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Inspiration. Innovation. **IMPACT.**

Canada's National Farm to School Conference is powering up! Expect upbeat, dynamic and engaging days that cast a spotlight on Canada's beautiful tapestry of practice, policy, research – sharing the full spectrum of activities designed to close the distance between the farm and school. Expect to celebrate the brilliance, the resilience, the generosity, and, the can-do attitude that is abundant here. Expect to learn and share with colleagues across North America in conversations around the power of ideas, partnerships and proof. Be prepared to lend your voice as we work together to map what is, what we want, and how we shall measure our success.

We're excited to share the following updates about the 2019 National Farm to School Conference:

- What is the collective noun for a group of conference attendees?
A Participation.
- Presenting our Master of Ceremonies - Theresa Healy!
- Announcing three of our National Farm to School Conference Featured Speakers!

Read on for full details on these exciting updates:

attendees? A Participation.



Theresa Healy, Nov 2018

We work to change the world of food. No easy task this, to ensure equity and health, adventure and comfort, in food, and in our food systems. So much of this work demands lifelong commitment. Yet, we approach that task with enthusiasm, intelligence, and innovation.

Then we bring our passion, our hunger to know and learn to a conference. A conference is such an important space to find allies and ideas and the opportunity to be together in the same space is so rare. Unfortunately, while we strive to change the infrastructures in the world of food we are still relying on an outdated mode of learning in our conferences. We sit and listen to experts, and only the brave ask questions, if the speaker left time for any. What is probably the only opportunity for rich dialogues becomes an uncomfortable and dispiriting end to a session. Feedback from earlier conferences has confirmed what we know. WE must privilege the voices in the room, especially those from marginalized edges, to become part of the process, not just recipients of it. [READ MORE](#)

Presenting our Master of Ceremonies - Theresa Healy!

Dr. Theresa Healy shares a story from the North:

I was born in southern Ireland in a convent to an unwed mother, raised in working class Britain, ran away for home at 14, spent several years on the street emerging from that world into single motherhood. With 2 children I began University when I was 28 and eventually graduated with a Ph.D. My roots keep me honest and motivated. I am most interested in work that connects ordinary people with avenues to make change happen.

I have lived in Northern BC since 1994, when I took up an appointment at UNBC for one year and decided to stay here. Since then I have been so fortunate in working and learning alongside



community and health professional perspectives.

An important part of my role is engaging and sustaining safer spaces for residents to be able to take up issues in their community and find ways forward together. [READ MORE](#)

Announcing three of our National Farm to School Conference Featured Speakers! (more to come soon)

Anupama Joshi



Anupama Joshi joined Blue Sky Funders Forum as executive director in December 2018. She is an accomplished leader in the non-profit and social sector in the United States and abroad.

She was previously executive director of the National Farm to School Network, which she co-founded in 2007, building a movement to incorporate local procurement, gardens and food and farm education in schools and early care sites across the United States. [READ MORE](#)

Dr. Kim Raine



Dr. Raine is Professor and Associate Dean (Research) in the School of Public Health, University of Alberta. Currently she is also Scientific Director of the Centre for Health and Nutrition at UofA. She is a Registered Dietitian, and a Fellow of the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences. Her research focuses on exploring population interventions to address healthy eating. [READ MORE](#)

Dr. Wayne Roberts



Wayne Roberts is one of Canada's most respected food policy analysts, as well as an effective advocate for food system change. He managed the influential Toronto Food Policy Council from 2000 to 2010 and helped increase the number of food policy councils around the world from three to more than 300. [READ MORE](#)

Thank you for all of your dynamic proposal submissions!

Our conference coordinating team received over 90 proposal submissions to deliver presentations, creative expressions, workshops and to present posters. We've been working hard to review all of the exciting proposals and to develop a program that demonstrate the

Early Bird Registration available until March 1st

Keep in mind that the **Early Bird Rate** of \$250 + GST is available until March 1st. On March 2nd the standard rate of \$325 + GST will apply. [Register Now!](#) Please share the link widely - [#F2SConferenceCanada19](#)

*That's all for now! We look forward to seeing you at the 2019 National Farm to School Conference, as we **INSPIRE**, **INNOVATE** and organize for **IMPACT** to close the distance between farm and fork and bring more healthy, local, sustainable food to the minds and plates of students!*



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.

Do you have a story to share for the next edition of our newsletter?
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