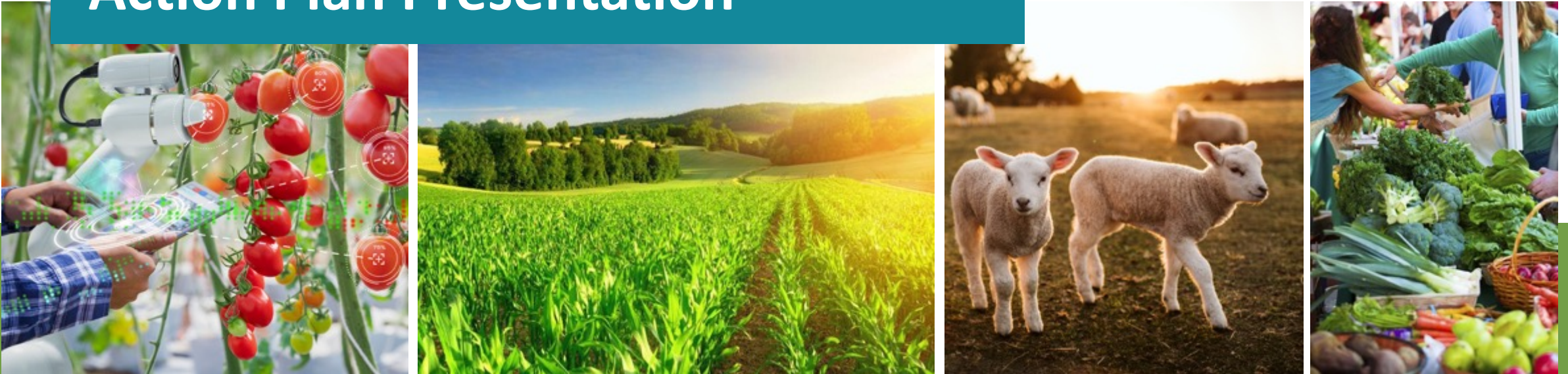


Golden Horseshoe Food and Farming Alliance

Action Plan Presentation



The Golden Horseshoe Food and Farming Alliance

- Not-for-profit partnership among municipalities, agricultural groups, educational institutions, and provincial ministries
- Alliance co-ordinates projects and efforts to support the agri-food sector in the Golden Horseshoe
- In 2012, The Alliance produced an Action Plan to set goals and guide activities over a 10-year planning horizon



January 2012



Action Plan 2021-2026



The Vision

The Golden Horseshoe is globally renowned as a vibrant and sustainable agri-food cluster, characterized by profitable farming operations of all sizes, a thriving hub of food processing and food retail, extensive research capacity, and innovative technology.



GOAL A:

The GHFFA is recognized as the leading organization with expertise on food and farming issues and opportunities in the Golden Horseshoe Region of Ontario.

- refine its organizational capacity
- grow influence and impact by building new partnerships,
- strengthen existing institutional connections, and ensure that members recognize the value in the Alliance's collaborative approach



GOAL B:

Establish the Golden Horseshoe as Canada's leading innovative agriculture and agri-food cluster.

- support and drive efforts across the region to enable economic growth in the Golden Horseshoe's agri-food sector.
- Convene knowledge sharing events, fostering relationships from diverse perspectives, coordinating data resources to inform decision making
- Encourage innovation and research to grow the cluster.

GOAL C:

Enable the agri-food cluster to support sustainability outcomes.

Sustainability outcomes include

- long-term environmental stewardship
- participation in climate change adaptation and mitigation efforts
- ensuring inclusive and socially responsive agri-food sector

Critical to support the three pillars of sustainability—economy, society, and the environment—to achieve a truly vibrant, inclusive, and equitable agri-food cluster.

Ref.	Objectives and Action Items
C.1	Enhance the economic capacity of agricultural land in the Golden Horseshoe.
C.1.1	Maintain regular Working Group meetings as a space to collaborate and align land use policy and economic development topics and best practices from a food systems perspective.
C.1.2	Strengthen collaborative opportunities with OMAFRA to provide expert advice in the review of land use policy tools, documents, and amendments, and develop connections with the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing to ensure Alliance input regarding provincial planning policy.
C.1.3	Continue to collaborate with the OMAFRA regional economic development staff to support strong regional-provincial connections and forge new collaborations with other provincial groups such as The Department of Innovation, Science and Economic Development (ISED); Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MOECP); Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC); Agriculture and Agri-food Canada (AAFC); and Ministry of Finance (MOF).

Ref.	Objectives and Action Items
C.2	Enhance the capacity for agricultural land in the Golden Horseshoe to contribute to public health outcomes.
C.2.1	Invite public health staff from each member municipality to participate in an annual Working Group meeting to discuss food access initiatives and GHFFA work.
C.2.2	Monitor the activities of local food policy councils and efforts to enact food charters and strategies from food access and availability perspectives. Participate in regional initiatives as needed and consider the National Food Policy priority outcomes in Alliance activities.
C.2.3	Discuss opportunities for incentives to remove business/enterprise development barriers to small-scale urban agriculture and community gardens across the Golden Horseshoe within urban areas, specifically with respect to publicly-owned land. (See also B.3.5)



Read the full report at
www.foodandfarming.ca
