

HALTON FOOD FOR THOUGHT RECEIVES \$24,000 GRANT

Halton Food for Thought has received \$24,000 from the federal government to bring nutritional food to more Halton students.

Oakville North-Burlington MP Pam Damoff made the funding announcement on Thursday, July 16. She said the funds will help the non-profit organization expand its reach to 2,500 Halton students who currently are not benefiting from a Student Nutrition Program (SNP). The funds will also ensure existing SNPs remain strong and sustainable.

"Every single student should have a safe and reliable source of healthy food during the school day," said Damoff.

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- Oakville North-Burlington MP Pam Damoff

give them the energy they need to learn, but also teach healthy eating habits that will last a lifetime. Having visited these programs in our schools, I've seen first-hand the impact they have on students. Our government is thrilled to support the efforts of Halton Food for Thought to ensure Halton students have the food they need to achieve."

News of the funding was

well received by Halton Food for Thought Executive Director Tracy Hussey. "Halton Food for Thought programs and partners value providing high quality local food to our students," she said.

"We are very grateful to the Government of Canada for this Local Food Infrastructure Grant which will help us, our students and our local farmers achieve our goals."



Graham Paine/Torstar
Executive Director of Halton Food for Thought Tracy Hussey (left) and Nancy Rumble, Director of Communications and Development, hold boxes filled with fresh produce after receiving \$24,000 in funding to expand school food programs.

Halton Food for Thought has been feeding Halton students for more than two decades.

Founded in 1997 by a group of parents who noticed that not every child at

school had enough healthy food in their lunch box to fuel their minds and bodies for learning, Halton Food for Thought provides more than 79,000 Halton students with access to health

food at school daily.

Hussey noted that with more than 2,100 volunteers, including 1,060 students, Halton Food for Thought ensures more than 75 per cent of Halton students have access to a SNP.

The \$24,000 grant came from the government's Local Food Infrastructure Fund (LFIF).

LFIF is a five-year, \$50-million program under the Food Policy for Canada that assists community-based, not-for-profit organizations.

The program also supports Canada meeting its commitments under the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals, which include ending hunger, promoting good health, cutting food waste, and encouraging sustainable food systems.

Damoff said the first phase of the program saw 362 projects across Canada receive funding valued at up to \$25,000 per project, for a total of \$6.6 million.



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