

General Discussion:

We started the meeting trying to figure out our direction. The following points were surfaced:

- We have a 2-3 day food supply, if transportation was down we would be in crisis. Look at Newfoundland.
- Food ships in 24 hours
- No concept of how not to be dependant on supply
- No cold storage rooms
- Representing tax payers –who am I looking out for –individual vs. industry
- In Manhattan –buy meals every day, every meal

We then started linking the conversation with our action from last meeting - define local for our purpose.

- Recognized that we had gathered information on local last year from the community
- Food sustainability (for food supply) within Lunenburg and Queens
- Is it local or price
- 13% of food dollar spent from local (2008), 1997 it was 17% - less money to local
- 2011 Stat Can– Increase in Agriculture in Nova Scotia, only province to increase
- As close to home as possible, based on availability

Local Discussion:

- NS
- Supports sustainability
- As close to home as you can get
- Lots of definitions out there and Meredith sent some samples to the group. However it appeared that no one wanted to commit to a definition
- Short hand to mean nothing
- Produced vs. processed
- Flexible
- Sustaining community

We asked what we wanted to accomplish?

- Create awareness - local products
- Website
- Other groups have the province covered
- Lunenburg and Queens

Local Discussion continued:

We then revisited our purpose statement and principles:

- Perhaps they would give us guidance
- These were developed 3 years ago
- Are very broad statements
- Did not provide clarity

We then looked at everything brainstormed and the following definition was developed.

Promote awareness and enhanced knowledge of local food products, processing and innovative production in Lunenburg and Queens Counties that supports sustainability and healthy living

Additional Discussion:

- Are there any action areas from Kathleen Kevany documents
- Note for school gardens– if a school garden reapplied they received funding, initial schools were supported but not listed on the website for this year but would be listed in the previous year
- Consider the local definition as a guiding principle, which will help define the practices that support it
- Think farm - check it out

Next steps:

- Each group member to identify some practices you can think of that would generate action for this principle
- Melanie to look back over minutes and pull out actions and accomplishments
- If we develop website we need to review what is hosted on the SSFRC website
- Melanie will obtain information on developing a website
- At the next meeting we will pull out awareness and enhancement to define further
- Mary/Melanie to look back through the interviews for actions
- To establish a priority table for the work

Next Meeting

July 23, 2012 from 10:00 am– noon at the Public Health Office in Bridgewater.