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Fighting food insecurity

A local group is uniting agencies to change how food systems work

COMMUNITY May 02, 2017 by [Victoria Gray](#)  Brant News

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The current Food Systems Coalition Group held a Food Forum Tuesday at Doug Snooks Eagle Place Community Centre that drew a large crowd to talk about everything food. - Submitted Photo

Those who don't have access to fresh and healthy food are at risk.

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centres, mobile markets, food education, saving seeds, youth consumption, production, distribution and more," she said.

Representatives from Healthy Brantford, local restaurants, Laurier Brantford, the Aboriginal Health Centre, Red Cross, Meals on Wheels and community members dug in and decided to make a plan over the next six months and reconvene in a year to see what action has been taken in regard to getting people the fresh food they need to maintain a healthy lifestyle.

"We want to make changes for people to access food and to how we do waste management, like getting green boxes and those types of things," she said.

They also hope to work with municipalities and councillors to find out what the policies are surrounding food and how they can work together to make them as supportive of a sustainable food environment as possible.

Rajsic said only 40 per cent of people in the community eat the recommended amount of fruit and vegetables on a daily basis because they may not be able to afford it or get to it.

She said in Eagle Place, those living at the east end of Erie Avenue have a long walk to get to a grocery store and it's an unacceptable distance.

"I think where we have such an abundance of local gardens both urban and farmers, yet the access to their food isn't necessarily there. The ability to get to it and consume it; there's barriers where there are other models in other communities (that could help)," she said.

The group plans to host another forum on June 22 on active living at TB Costain SC Johnson Community Centre from 9 a.m. to noon.



by [Victoria Gray](#)

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