



Creating a National Food Policy that addresses environmental, health, economic and social considerations in an integrated way: Insights from the Canadian experience

Peter Andrée

When: Thursday March 12, 2020, 12-1pm

Where: Seminar Room, Centre for Sustainability, 563 Castle St.

Open to the Public

About the talk:

In Canada, household food insecurity is at a record high, while two-thirds of all children do not eat enough vegetables and fruits, and rates of obesity and diabetes are climbing. Meanwhile, eighty per cent of farmers plan to retire in the next decade, and their potential replacements face major challenges accessing land and capital. Canadian agri-business seeks to grow its exports, but an export orientation has hindered local and regional food economies, and dominant food production systems exacerbate short- and long-term environmental degradation of renewable resources, deplete non-renewable fossil fuels and contribute significantly to greenhouse gas emissions. Can these complex challenges be addressed in an integrated way through a comprehensive 'national food policy'?

Prof. Andrée will discuss Canada's effort to establish A Food Policy for Canada (2015-2019), looking at the factors and forces that influenced its creation and the initial outcomes of that process, including the creation of new governance mechanisms that enable greater participation in policy-making by civil society actors. Prof. Andrée was deeply involved in processes that informed the policy's creation and will share insights from those experiences

About the Speaker:

Peter Andrée is a visiting researcher at the Department of Geography, University of Otago, as well as the University's Centre for Sustainability. At home, he teaches and advises in the department of political science, the department of geography and environmental studies and the institute of political economy, all at Carleton University in Ottawa, Canada. Prior to being at Carleton, he was based in the School of Geography and Environmental Sciences at Monash University in Melbourne. Prof Andrée's research focuses on the politics of food and the environment. He practices, and teaches, community-based participatory research methods. Among other publications, Prof. Andrée is co-editor of *Civil Society and Social Movements in Food System Governance* (Routledge, 2019), co-editor of *Globalization and Food Sovereignty: Global and Local Change in the New Politics of Food* (University of Toronto Press, 2014) and author of *Genetically Modified Diplomacy* (University of British Columbia Press, 2007).

