

Federal Food Policies

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Government Involvement

- Objectives of a national food policy
 - ✓ Viable and diverse rural economy.
 - ✓ Food safety and food security.
 - ✓ Quality of life and health for Canadians.
- Concerns and limitations
 - ✓ We are supposed to have a free market system.
 - ✓ We are a net food exporter; cannot close the border.
 - ✓ A democracy should serve the public will.

Local Food System

- **Country of origin labeling.**
 - √ Including screening for banned substances.
- **Local food systems:**
 - √ Tax credits on cooperative investments.
 - √ Financial support to local marketing orgs.
 - √ Inter-connection with mainstream.
- **Community-based processing.**
 - √ Loans & support to small business.

Next Generation Farmers

- **Keep farmers on the farm.**
 - √ Inter-generational capital gains exemptions.
 - √ Make the farm financially viable.
- **New farmers from off the farm.**
 - √ Mentoring, apprenticeships, farm start prgms.
 - √ Facilitate entry to supply mngd commodities.
 - √ Farming immigrants: non-European sources.
 - √ High school and trade training in agriculture.

The Ecology of Farming

- Fund and support organics
 - ✓ Research, training, development, marketing.
 - ✓ Subsidize certification costs.
- Alternative Land Use Services
- Propagate organics in mainstream.
 - ✓ Approve natural inputs by PMRA/CFIA.
 - ✓ Fund research and extension services.