

**Ontario Professional Planners Institute (OPPI)**  
**Symposium - October 28th & 29th 2010, Guelph**  
**Healthy Communities and Planning for Food - A Harvest of Ideas**

On Thursday, October 28, 2010, the Ontario Professional Planners Institute's symposium will engage you with a leading thinker on planning for food, food systems and food policy.

Dr. Samina Raja helped develop the American Planning Association's *Guide to Community and Regional Food Planning* and her keynote address promises to be thought-provoking and inspirational. Throughout this first day you will be treated to a number of Canadian and American speakers who are on the cusp of this evolving movement within society and within the profession to plan for issues related to food. You will hear about many planners who are applying their skills and making a difference in this evolving field. The first panel will explore how we preserve farmland in rural areas and make space for food production in urban areas and offer insights on protecting agricultural land and keeping it in production. The second panel will discuss food systems, and the role for planners in both urban and rural areas in strengthening Ontario's food systems.

On Friday, October 29, you can select from a number of workshops that will build your skills or introduce you to new topics and evolving areas of practice. You can learn from our Ministry partners who will share their evolving programs, visit a farm, or go on a walking tour and see some of the leading research that occurs at the University of Guelph.

Luncheon speakers include Laura Berman and Gord Hume. Laura Berman is a Canadian photographer who focuses on local, family and organic farms, urban gardens, farmers' markets and chefs who are passionate about using local food. Gord Hume is the author of *The Local Food Revolution*, which explores the relationship between food and building strong communities, how food systems are changing neighbourhoods and local economies, and how "eating local" is starting to affect our society and the role of planning at all levels.

Early bird registration now available!

Further information, including the Preliminary Program and registration form, can be found at:  
<http://www.ontarioplanners.on.ca/content/symposium/index.aspx>