

**Regenerative.
Sovereign. Just.**

WELCOME!

**Thank you for joining our
first Free Meal Provision
Working Group Meeting.**



**March 12, 2026 | 10am
The Stir | 185 Royal Ave.**

WELCOME & LAND

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

AGENDA

10 - 10:15

Review and Approval of Terms of Reference

10:15 - 10:25

Assets mapping of current meal services in Kamloops

10:25 - 11:00

Overview of Insights and Key Takeaways from the February Roundtable Discussion

11:00 - 11:15

BREAK

11:15 - 12:00

Discussion on the project mission and goals - Breakout groups

Outline what progress we expect over the next 3-5 years

Next Step & Closing

12:00

LUNCH

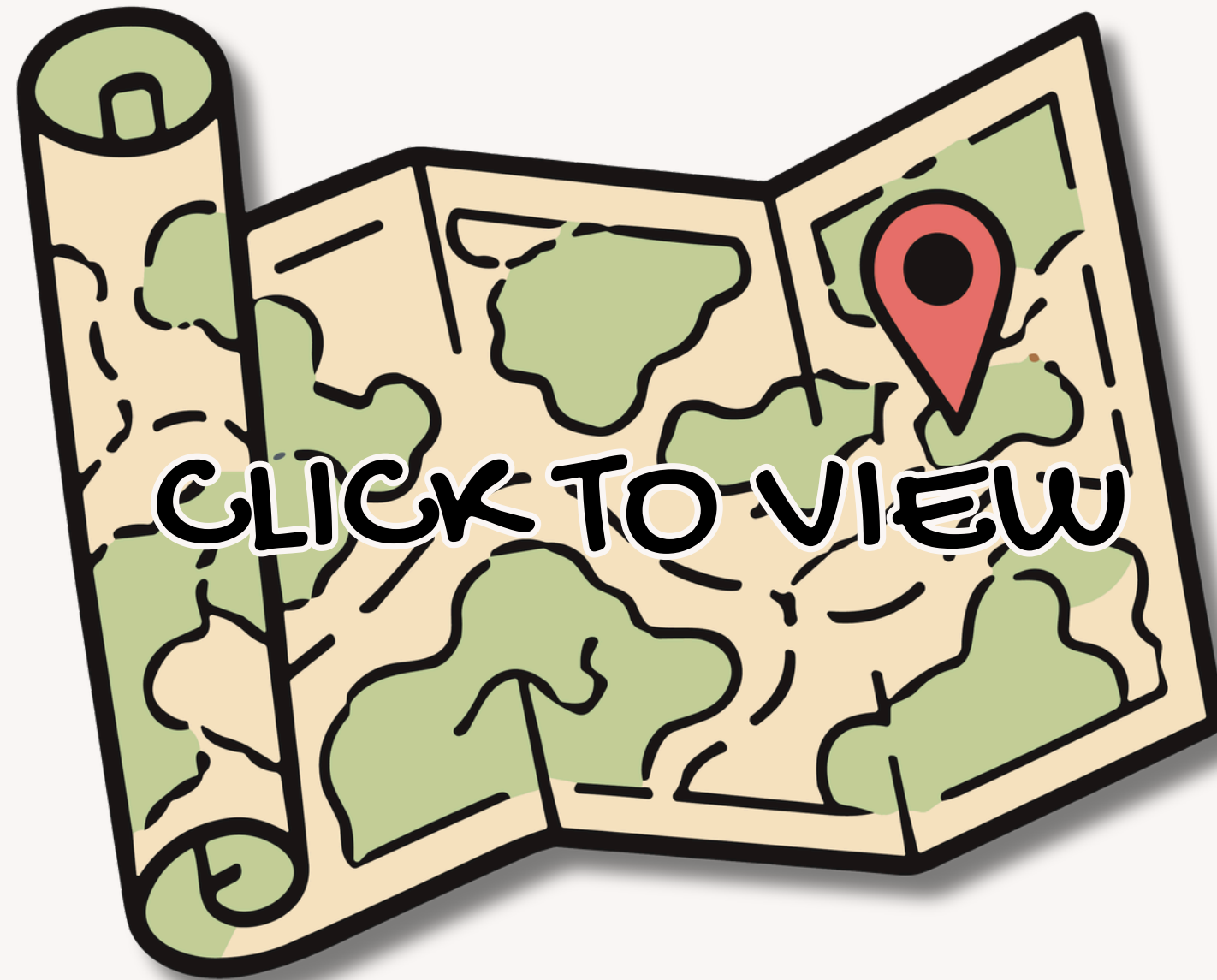
TERMS OF REFERENCE

Review and Approval



ASSET MAPPING

Of Current Meal Services



HOUSEHOLD FOOD INSECURITY & EMERGENCY FOOD ACCESS

In Kamloops

Household Food Insecurity = difficulty affording food



FEBRUARY ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION: KEY TAKEAWAYS

- WHAT IS MISSING IN THE MEAL PROVISION SYSTEM?
- WHAT UNMET NEEDS ARE YOU SEEING?

MAIN FEEDBACK THEMES

- **BARRIERS TO ACCESSING SERVICE**
- **GAPS AND LIMITATIONS IN CURRENT SERVICES**
- **SYSTEMS AND SERVICE CHALLENGES**
- **POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES**
- **FEEDBACK TO INFORM THE GOALS OF THE WORKING GROUP**

Barriers to Accessing Service

- Stigma (dignity, privacy, anxiety)
- Transportation
- Timing of services
- Physical mobility issues
- Language barriers
- Lack of food skills to use donated food
- Knowledge & Information
 - Not knowing what services exist or what is offered by various organizations

Gaps and Limitations in Current Services

- Cultural foods
- Options for those with dietary restrictions or therapeutic diets
- Marketing/promotion of services
- Lack of funding
- Service gaps during summer, winter and spring breaks for families of school age children who rely on free food at school
- Sick or homebound populations, including those recently discharged from the hospital
- Lack of day spaces

System and Service Challenges

- Organizations carry logistical burdens alone
- No shared / central space for food production and distribution
- Short term funding limits sustainability, innovation, staffing
- Need to address the root cause of food insecurity (poverty) - not just provide emergency food
- Need for transportation systems:
 - transport people to resources
 - food delivery service

Potential Opportunities

