



ONTARIO FOOD
COLLABORATIVE

Annual Organizational Update
November 21, 2024

The Ontario Food Collaborative (OFC) is an association of waste management, public health, community-based and academic partners working to improve food literacy to reduce food waste.

Brings together diverse food system **stakeholders** committed to advancing food literacy, food waste and healthy eating promotion.

Focuses on advancing **food literacy** by linking post-consumer food waste reduction and healthy eating strategies.



Takes a **holistic food systems** approach in supporting individuals and families to eat well and prevent avoidable food waste.

Shares resources, information and expertise to advocate for food literacy and support food waste prevention.



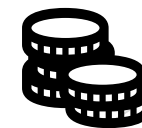
Network & Partnerships



Information Sharing



Policy, Advocacy & Research



Sustainable Funding



Our Accomplishments in 2024

Taking A Bite Out Of Food Waste

- ▶ Our webinar featured Circular Innovation Council and Too Good To Go
- ▶ Takeaways:
 - ▶ Circular food systems deliver social, economic, and environmental benefits
 - ▶ Institutional, Commercial & Industrial pilot projects are shaping effective food waste policies for local businesses
 - ▶ Innovative partnerships with local governments are important for creating sustainable solutions



HOW BUSINESSES ARE TAKING A BITE OUT OF FOOD WASTE

Tuesday, September 24, 2024

12:00pm - 1:00pm (EST)

Hear from Circular Innovation Council and Too Good To Go, two leading organizations helping Canadian businesses reduce and divert their food waste and mitigate their climate impacts.

This webinar is free for everyone. Participants are to pre-register [here](#).



