



Call for Proposals

May 15 – 17, 2019 - Victoria, B.C.

WORKSHOPS – POSTERS – PRESENTATIONS - SHORT TALKS – RESEARCH PAPERS

Application Period: October 19 – December 14, 2018

Conference presentation dates: May 16 and 17, 2019

INTRODUCTION

Canada's *National Farm to School Conference* is hosted by Farm to Cafeteria Canada. This event will convene a diverse group of stakeholders who are working to bring more healthy, local and sustainable foods to the minds and plates of students in preschools, schools and on campuses. Building on *Changing the Menu* in 2015, the nation's first school food conference, with its focus on strengthening partnerships, and celebrating and inspiring action, this conference will emphasize scaling up efforts and evaluating impacts of farm and local food to school activities happening across Canada. We anticipate 450 delegates from across the nation and beyond our borders – including representatives from education, health, agriculture, culinary, policy, research, indigenous and youth sectors. Farm to Cafeteria Canada is pleased to partner with our local host agency of the 2019 conference, The Public Health Association of BC, who bring 10 years of successful Farm to School program facilitation in BC.

PRESENTATION GUIDELINES

Proposals may focus on any promising practice, policy and/or research effort to advance the movement towards healthy, local and sustainable foods in the minds and on the plates of students. We welcome applications from those who are working to improve student nutrition and increase youth engagement at all levels of decision making as it relates to local and sustainable foods in schools and campuses, while also addressing inequities in food system. We welcome proposals from individuals or groups working in a variety of settings that help to foster a culture of food literacy in school communi-

ties. We define 'school' as any educational environment from early childhood, to adult, with an emphasis on children and youth.

THEMATIC AREAS

The following is a list of the primary themes guiding conference programming. While this is not an exhaustive list, we do encourage you to consider how your proposal may fit into these thematic areas.

1. **Farm to Cafeteria:** promising practices in the preschool, school and campus setting
2. **Buying into Local:** institutional food procurement strategies
3. **Indigenous Food Ways:** reconnecting students to their land and food
4. **Fostering Food Literacy:** hands on learning in beyond the classroom
5. **Making Connections:** farmers, fishers, food hubs, and supply chains
6. **Scaling-up:** regional approaches
7. **Healthy Eating:** student nutrition and life long skills
8. **The Evidence Is In:** measuring and reporting impact
9. **In the Driver's Seat:** youth leadership and engagement
10. **Sustaining the Momentum:** advocating for change

To maximize your success, please consider the following aspects when preparing your proposal:

1. **Active involvement:** Most conference delegates will already have some experience with your topic area. Sessions should maximize the collective experience within the group, and look to engage the audience in a participatory manner.
2. **Learning value:** The learning value and key takeaways from your session should be clearly identified (i.e. specific skills gained, examples that will be applicable to others, or resources provided, such as lesson plans).
3. **Intersections:** This conference will attract people from different locations across the country, with diverse backgrounds, and experience working in a variety of aspects of school food, agriculture, nutrition and local food systems. Submissions that reflect these intersections will be regarded favourably.
4. **Evaluation:** Making an impact is a key theme of the conference. All abstracts should speak to this theme. Tell us about your approach, practice, research, policy effort or hands-on personal experience. Be sure to include what worked and what didn't.

PRESENTATION FORMATS

The proposal template below applies to the following presentation formats:

Workshops

These 60-90 minute sessions should provide opportunities for significant audience participation. Workshops that build specific skills are highly encouraged (i.e. capacity building; communications; collaboration and partnerships; education approaches; policy development and implementation; program and policy sustainability; accountability; scaling-up; fundraising; cultural inclusiveness; evaluation; grant writing; facilitation; coalition building; volunteer and student engagement, or leadership development).

Posters

Posters should be compelling graphic presentations of programs, projects, research, etc. Posters should clearly illustrate information through graphs, photos, diagrams and text. Presenters are expected to lead discussions about their poster during the interactive poster session.

