

## Motion

**Agenda Number:** 10.1

**Date:** December 2, 2021

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**Moved by** Councillor Parrish

**Seconded by** Councillor

Whereas the pandemic has caused the use of food banks to almost double over the past 18 months;

And whereas, the residents and businesses in the Region of Peel have risen to the challenge, providing food and funding to assist the hundreds of volunteers who work tirelessly in those food banks;

And whereas, expanded storage, unbudgeted costs and other capital and operational requirements have become necessary;

Therefore be it resolved, that for two consecutive budgets (2022 and 2023) only, an additional amount of up to \$2 million in each year be allocated specifically to address applications from the Region's food banks to assist with their capital and operational requirements and therefore better serve those in need in the Region of Peel;

And further, that food banks currently eligible for Community Investment Program funding be considered through an application process that meets the principles of accountability, transparency, openness, equity, diversity, and inclusion;

And further, that to ensure maximum impact, no food bank receive funding that exceeds more than 20 per cent of the agency's total annual revenue to a maximum of \$500,000 in each calendar year (2022 and 2023);

And further, that the monies be funded from the Tax Rate Stabilization reserve;

And further, to encourage efficiencies and collaboration, allocated funding may be shared or pooled amongst food banks.

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Regional Chair

## **IDENTIFIED PARAMETERS – FOOD SECURITY FUNDING 2022 – 2023 \$4ML REGIONAL INVESTMENT**

1. **Food Bank Eligibility** - The grant will be Inclusionary to all formal and informal food banks regardless of size in the Region of Peel Food Ecosystem as specified below.
  - Capital funding Priority will be provided to Food banks with great reach.

Definition(s): **Food Bank** – a not-for-profit that collects product from the food industry and food drives, inventories and stores it, and distributes it to agencies – such as food pantries, community meal programs and kitchens, breakfast programs – that provide food directly to individuals in need. A food bank has the capacity to distribute millions of pounds of grocery product every year. Food banks make it easy for agencies to obtain nutritious food at low cost in the quantities they need for their clients. *(cited from – Second Harvest)*

### **Food System in Peel Players**

Food Distribution in Peel- a formalized food distribution system is set up in Peel through Feed Ontario. Feed Ontario works to distribute food and unite local food banks to eradicate hunger and poverty. Feed Ontario has a network of around 130 direct member food banks and supports over 1,100 affiliated members across Ontario. The municipal Feed Ontario members for Peel are: 1) Mississauga-The Mississauga Food Bank; 2) Brampton – Knights Table; 3) Caledon – The Exchange. Each of the Peel Food Ontario members then distribute food to affiliated members throughout Peel.

There is also an informal system of food distribution with programs and service delivery models that is comprised of non-Feed Ontario members within Peel that is made up of interfaith and grassroots agencies.

### **Region of Peel Food System**

<b>Type and Definition</b>	<b>Offerings</b>	<b>Examples of Food not-for-profits within Peel</b>
Multi-service Food Banks – not-for-profit that provides multiple food programs/delivery (frontline, food delivery & distribution) to individuals and families experiencing food insecurity.	Food bank, Community meal program, Food education program, Breakfast program, Community garden, Food Delivery Program	The Mississauga Food Bank Knights Table Regeneration The Exchange Eden Food for Change Seva Food Bank The Compass Ecosource Sai Dham Food Bank ICNA Relief Canada Peel Youth Village Canadian Coptic Children's Program
Food Bank- not-for-profit organization that collects safe, nutritious, and culturally appropriate food, and redistributes it to individuals and families experiencing food insecurity.	Food Banks in Peel that provides front line delivery to individuals and families experiencing food insecurity	St. Loise Outreach Centre of Peel St. Andrews Food Bank Islamic Forum of Canada Salvation Army locations St. Mary's Food Bank Grace Mt. Zion Apostolic Church (different locations) St. Vincent De Paul Seva Food Bank (different locations)
Food Pantry - is an individual site that		St. Paul's United Church Bramalea Baptist Church

distributes bags or boxes of food directly to those in need who reside in a specified area. A food pantry is a member agency of, and obtains food from, a food bank.		Deacon's Cupboard Mississauga Seventh Day Adventist Church Malton Neighbourhood Services JFJ Hope Center St. Hilary's Food Cupboard Martha's Table
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1. Application process

- Aligned to Regional community Investment Program principles: accountability, transparency, openness, equity, diversity, and inclusion.
- Applications open to all Food banks in the Region of Peel
- Aligned - Phase 2 of Emergency COVID-19 Funding
- Transparent Regional application process that is sent out to all food banks in the Region of Peel (Brampton, Mississauga, Caledon).
- Distributed through Regional Community Investment Program (online Gov Grants portal).

2. Equity - maximize the value of tax dollars invested in Region Peel Food Banks (Mississauga, Brampton, Caledon)

- – the grant will institute a balanced funding approach to ensure an equitable process of dissemination of funds between all 3 municipalities with no one agency/municipality receiving the full yearly budget of the grant (2M).
- Maximum Grant per agency per year - **\$500,000.**
- Regional risk and compliance measure – All grants will not exceed more than 20% of agencies total yearly - revenue to a maximum of **\$500,000.**
- All grants will require to adhere to performance conditions specified in a Regional funding service agreement that can be subject to an audit.
- All grants will have to demonstrate value for money and impact on food insecurity in Peel for low income residents, municipal population and increased population growth.

**Table #1-Municipality breakdown -Population, Low Income and Growth Rate**

Municipalities	Population (RoP website)	% of Population in RoP	Prevalence of low income in 2015 based on after-tax low-income measure (LIM-AT). (Source: Statistics Canada 2016 Census)	Growth Rate Q2 2020-Q22021 (RoP website)
Brampton	699,900	45%	11.30%	0.8%
Mississauga	763,600	50%	14.70%	0.8%
Caledon	76,700	5%	5.70%	1.9%
Total	<b>1,540,200</b>			

- 12.8 percent (12.8%) or 175,980 residents are living in poverty
- The rate of poverty is 16 percent (16%) for racialized (visible minority) communities; this is higher than the regional and provincial averages
- 18 percent (18%) of Peel's children 0 to 17 years live in poverty
- 45 percent (45%) of renters spend more than 30 per cent of their income on shelter costs
- Between 2009 and 2016, the cost to feed a family of four per week increased by 26 percent to \$197 per week
- In July 2020, the unemployment rate within Peel doubled to 16.3 percent (16.3%)
- The Peel youth unemployment rate reached a record high of approximately 38.6 percent (38.6%) as of July 2020

***2021 Cited from RoP Poverty Reduction Strategy***

### 3. Cost Inclusion

- Capital Costs due to COVID-19 Pressures to increase food security reach –1) Large Capital Costs; Example- Storage facilities, Refrigeration Equipment, Construction, Renovation repairs, IT systems. 2) Small Capital costs; Example commercial grade appliances, steam tables, chest freezers.
- Unbudgeted Operational Costs due to COVID-19 Pressures to increase food security reach– 1) increased staff to support delivery methods; 2) increased staff to support warehouse and storage facilities.
- Operational Expenses – unbudgeted expenses the food bank incurs due to increase pressures from COVID-19. (i.e. rent, equipment, evaluation).
- Ineligible Costs - Contributions to annual funding drives and capital campaigns; Activities completed, or costs incurred prior to the approval of the grant application; Taxes, such as GST and HST, for which the recipient is eligible for a tax rebate, and all other costs eligible for rebates; Contingency costs are not eligible expenses