



on the table[®]

September 27th-29th

On the Table Waterloo Region

Join people from across Waterloo Region as we come together, make new connections, and build more meaningful relationships within our community. By gathering together face-to-face and sharing food and conversation, we can learn new things about what connects us, and what we wish for.

What is On the Table?

On the Table is an invitation from Kitchener Waterloo Community Foundation (KWCF) and Cambridge & North Dumfries Community Foundation (CND CF) for people, organizations, and communities to come together, share some food, and have conversations about what matters most to them. All the topics and highlights of the discussions will be collected and shared—giving us an exciting snapshot of what's on people's minds across the region right now. It's a fun, meaningful opportunity for people to meet, gather, and share!

When is On the Table happening?

All On the Table events will take place September 27th to 29th, 2019. We set it up for three days so you have the option of when it works best for you over the course of the Friday to Sunday. That way we can all have conversations around the same time and get a snapshot in time of what matters in our community.

Where should On the Table events take place?

You can host On the Table in any place that inspires people to talk. It could be your local library or office lunchroom, a neighbourhood restaurant or a nearby park, church, or recreation centre. Many people will host at home, around their own kitchen table. What matters most is that people come together, share some food, and have a conversation.

How many people should I invite?

As many or as few as you like. We recommend about 8 to 12 people per table. This way, everyone has a chance to listen and contribute to the conversation.

Does it have to be a meal?

Not at all! People should have something to eat, but it doesn't matter what. You can serve something simple like coffee and cake, beer and nachos or chips and dip. Put together a four-course meal if you want to—or even ask your guests to bring something and make it a potluck.

How do hosts decide the theme of the conversation we have?

Ideas and conversation starters are provided in the On the Table host toolkit, but typically the host will choose the focus of the conversation, or let the topic arise organically from the group around the table.

Who provides the food?

Each On the Table host provides the food – or asks their guests to bring something to share or split the bill. It is really flexible, and up to each host how big or small they want their event to be.

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What kind of information is required to register your On the Table event?

Registration takes place through our websites. We will require the host's name, email address and postal code. Registration to host opens on June 20th at www.cndcfoundation.org/on-the-table.

Whether you are hosting On the Table as an individual or as part of your organization – or multiple events on your own – you will need to register separately for each event. This will help us keep track of how many events are happening, and make sure each one is supported by its own host toolkit.

How can I let my guests know about my event?

Ensure your guests know about your event by downloading and emailing them the save the date notification. We've also created an invitation template that you can personalize for your event and manage your guest list easily. Download both of these from our websites.

Why are KWCF and CNDCF doing this?

KWCF and CNDCF have been partner organizations with Wellbeing Waterloo Region. Social inclusion was identified as a priority for Waterloo Region residents, and the results from the recent community-wide survey re-iterated the importance of social inclusion. What better way to connect with others than through the sharing of food and conversation? That's why, we're inviting everyone across Waterloo Region to be part of a collective set of conversations. On the Table gives us all a chance to spend time with neighbours, friends and in our community. Then, KWCF and CNDCF will get high level summaries back from the discussion hosts and we will share that in a summary report with the community, so together we can see if there are some ideas we want to tackle.

How can I spread the word?

We encourage you and your guests to share your thoughts and experiences with us before, during and after your event using the hashtag **#onthetablewr**. If you want to also use our twitter handles @thekwcf and @CNDCF if you are tweeting, that would be great.

We will be advertising On the Table in a variety of ways between June and the launch of the event on September 27th. If you want to share our save the date, posters or other information to help us attract hosts and get the word out, you can download tools or link people to our site here – www.cndcfoundation.org/on-the-table.

I'm hosting another event between September 27th and 29th, can I combine On the Table with it?

Yes, of course! If you already have an event planned between September 27th and 29th please feel free to include On the Table as part of it! Just ensure that the On the Table portion of your event is not used in any way to generate a profit (eg. fundraising).



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Can my On the Table event be open to the public?

Definitely! On the Table is a perfect platform for interacting with a public audience. Set a venue, topic and open your doors to everyone. If ticketing is required to cover the cost of food provided at your event that's ok. Just ensure that a profit is not made from your On the Table event (eg. fundraising).

I don't want to host an On the Table event but I would like to participate in an event. How do I find out about one that might be open to the public?

This is our first year organizing On the Table, so we aren't sure how many public events there will be. If KWCF and CND CF hear about public On the Table events that are organized in advance of the launch, we are going to share them in a calendar on our websites, so you can check them out and decide if you want to attend.

Can I have some help with the invitation?

If you need some help creating and sending invitations, please download our invitation template from our websites.

More Questions?

Email info@cndcf.org