Food sovereignty vital to create First Nations food security

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A year ago, a spring vote might have seemed unlikely. But that was before Liberal mooted the idea of a summer snap election, a move that would allow the government to act on its promise to create a First Nations food security system in Ontario.

A year ago, First Nations were holding their breath. It was an election they were bracing for. The province’s food sovereignty movement is in its early stages, but a year ago, the hope was that government support would come, that meaningful change was on the horizon.

A year ago, the government’s Interim Food Strategy, launched in January 2021, was the first step towards a comprehensive plan for food sovereignty in Ontario. The strategy recognized the importance of Indigenous food systems and proposed actions to support their development and sustainability.

A year ago, the First Nations Food Security Council (FNFSC) was established. The council is a collaboration between Indigenous communities, organizations, and governments, with the goal of ensuring that First Nations have access to healthy, culturally appropriate, and affordable food.

A year ago, the FNFSC’s Food Security Action Plan was developed. The plan outlines the actions needed to achieve food security, including the creation of a First Nations Food Security Secretariat.

A year ago, the government announced the creation of the FNFS Secretariat. The secretariat is a new agency that will provide leadership and coordination for the implementation of the Food Security Action Plan.

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