open space area;</li> <li>f) Provide for opportunities for further aggregate and possible mineral extraction in the Township; and,</li> <li>g) Implement the Greenbelt Plan.</li> </ul>



## NOTES

<sup>1</sup><http://www.ohcc-ccso.ca/en/courses/community-development-for-health-promoters/module-two-process-strategies-and-roles/tool-mapp> Ontario Healthy Communities, accessed Sept 1, 2013

<sup>2</sup> Earle, Ben, A Snap Shot of Food Security in the Region of Durham; Community Development Council Durham, 2006

<sup>3</sup> Statistics Canada, 2011 Census of Agriculture, Farm and Farm Operator Data, catalogue no. 95-640-XWE.

<sup>4</sup> Statistics Canada, 2006 Census of Agriculture, Farm and Farm Operator Data, catalogue no. 95-629-XWE.

<sup>5</sup> Planscape. 2012. *Greater Toronto Area: Profile of Agriculture and Agri-Business in the GTA*. p. 87.

<sup>6</sup> Statistics Canada, 2011 Census of Agriculture, Farm Data and Farm Operator Data, catalogue no. 95-640-XWE and Statistics Canada, 2006 Census of Agriculture, Farm Data and Farm Operator Data, catalogue no. 95-629-XWE.

<sup>7</sup> Statistics Canada, 2011 Census of Agriculture, Farm Data and Farm Operator Data, catalogue no. 95-640-XWE.

<sup>8</sup> Statistics Canada, 2006 Census of Agriculture, Farm Data and Farm Operator Data, catalogue no. 95-629-XWE.

<sup>9</sup> Statistics Canada, 2011 Census of Agriculture, Farm Data and Farm Operator Data, catalogue no. 95-640-XWE and Statistics Canada, 1981 Census of Agriculture, Farm Data and Farm Operator Data.

<sup>10</sup> Statistics Canada, 2011 Census of Agriculture, Farm Data and Farm Operator Data, catalogue no. 95-640-XWE and Statistics Canada, 2006 Census of Agriculture, Farm Data and Farm Operator Data, catalogue no. 95-629-XWE.

<sup>11</sup> Statistics Canada, 2011 Census of Agriculture, Farm Data and Farm Operator Data, catalogue no. 95-640-XWE and Statistics Canada, 2006 Census of Agriculture, Farm Data and Farm Operator Data, catalogue no. 95-629-XWE.

<sup>12</sup> Statistics Canada, 2011 Census of Agriculture, Farm Data and Farm Operator Data, catalogue no. 95-640-XWE.

<sup>13</sup> <http://metcalfoundation.com/publications-resources/view/places-to-farm/#.UIKvmlCkp5c>

<sup>14</sup> Statistics Canada, 2011 Census of Agriculture, Farm Data and Farm Operator Data, catalogue no. 95-640-XWE and Statistics Canada, 2006 Census of Agriculture, Farm Data and Farm Operator Data, catalogue no. 95-629-XWE.

<sup>15</sup> Statistics Canada, 2011 Census of Agriculture, Farm Data and Farm Operator Data, catalogue no. 95-640-XWE and Statistics Canada, 2006 Census of Agriculture, Farm Data and Farm Operator Data, catalogue no. 95-629-XWE.

<sup>16</sup> A product is considered to be official organically grown in Canada it is produced using the methods outlined by the Canadian Organic Standards. These standards may be found at: <http://www.tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca/ongc-cgsb/programme-program/normes-standards/internet/bio-org/principes-principles-eng.html> and <http://www.tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca/ongc-cgsb/programme-program/normes-standards/internet/bio-org/permises-permitted-eng.html>

<sup>17</sup> <http://www.davidsuzuki.org/what-you-can-do/food-and-our-planet/food-and-climate-change/>

<sup>18</sup> [http://durhamorganicgardeners.com/?page\\_id=115](http://durhamorganicgardeners.com/?page_id=115)

<sup>19</sup>

[http://www.organiccouncil.ca/directory?page=CiviCRM&q=civicrm/profile&qf\\_Search\\_display=true&qfKey=495e66c969705404ebeb47dcd382bc3e\\_443](http://www.organiccouncil.ca/directory?page=CiviCRM&q=civicrm/profile&qf_Search_display=true&qfKey=495e66c969705404ebeb47dcd382bc3e_443)

<sup>20</sup> Statistics Canada, 2011 Census of Agriculture, Farm Data and Farm Operator Data, catalogue no. 95-640-XWE.

