

KASLO FOOD CHARTER

In 1976, Canada signed the United Nations Covenant on Social, Economic and Cultural Rights, which includes “the fundamental right of everyone to be free from hunger.”

Food security is defined as :when all people, at all times, have access to nutritious, safe, personally acceptable and culturally appropriate foods, produced in ways that are environmentally sound and socially just

The Village of Kaslo supports our national commitment to food security, and the following values:

- *Every Kaslo resident should have access to an adequate supply of nutritious, affordable and culturally-appropriate food.*
- *Food security contributes to the health and well-being of residents while reducing their need for medical care.*
- *Food is central to Kaslo’s economy, and the commitment to food security can strengthen the food sector’s growth and development.*
- *Food brings people together in celebrations of community and diversity and is an important part of the village’s culture.*
- *A healthy foodshed in Kaslo relies on an amalgamated North Kootenay Lake food system*

Therefore, to promote food security, Kaslo Village Council may:

1. Champion the importance of food security to federal, provincial and regional government partners.
2. Champion the right of all residents to have access to adequate amounts of safe, and nutritious, food without the need to resort to emergency food providers and advocate for policies that support the secure and dignified access to the food people need
3. Sponsor nutrition programs and services that promote healthy growth in children and help prevent diet-related diseases in later life
4. Partner with local producers, community, cooperative, business and government organizations to increase the availability of healthy local foods
5. Support events that highlight the region’s diverse food shed
6. Promote food safety programs and services.

7. Foster a civic culture that inspires all Kaslo residents and all village departments to support local food producers and food programs that provide cultural, social, economic and health benefits by adopting food purchasing practices for Village sponsored events that serve as a model of health, social and environmental responsibility
8. Plant Village decorative gardens with food producing species that are maintained and managed to promote the conservation of wildlife.
9. Encourage the use of our community garden to increase food self-reliance, improve fitness, contribute to a cleaner environment, and enhance community development
10. Advocate for the protection of local producers, agricultural lands and support agriculture through initiatives that highlight the importance of our farmers by working towards an equitable economy that values food producers and the land they grow food on
11. Consider accepting applications for Village owned land to be leased for food production.
12. Support and implement the separation of organic materials from the waste system to be recycled and be made available to nurture soil fertility while reducing compost and foodstuffs garbage that attract bears
13. Foster policies that encourage and assist Village residents to produce their own food in their gardens.
14. Recognize that water is an intricate and essential element to a healthy community and advocate for responsible use
15. Work with community agencies, residents' groups, businesses and other levels of government to achieve these goals.

Definitions in Charter

culturally appropriate food: refers to essential nutrients within specific cultural diets.
Ie: foodstuffs of the native inhabitants of the region;
Ktunaxa & Sinixt

local producers: refers to anyone whom is producing foodstuffs as a way of supporting their household whether financially with commercial foodstuffs or as a homestead and backyard gardeners