Short Talk or Other Short Creative Expression

Short presentations are dynamic summaries (6 minutes maximum) of programs, activities, or learnings. They may consist of a series of slides or may also be creative expressions such as a musical performance, skit, or art. These presentations are dynamic, force a tight focus, and can be very energizing to all. These sessions are a great opportunity for student engagement. Accepted presentations will be grouped into thematic sessions according to content. See the following websites for examples: [promoting skits at conferences](#) and [ignite talks](#).

Original Research and Experience-Based Presentations

All abstracts for research and experience presentations must contain original work that has not been previously presented in association with a scientific or professional conference. Successful presenters will have 15 minutes to make an oral presentation.

There are two categories for abstracts:

- a) Research abstracts or reports of original research, and
 - b) Experience based (on-the-ground or in-the-field) abstracts that focus on innovative or new developments.
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PROPOSAL INSTRUCTIONS:

- Deadline to submit is December 14, 2019
- Fill out the FULL proposal template below
- You may submit a maximum of 3 proposals in total. Please use a separate template for each submission
- All proposals will be acknowledged
- Authors of successful proposals will be notified by January 31, 2019
- If you have questions, please contact:
 - o **Marcus Lobb, Conference Coordinator: conference@farmtocafeteriacanada.ca**

TRACKING INFORMATION

A. Who is submitting this proposal? Please write ALL the following in order:

- Name
- Organization/affiliation
- Phone
- Email

PROPOSAL

B. What type of proposal are you submitting?

- Workshop
- Poster
- Short talk or other short creative expression
- Research and Experience-Based

C. For **ALL** submissions, what is the proposed title and topic? Please ensure the title is engaging and speaks to the content. The information you provide will be used in the conference program.

D. Identify all authors and list their affiliations. Also indicate who will be the speaker(s).

E. What theme(s) are you addressing (please check all that apply)?

- Farm to Cafeteria: promising practices in the preschool, school and campus setting
- Buying into Local: institutional food procurement strategies
- Indigenous Food Ways: reconnecting students to their land and food
- Fostering Food Literacy: hands on learning in beyond the classroom
- Making Connections: farmers, fishers, food hubs, and supply chains
- Scaling-up: regional approaches
- Healthy Eating: student nutrition and life long skills
- The Evidence Is In: measuring and reporting impact
- In the Driver's Seat: youth leadership and engagement

- Sustaining the Momentum: advocating for change
- F. For **ALL** submissions, provide a brief description of the proposed presentation suitable for publication in the conference program (approximately 60 words).
- G. For **ALL** submissions, what intersections does your presentation explore (50 words)?
- H. For **ALL** submissions, identify the learning value and/or specific takeaways of your proposed presentation (75 words)?
- I. For **ALL** submissions, please describe how your proposed presentation addresses the key conference theme of evaluation and impact (75 words)
- J. For **WORKSHOPS ONLY**, what strategies will you use to engage the audience (75 words)?
- K. For **RESEARCH AND EXPERIENCE PRESENTATIONS ONLY**, provide an abstract (maximum 350 words). Abstracts must include the details formatted under the following headings:
1. Title, 2. Objectives, 3. Methods, 4. Results (in sufficient detail to support conclusions), 5. Conclusion (including implication of findings, and statement of conclusion).
- Please identify all authors and their affiliations and the presenting speaker (not included in the 350 words).

Questions? Please direct inquiries to conference@farmtocafeteriacanada.ca



Farm to School: Canada Digs In! is a multi-sectoral chronic disease prevention initiative lead by Farm to Cafeteria Canada in partnership with the Social Planning and Research Council of British Columbia, the Public Health Agency of Canada, Whole Kids Foundation, Meal Exchange, Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada, Food First Newfoundland, New Brunswick Department of Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries, Equiterre, Sustain Ontario and the Public Health Association of British Columbia.