<sup>21</sup> Ibid.

<sup>22</sup> RUAF Foundation <http://www.ruaf.org/node/512>

<sup>23</sup> For details on the activities that constitute urban agriculture see, <http://theurbanfarmer.ca/resources/urban-agriculture/>

<sup>24</sup> Vijojoen, A. & Bohn, K. 2005. Continuous Productive Urban Landscapes: Urban agriculture as an essential infrastructure. *US Magazine* (December).

<sup>25</sup> Resources Centres on Urban Agriculture and Food Security

<sup>26</sup> RUAF Foundation <http://www.ruaf.org/node/512>

<sup>27</sup> For a detailed discussion of the potential impacts of urban agriculture see the RUAF Foundation document *Why is urban agriculture important*, Online at: <http://www.ruaf.org/node/513>

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<sup>28</sup> <http://www.sharingbackyards.com/>

<sup>29</sup> <http://www.onborrowedground.com/index.html>

<sup>30</sup> <http://www.trca.on.ca/the-living-city/programs-of-the-living-city/near-urban-agriculture/>

<sup>31</sup> <http://www.trca.on.ca/the-living-city/index.dot>

<sup>32</sup> <http://www.trca.on.ca/the-living-city/programs-of-the-living-city/near-urban-agriculture/farmstart-mcvean-new-farmers-project.dot>

<sup>33</sup> <http://everdale.org/blackcreek/>

<sup>34</sup> [http://www.foodshare.net/files/www/Growing/Community\\_Gardening\\_101.pdf](http://www.foodshare.net/files/www/Growing/Community_Gardening_101.pdf)

<sup>35</sup> Ibid.

<sup>36</sup> <http://www.durhamdigs.ca/>

<sup>37</sup> A Farm Gate Operation generally involves front-line, or on-site sale of produce from an agricultural or garden site. The WAGP operates a farm gate operation as a social enterprise, which is a revenue generating activity (business) that contributes all proceeds back to the projects operations.

<sup>38</sup> Mukherji, N. & Morales, A. 2010. Zoning for Urban Agriculture. *Zoning Practice*. 3(10): 2-7.

<sup>39</sup> For a full discussion of how municipalities may support zoning practices that encourage urban agricultural activities, see Mukherji, N. & Morales, A. 2010. Zoning for Urban Agriculture. *Zoning Practice*. 3(10): 2-7.

<sup>40</sup> There are many examples of other Canadian municipal jurisdictions supporting policies and practices that encourage the development of urban agricultural initiatives, including:

The City of Vancouver's approval of a Food Action Plan (<http://www.city.vancouver.bc.ca/ctyclerk/cclerk/20031209/rr1.htm>).

Since 1985, the City of Montreal has used community gardening zoning since and has a designated

Permanent Agricultural Zone (PAZ), which includes approximately 4% of the city's land.

In 2004, the City of Ottawa adopted a *Community Garden Program Action Plan*, which modifies the zoning code to allow for the development of community gardens in all zones (except for environmentally sensitive zones), providing free water access for garden projects and covering liability insurance for community gardens.

The City of Toronto adopted a food charter in 2001 and the City Plan encourages the development of community gardens.

<sup>41</sup> Town of Ajax. 2012. *Official Plan*. Available online at:

[http://www.ajax.ca/en/doingbusinessinajax/resources/PDPLN\\_P\\_OPConsolidation\\_10feb12\\_FullDocument\\_FINAL.pdf](http://www.ajax.ca/en/doingbusinessinajax/resources/PDPLN_P_OPConsolidation_10feb12_FullDocument_FINAL.pdf)

<sup>42</sup> Ibid, p. 17.

<sup>43</sup> Ibid, p. 17.

<sup>44</sup> <http://www.kamloops.ca/environment/pdfs/07-UrbanAgriculture-BestPractices.pdf>

<sup>45</sup> [http://www.oshawa.ca/agendas/City\\_Council/2012/01\\_09\\_2012/RF6\\_RMD\\_Strategy\\_Agri\\_Food\\_Industry.pdf](http://www.oshawa.ca/agendas/City_Council/2012/01_09_2012/RF6_RMD_Strategy_Agri_Food_Industry.pdf)

<sup>46</sup> <http://www.investdurham.ca/Assets/Publications/ApprovedStudiesStrategies/AgriculturalStrategy.pdf>

<sup>47</sup> Earle, Ben, Durham Region Food Security Snap Shot, Community Development Council Durham, 2006

<sup>48</sup> <http://www.investdurham.ca/Assets/Publications/ApprovedStudiesStrategies/AgriculturalStrategy.pdf>

<sup>49</sup> Ibid, p. 7.

