



Speaker Highlights

- 🍷 Canada has some of the **highest rates of food waste in the world**.
- 🍷 Part of Chantelle's current work within Food Systems includes as a Waste Auditor where she investigates the statistics of waste at locations across Canada.
- 🍷 She determines ways the waste can be reduced, where the waste comes from, and how stores/companies/corporations should be held accountable - submits reports to the Ministry of the Environment
- 🍷 While performing her audits, Chantelle has uncovered **metric tons** of wasted food -- most of which is still edible and could be consumed, donated, etc.

- 🍉 We, as a society, are the primary cause of extensive food waste. Our current practices (e.g. day-olds get thrown away, leftovers thrown out) are the leading causes of these issues.
- 🍉 **One third** of food grown for human consumption is wasted through extraction, production, distribution, and consumption. We need policies to be put in place to prevent food from being wasted in **all** of these sectors.
- 🍉 We have so many flaws in our current food system, even right here in affluent Halton, however, we are often unaware of the many individuals that are suffering from a lack of access to healthy food.
- 🍉 Soil quality, both in Halton and around the world, is decreasing at rapid rates. Here in Halton, urban sprawl is covering and destroying **prime, fertile soil** that is perfect for farming.
- 🍉 This is one reason that it is difficult for younger generations to get into farming. We need **[firm boundaries](#)** to protect our farmland, as well as our naturalized areas from developers.
- 🍉 Restaurants are one of the most wasteful sectors in our food system. The policies that they have in place cause so much usable food to be wasted. One reason is that it is currently cheaper to just throw food in the trash than it is to donate/reuse it.
- 🍉 **[Food For Life](#)** is a Non-Profit organization that aims to reduce food waste by repurposing food that would be thrown away by businesses and donating it to people in need.
- 🍉 A significant crack in our food system is the inflation of food prices -- prices that aren't being matched by an increase in minimum wage, which causes families near and below the poverty line to experience **food insecurity** -- they do not know what their next meal will be, nor when that meal will be.
- 🍉 One in ten kids in Canada are currently experiencing food insecurity.
- 🍉 The majority of Canadians have access to a lot of food -- if we can reduce our own food waste habits & use our voices to ask for a change in the systems, we can help to reduce food insecurity.
- 🍉 Many food products that we love, such as beef, pork, lamb, dairy, palm oil, and even chocolate and coffee are environmentally harmful. We don't all have to eliminate these foods from our diet, however, if we can moderate our intake of environmentally harmful foods we still can make a difference with the environment and still enjoy the things we love.
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