MAGGIE BAIN
FOOD WASTE PROJECT
MANAGER



**CIRCULAR FOOD SYSTEMS -
IMPROVING FOOD WASTE
REDUCTION AND RECOVERY
FOR BUSINESSES**



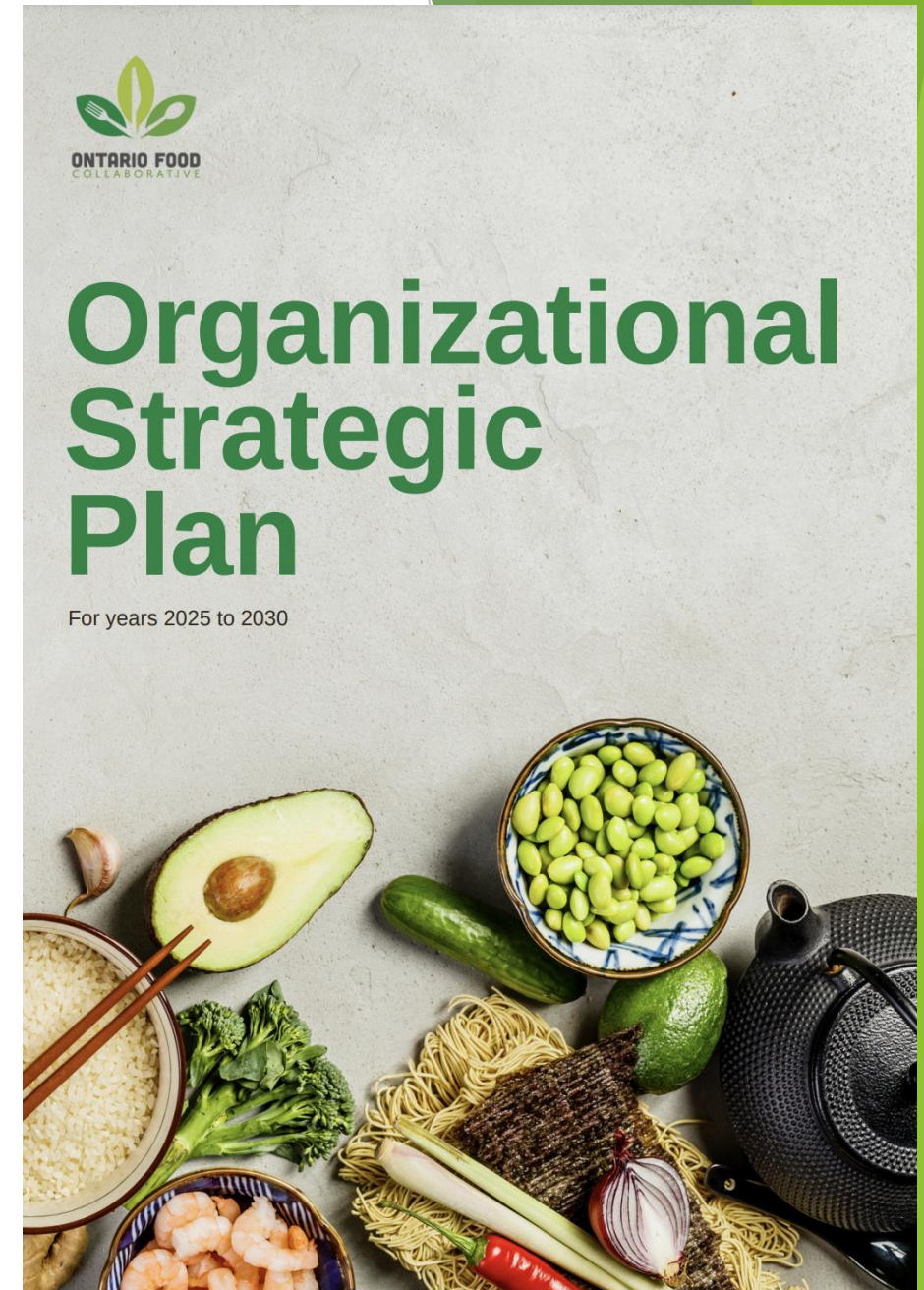
ZACH SHABEN
PUBLIC AFFAIRS
MANAGER



HOW WE FIGHT FOOD WASTE

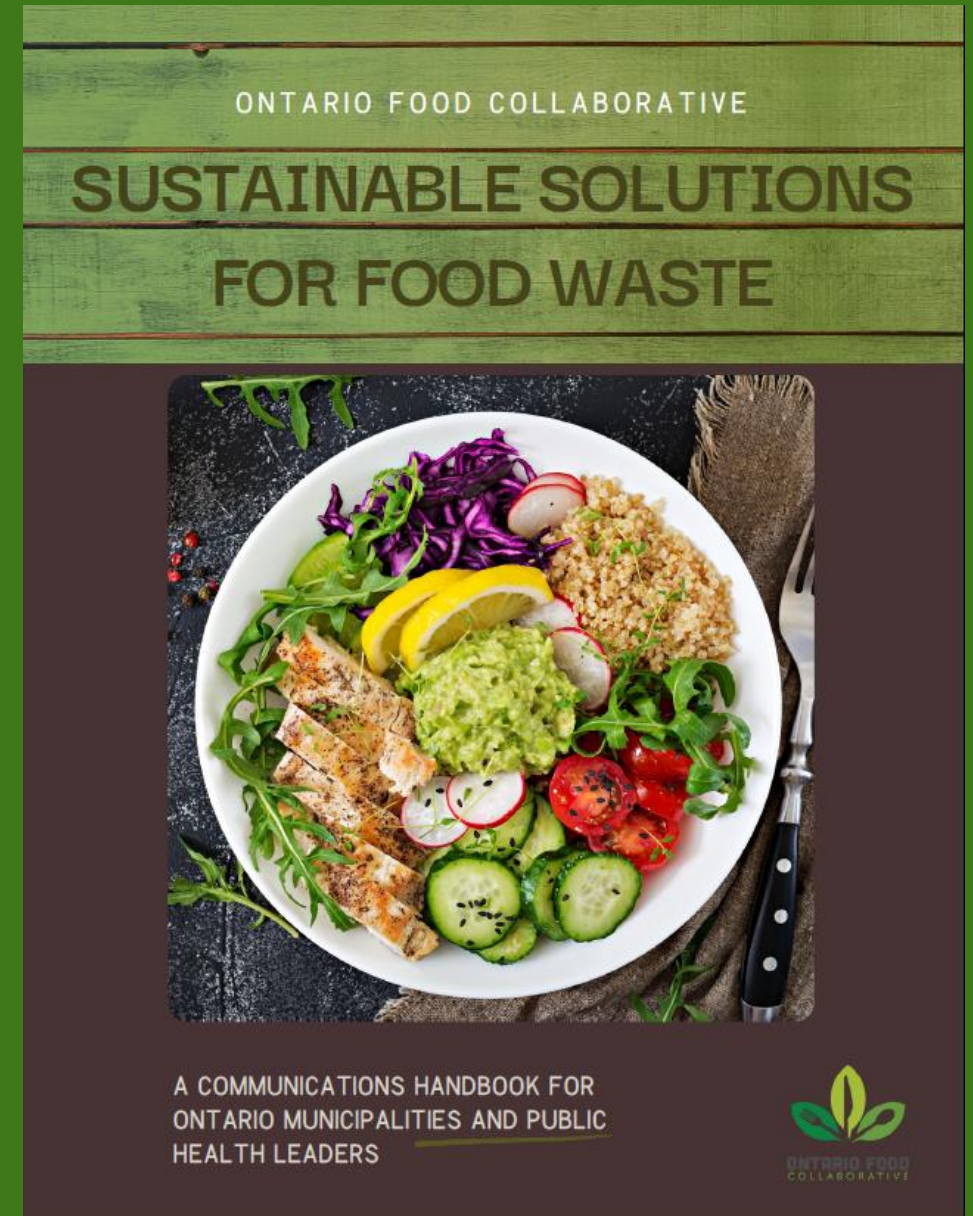
New OFC Strategic Plan 2025-2030

- ▶ Earlier this year, we unveiled our new strategic plan for building a more sustainable, equitable, and resilient food system across Ontario.
- ▶ Created with help from four Masters Environmental students from the University of Toronto - Mississauga campus
- ▶ Our roadmap lays out our vision and key initiatives which focus on four Strategic Priority areas:
 - ▶ Empower Organization Growth
 - ▶ Build Meaningful Partnerships
 - ▶ Establish Means for Financial Stability
 - ▶ Innovation in Communication Delivery



New OFC Resource for Municipal and Public Health Leaders Sustainable Solutions for Food Waste

A 30-page communications handbook, with tools and tips to help educate the public about food waste reduction.



WELCOME PAID MEMBERS, THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

- ▶ In summer 2024, we introduced paid membership to help sustain and expand our work. Since then, we've welcomed 22 paid member organizations and individual supporters. We invite new members to join us in making a lasting impact!



Hamilton



Looking back at past 12-months

Developed a 5-Year Strategic Plan with assistance of UofT students

Published the Sustainable Solutions to Food Waste Guide

Launched paid memberships and updated website to support the change

Onboarded a Partnerships and Volunteer Coordinator

Hosted a public food waste webinar and 4th Annual Symposium

Changed Chairs and introduced new Steering Committee members

Worked with students from Fleming College to develop first stages of a food waste app

Our Vision

- ▶ A food system for all that supports eating well, prevents food waste and conserves resources.

Our Mission