<sup>50</sup> <http://www.investdurham.ca/Assets/Publications/ApprovedStudiesStrategies/Durham%20RegionFederalAbattoirBusinessPlan.pdf>

<sup>51</sup> Full plans for the plant have not been publically released at the time of this report, however, initial details may be found at

<http://www.durhamregion.com/news-story/3875084-del-monte-to-open-oshawa-processing-plant/>

<sup>52</sup> This project is in the very early stages of development, with the industry of focus only recently being identified. B. Earle, one of the authors of this report, sits on the project steering committee and is sourcing this information from a personal communication with the project coordinators.

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<sup>53</sup> A Farm Gate, or Roadside, operation is an entry-level approach to direct farm marketing involving little capital investment, roadside/farm gate sales can be as simple as a wagon or as elaborate as a small shed located at the end of your driveway.

<sup>54</sup> U-Pick, or Pick-Your-Own, operations use consumer directed approaches to food and other agriculture product procurement (e.g. Christmas Trees, Pumpkins). They generally involve customers entering agricultural grow sites (fields, orchards) to procure products directly from the “ground”.

<sup>55</sup> For a detailed discussion of Direct Farm Marketing, see the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food at <http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/busdev/facts/11-011.htm#directfarm>

<sup>56</sup> A Farm Gate, or Roadside, operation is an entry-level approach to direct farm marketing involving little capital investment, roadside/farm gate sales can be as simple as a wagon or as elaborate as a small shed located at the end of your driveway.

<sup>57</sup> U-Pick, or Pick-Your-Own, operations use consumer directed approaches to food and other agriculture product procurement (e.g. Christmas Trees, Pumpkins). They generally involve customers entering agricultural grow sites (fields, orchards) to procure products directly from the “ground”.

<sup>58</sup> We acknowledge that “locally grown” does not have a standard, agreed upon definition. We are using it here to denote Durham Region, however, the DFPC acknowledges that a healthy and sustainable food system includes food production, processes and distribution that may not be located within the confines of the Region of Durham. Thus, we do posit a strict definition of “locally grown” but simply use it here to address our community.

<sup>59</sup> The **Durham Farm Fresh** Marketing Association is a not for profit membership based organization established in 1993. Our goal is to help local producers, and others committed to local food, market their local products to our local community (<http://durhamfarmfresh.ca/>).

<sup>60</sup> <http://durhamfarmfresh.ca/farm-food-directory/>

<sup>61</sup> Ibid.

<sup>62</sup> Ibid.

<sup>63</sup> Swenson, D. 2009. “Investigating the Potential Economic Impacts of Local Foods for Southeast Iowa.” Ames, IA: Iowa State University. (Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture).

<sup>64</sup> Ogryzlo, L. 2012. “\$10 Challenge, Billion Dollar Impact.” The Ontario Table. Available online: <http://www.ontariotable.com/10-challenge-billion-dollar-impact/>.

<sup>65</sup> For example, Shuman, M. Undated. “Economic Impact of Localizing Detroit’s Food System.” Ann Arbor, MI. (Fair Food Foundation); Harry Cummings and Associates. 2012. Projects: Agriculture and Rural Development. Published Online: <http://www.hcaconsulting.ca/Projects/AgricultureandRuralDevelopment.aspx>.

<sup>66</sup> Harry Cummings and Associates. 2009. “Temiskaming District Agricultural Economic Sector Profile.” Published Online: <http://hcaconsulting.ca/pdfs/2009%20Temiskaming%20District%20Agri%20Economic%20Impact.pdf>.

<sup>67</sup> <http://csafarms.ca/CSA%20farmers.htm>

<sup>68</sup> <http://www.foodshare.net/community-kitchens>

<sup>69</sup> This listing was provided to the authors of this report in hard copy format by our colleagues at the Region of Durham and is up-to-date as of September 26, 2013.

<sup>70</sup> This listing was provided to the authors of this report in hard copy format by our colleagues at the Region of Durham and is up-to-date as of September 26, 2013.

<sup>71</sup> <http://www.foodispower.org/food-deserts/>

<sup>72</sup> Region of Durham Health Department Facility Listing. This listing was provided to the authors of this report in hard copy format by our colleagues at the Region of Durham and is up-to-date as of September 26, 2013.

