

SAMPLE ACTIVITY

You can adapt this activity to the amount of time available and staff interest at your workplace.

Objective: encourage staff to purchase locally-grown food. Promote healthy eating, good conversation and fun!

Name of activity: The 100 Mile Lunch

Time: five lunch breaks

What you need: support from management, email announcement, a venue large enough to accommodate your staff meals, posters (sample ahead)

STEPS FOR SUCCESS

1. Secure support from management.
2. Hook event to an actual office happening (e.g. wrap-up of a big project, seasonal celebration, a special anniversary, etc.)
3. Announce event at a staff meeting or via email.
4. Encourage staff to eat locally-grown food for an entire week. Provide information about local farmer's markets (www.farmersmarketscanada.ca/Links.cfm) and seasonal produce.
5. Wrap up with a potluck or catered lunch that celebrates local food.
6. If you are a large organization, try doing this at a team level first, and then move to larger groups.
7. Roll out the program to a weekly 100 Mile Lunch Club that lasts all year long! Once a week individuals take turns bringing meatless soups for all participants. OR everyone brings a locally-grown item (greens, chopped veggies, nuts, seeds, fruit, etc) to create a weekly salad bar (<http://commonsense.typepad.com/commonsense/2008/04/open-salad.html>).
8. Share photos, stories and successes. Learn and celebrate.

RESOURCES

Community supported agriculture: Ontario – www.csafarms.ca; Quebec – <http://www.equiterre.org/en/agriculture/paniersBios/index.php>

Farmer's markets: www.farmersmarketscanada.ca/Links.cfm

Indoor plants:

http://www.ted.com/index.php/talks/kamal_meattle_on_how_to_grow_your_own_fresh_air.html

http://awesome.goodmagazine.com/marketplace/010/010plants_for_health.html

http://ntrs.nasa.gov/archive/nasa/casi.ntrs.nasa.gov/19930073077_1993073077.pdf

Salad club: <http://commonsense.typepad.com/commonsense/2008/04/open-salad.html>

Stairway to health: <http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/sth-evs/english/index-eng.php>

Sustainable seafood guide: www.seachoice.org