- ▶ To be a resource that supports, educates and empowers through advocacy, knowledge sharing and network building focused on food literacy, and food waste prevention to achieve a sustainable food system.



What's In Store for 2025

Looking to what's ahead for 2025

Strategic Plan Implementation

- Formal recruitment plan for the Steering Committee
- Creating permanent working groups
- Enhancing on-boarding and off-boarding procedures
- Continuation of partnership building, improving financial sustainability and communications

Explore offered grants to move waste app project ahead

5th Annual Symposium

Lunch and Learn with Clancy Harrison, founder of Food Dignity Movement

Save the Date!

Wednesday, February 19, 2025

Lunch and Learn with Clancy Harrison: Registered Dietitian, TEDx Speaker, International Presenter, Author, and Founder and Executive Director of the Food Dignity Movement.





Tomi Ladele – City of Barrie



Trevor Barton – Municipal Waste Association



Katrina McGuire – Municipal Waste Association



Heidi Levitzky (Chair) – Niagara Region



Candice Einstoss – Regional Municipality of York (on temporary leave until January 2025)



Fiona Terry – Regional Municipality of Peel



Tara Brown – Toronto Public Health



Bagavathy Kumaraswamy – City of Toronto



Tianna Frazer – Regional Municipality of York

OFC Steering Committee

Get involved!

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Join Us as a Partner, Member, or Volunteer

- Have an interesting project you want to work on with the OFC?
Visit ontariofoodcollaborative.ca/partnership/
- Want to support the OFC with a paid membership?
Visit ontariofoodcollaborative.ca/join-membership/
- Want to volunteer your time working on exciting 2025 OFC projects?
Visit ontariofoodcollaborative.ca/volunteer/

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Working Groups – Call for Volunteers

We've identified five areas where we need volunteers to help advance our work.

- Events
- Partnerships
- Membership and Fundraising
- Communications
- Advocacy



Thank you!