<sup>73</sup> [https://www.intranet.durham.edu.on.ca/Applications/DDSBPPI.nsf/\(webprint\)?openagent&srch=3310](https://www.intranet.durham.edu.on.ca/Applications/DDSBPPI.nsf/(webprint)?openagent&srch=3310) Durham District School Board, Policies and Procedures, accessed August 22, 2013

<sup>74</sup> <https://www.intranet.durham.edu.on.ca/Applications/DDSBPPI.nsf/0/8525751600711C4F85257873006D4511?opendocument> Durham District School Board, Procedure 5565 - Food and Beverage, accessed August 22, 2013

<sup>75</sup> <http://www.ddsb.ca/Programs/OutdoorEducation/Pages/default.aspx>. Durham District School Board, Outdoor Education Policies, Accessed August 22, 2013

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<sup>76</sup> <http://ecosource.ca/school-food-action-coalition/>

<sup>77</sup> At the time of this writing this process is still in the proposal stages with no public timelines currently set.

<sup>78</sup> See the Greenbelt Foundation report, *Connecting the Links: Foodservice in the Broader Public Sector* (<http://ontariofresh.ca/sites/default/files/files/resources/Combined%20Supply%20Chain%20and%20BPS%20overview-FINAL.pdf>)

<sup>79</sup> See Policy and Program Memorandum no. 150, pertaining to School Food and Beverage Policy (<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/extra/eng/ppm/150.html>)

<sup>80</sup> <http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/healthyschools/foundations.pdf>

<sup>81</sup> <http://www.durham.ca/departments/works/waste/reports/annual2012report.pdf>

<sup>82</sup> <http://www.scientificamerican.com/article.cfm?id=food-waste-to-energy>

<sup>83</sup> [http://www.edmonton.ca/for\\_residents/garbage\\_recycling/biofuels-facility.aspx](http://www.edmonton.ca/for_residents/garbage_recycling/biofuels-facility.aspx)

<sup>84</sup> <http://www.who.int/trade/glossary/story028/en/>

<sup>85</sup> Ibid

<sup>86</sup> Ibid

<sup>87</sup> [http://peoplesfoodpolicy.ca/files/localizingthefoodsystem\\_final2\\_0.pdf](http://peoplesfoodpolicy.ca/files/localizingthefoodsystem_final2_0.pdf)

<sup>88</sup> <http://www.wdm.org.uk/what-food-sovereignty> World Development “What is Food Sovereignty”.

<sup>89</sup> Region of Durham Health Department. 2013. *The Price of Eating Well in Durham Region*.

<sup>90</sup> Ibid, p. 2.

<sup>91</sup> Ibid, p. 3.

<sup>92</sup> **Marginal** food insecurity reported one food-insecure condition; **Moderate** food insecurity reported compromise in quality and/or quantity food consumed among adults and/or children; **Severe** food insecurity reported reduced food intake and disrupted eating patterns among adults and/or children.

<sup>93</sup> The Ontario Ministry of Finance projects the population for the province based on three scenarios: high growth, low growth, and a reference scenario (2011, p. 5). These scenarios are based on plausible variations in the components of growth, which include fertility rates, mortality rates, and net migration (a summation of immigration, emigration, non-permanent residents, inter-provincial migration, and intra-provincial migration) (2011, p. 18-27). The projections for each Census Division in Ontario (including Durham) are based on the reference scenario, which is assumed to be the most likely to occur.

<sup>94</sup> Using household spending data from the 1992 Family Expenditure Survey, the Low Income Cut-Offs (LICOs) are established economic thresholds that are based on average household expenditure in Canada rather than on the absolute cost of goods and services. In this way they are meant to measure low-income in relation to a reasonably derived and relative cost of living in Canada. Although not officially recognized as a measure of poverty by Statistics Canada, LICOs have been widely used as a standard measure of poverty in Canada by social policy groups, advocacy organizations and researchers since the 1970's. The LICO's provide a threshold, below which families will devote a larger share of household income to necessities such as food, clothing and shelter than the average family. They are calculated by determining the percentage of after-tax income that an average Canadian household spends on food, clothing and shelter and adding a 20% margin. The addition of the 20% margin is arbitrary; however, Statistics Canada states that “Twenty percentage points are used based on the rationale that a family spending 20 percentage points more than the average would be in *straightened circumstances*”.

