

RIGHT TO FOOD

In 1976, Canada signed the United Nations Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, accepting a legal responsibility to respect, protect and fulfil the right to food. This nation-wide commitment remains unmet in regions across the country, including here in Toronto. In a city where the right to food is respected, everyone should be able to make dignified choices about what they eat.

FOOD INSECURITY IN TORONTO

City Council unanimously adopted the Toronto Food Charter in 2001. The charter highlights the City's commitments to building food security and recognizes that everyone in Toronto should have access to an adequate supply of nutritious, affordable and culturally-appropriate food. However, food insecurity is a growing concern in our city. The existing Food Charter is inadequate in addressing barriers that impact our access to food.

1 IN 5 HOUSEHOLDS
IN TORONTO ARE
FOOD INSECURE

28.2%
of Indigenous
households in
Canada are food
insecure

28.9%
of Black
households in
Canada are food
insecure

**BLACK HOUSEHOLDS IN CANADA ARE
1.88 TIMES MORE LIKELY TO BE FOOD
INSECURE THAN WHITE HOUSEHOLDS**

**65% OF FOOD INSECURE
HOUSEHOLDS IN CANADA
ARE RELIANT ON WAGES
AND SALARIES**

(which means having a job is not enough
protection against food insecurity)

Our current food system is shaped by systems of oppression that determine who produces our food, who profits and who has access. Securing our right to food will require an approach that offers socio-economic interventions that are informed by an anti-colonialist, anti-racist and anti-capitalist framework

WE ARE CALLING ON THE CITY OF TORONTO TO:

- 1 Support the development of a new Toronto Food Charter written by communities who are impacted by food insecurity. This requires centering folks who are working to transform and defend the food rights of their communities, and those who experience the most barriers in our food system: Black, Indigenous and racialized people, people with disabilities, people living on a low income, workers, and renters
- 2 Include a mechanism to ensure that the City is accountable to its commitments under the new Toronto Food Charter
- 3 Allocate sufficient funding and resources to realise the right to food in Toronto

Learn more and sign the petition at foodshare.net/righttofood

