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| |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Winter 2025 Newsletter (Volume 1, Issue 1) - FOOD POLICY NEWS**  **Message from the KFL&A Food Policy Council**  Hello fellow food enthusiasts!  We are delighted to announce that we are bringing back the regular newsletter of the KFL&A Food Policy Council that discusses all things food happening in the Kingston, Frontenac, Lennox and Addington regions.  **Food Strategy Project Launched**  First off, we are happy to announce the launch of our project to develop a food strategy for the KFL&A region. To that end, Ayla Fenton, formerly of Loving Spoonful, will take the role of a Community Researcher to lead the project. To assist Ayla is Dante Gbejewoh, a PhD student in the School of Environmental Studies, at Queen’s University who will serve as a Research Assistant. We would like to acknowledge funding from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC).  We are actively collaborating with the City and Counties to move this project ahead. At this time, we welcome your suggestions on any relevant food-related groups or organizations that should be engaged for this food strategy.  Please stay tuned to this newsletter and our website for other important updates and opportunities to participate as we move ahead!  **City declares food insecurity emergency**  In other important news, [the city of Kingston unanimously declared food insecurity an emergency in the city](https://events.cityofkingston.ca/default/Detail/2025-01-14-1900-City-Council-Meeting/21cf7110-38d5-48b2-b1b7-b265015da75d). This motion called for increasing funding for school food programs, increasing social assistance rates, and incorporating food insecurity reduction into government policies. This motion comes after the [release of the “cost of healthy eating” report by the KFL&A Public Health](https://www.kflaph.ca/en/health-topics/the-cost-of-eating-healthy.aspx) that noted that one in three households in the KFL&A region lived with food insecurity.  **Get involved**  We plan to release this newsletter regularly moving forward and encourage you to reach out to us at [**foodpolicykfla@gmail.com**](mailto:foodpolicykfla@gmail.com)with events/announcements/resources to share.  Until next time, stay safe and keep warm,  KFL&A Food Policy Council.  **In the Media**   * Council members Ellen Mortfield and Kristen Lowitt [speak with CFRC Radio](https://cfrc.ca/news-events/news/food-policy-council-to-develop-comprehensive-local-food-strategy) about the food strategy project. * [City of Kingston declares food insecurity an emergency: Community members and students alike struggle to make ends meet](https://www.queensjournal.ca/city-of-kingston-declares-food-insecurity-an-emergency/)   **Events and Resources**   * [Kingston Seed Saturday upcoming on March 8, 2025](https://seedsgrowfood.org/) * Check out [this short video](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3CbUaWzbksA) featuring youth from the Boys and Girls Club of Kingston & Area making homemade tortillas and breakfast burritos * The National Farmers Union is continuing their NFUniversity series. Check out upcoming classes [here](https://www.nfu.ca/nfuniversity/). | | | | | |