<sup>95</sup> The Low income Measure (LIM) is an internationally recognized measurement of low-income and poverty, used by both national and supranational governments (e.g. the European Union). This allows the LIM to be used to make international comparisons of poverty. The LIM is a fixed percentage of the median household income of a community. In Canada, the LIM is set at 50% of the median family income<sup>95</sup>. These measures are categorized according to the number of adults and children present in families, reflecting the economies of scale inherent in family size and composition. That is, the LIM takes into account the inherent increases in cost of living that occur as family size increases. An individual or family is determined to live in poverty if they have an annual income that is below the LIM; that is, less than 50% of the median. Using the principles of the LIM, we are able to adjust the measure to account for the depth of poverty in our community. For example, we may define deep poverty as being below 40% of the median, thus allowing for more nuanced measurements of income deprivation in our communities. The LIM is calculated annually by Statistics Canada using an annual survey of

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household income and is usually calculated three times: with market income, before-tax income and after-tax income. The after-tax LIM is the most useful as it provides a measure of the net income of an individual or household.

<sup>96</sup> Earle, b. & Alvi, S., 2011, Giving the Voice to Poverty in the Region of Durham, Community Development Council Durham  
[http://www.cdcd.org/cms lib/CDCD%20POVERTY%20REPORT%20FINAL%20October%202011.pdf](http://www.cdcd.org/cms/lib/CDCD%20POVERTY%20REPORT%20FINAL%20October%202011.pdf)

<sup>97</sup> Ibid

<sup>98</sup> Map source data from Statistics Canada, Census 2001. Households are defined by Statistics Canada as a person or groups of persons who occupy the same private dwelling and do not have a usual place of residence elsewhere in Canada (<http://www12.statcan.ca/english/census01/Products/Reference/dict/hou009.htm>). Data is mapped at the Dissemination Area (DA) level, defined by Statistics Canada as “a small area composed of one or more neighbouring blocks, with a population of 400 to 700 persons.” The DA is the smallest standard geographic area for which all census data are disseminated (<http://www12.statcan.ca/english/census01/Products/Reference/dict/geo021.htm>).

<sup>99</sup> Ibid.

<sup>100</sup> Ibid.

<sup>101</sup> Ibid.

<sup>102</sup> Durham Region Social Services, Internal Statistics. Calculated averages using monthly cases September 2012

<sup>103</sup> <http://www.durham.ca/departments/planned/planning/stats-n-facts/2012-P-61.pdf>

Region of Durham Planning Department report to Council

<sup>104</sup> [http://www.durham.ca/departments/health/food\\_nutrition/com\\_nutrition/foodBasket.pdf](http://www.durham.ca/departments/health/food_nutrition/com_nutrition/foodBasket.pdf)

<sup>105</sup> <http://www.ftnd.ca/images/document/75.pdf>, Feed the Need, Membership Listing

<sup>106</sup> Region of Durham Health and Social Services Committee Report 2013-IES-10; September 5, 2013

<sup>107</sup> <http://www.omkn.ca/OMKN-Docs/Best-Practices/Beneficial-Reports/2013BestPracticesinLocalFoodAGuideforMunicipalities.aspx>

<sup>108</sup> Ibid, p. 1.

<sup>109</sup> Vijoien, A. & Bohn, K. 2005. Continuous Productive Urban Landscapes: Urban agriculture as an essential infrastructure. *US Magazine* (December).

<sup>110</sup> Ibid.

<sup>111</sup> Ibid, p. 35.

<sup>112</sup> Ibid.

<sup>113</sup> Bohn, K. & Vijoien, A. 2011. The Edible City: Envisioning the Continuous Productive Urban Landscape (CPUL). *Field: A free journal for architecture*. 4(1): 149 – 161.

<sup>114</sup> Ibid.

<sup>115</sup> For a full discussion of the environmental benefits of urban agriculture within the CPUL model see Bohn, K. & Vijoien, A. 2011. The Edible City: Envisioning the Continuous Productive Urban Landscape (CPUL). *Field: A free journal for architecture*. 4(1): 149 – 161.

<sup>116</sup> London Assembly Report. 2010. *Cultivating the Capital: Food growing and the planning system in London*. Available online at: <http://legacy.london.gov.uk/assembly/reports/plansd/growing-food.pdf>

<sup>117</sup> Redwood, M. 2009. *Agriculture in Urban Planning: Generating Livelihoods and Food*. London: Earthscan and International Development Research Centre.

<sup>118</sup> This list includes all FTND members. All of these programs and organizations address food insecurity in different ways. Also, not all programs listed are open community programs. Rather, many are available only to the client population of the offering organization.