- Information sharing about services to schools and healthcare centers as they are critical touchpoints
- Collaborate to reduce duplication in services
- Facility for shared purchasing, packaging and distribution
- Assess/update the Kamloops meal service info available at 211
- Combined funding / applying for larger amounts of shared funds

FEBRUARY ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION: KEY TAKEAWAYS

- **WHAT DO YOU WANT THE WORKING GROUP TO KNOW THAT CAN INFORM THE GOALS/VISIONS OF THE GROUP?**

Feedback to Inform Goals of the Working Group

- Need shared community resources to reduce administrative barriers
- Leverage wide collective reach of roundtable members
- Conduct environmental scan to guide action
- Conduct a broad “temperature check” of community needs—distinct from the needs of nonprofit organizations
- Work must be informed by the collective—not driven by a single organization
- Clarify roles across the food system (procurement, production, distribution)
- Ensure sustainability of the working group: ongoing engagement, follow-through and planning
- Identify core advocacy priorities to support future funding requests.
- Address root causes of food insecurity, not just immediate meal provision

BREAK

11:00-11:15

DISCUSSION ON THE PROJECT MISSION AND GOALS

Breakout Groups

OUTLINE WHAT PROGRESS

WE EXPECT

over the next 3-5 years

The comprehensive project report = a foundational open-source reference document for future actions

**OPEN-SOURCE
REFERENCE**

This one-year project = a starting point to identify key strategies to be worked on over at least 3 years.

**FUNDING
AND PARTNERSHIP
OPPORTUNITIES**

**RESOURCES
FOR FUTURE
ACTIONS**

- opportunities for securing further funding for years 2-3 and/or partnering with other organizations or stakeholders to help share the workload, making the ongoing organization of the group more sustainable.
- In time, the functions of the Working Group (i.e., coordination, data sharing, and strategy review) will be absorbed by a larger, stable partner. This partner will provide the in-kind leadership to convene the group annually or semi-annually.
- As an alternative, the core group of agency representatives will seek funding to continue to meet, perhaps at a reduced frequency. This ensures the strategies are continually evaluated and refined within a 3-5 year horizon. **The focus of these meetings shifts from developing the path to managing the implementation and identifying emerging issues.**

NEXT STEPS...



SUGGESTED DATE FOR MEETING #2

10AM-12PM

THURSDAY MAY 7TH