

Department: Agricultural Services	Section: AP-Agricultural Program Services
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AP-06 Local Food

Policy statement

Leduc County encourages agribusiness and local food initiatives through the promotion and support of the development of agricultural networks and businesses and raising grower and consumer awareness of local food.

Definitions

For the purposes of the Local Food policy, the following definitions will be established:

- *Council* means the duly elected council of Leduc County.
- *Administration* means the local food coordinator and agricultural services staff.
- *Local food* means food that is produced within the region where it is consumed and accompanied by a community social structure and supply chain.

Policy standards

1. Develop networks, partnerships and business-to-business relationships to enhance local food activities in the region.
2. Be a resource as support to residents to develop and strengthen their capacities as local food producers and in the development of new business and other opportunities.
3. Promote community involvement in the development of a collaborative group to provide community-led direction for opportunities such as community gardens, local food suppers.

Policy authority

The Local Food program aligns with Leduc County strategic plan priorities in relation to agricultural innovation and support for local food. The Local Food program will be operated and maintained through the annually approved agricultural services departmental budget.

Policy responsibilities

1. Council responsibilities
Council will:
 - Approve the Local Food policy.

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2. Administration responsibilities

Administration will:

- Review this policy to ensure that the policy complies with all current, relevant legislation and municipal policies and bylaws.
- Ensure that the Local Food program is budgeted for annually.
- Present workshops and information sessions on a range of topics including, but not limited to: non-traditional agriculture opportunities, local food initiatives, market opportunities.
- Participate as a member of the organizing committee for the annual Farm to Market to Table conference.
- Engage residents, businesses and organizations to develop strong networks and partnerships creating a greater awareness of resources available to local producers and agriculture businesses.

Monitoring and updating

1. This policy will be posted on Leduc County's website.
2. This policy will be reviewed at least once every two (2) years.

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