# The Diabetes Prevention Strategy: Community Kitchens and Good Food Boxes



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# Outline

- Background on the North Bay Parry Sound district
- Background on the Diabetes Prevention Strategy
  North Bay Parry Source
- Good Food Box
- Community Kitchens
- Social Marketing Campaign

North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit

**Bureau de santé** 

du district de North Bay-Parry Sound





Health and Long-Term Care, IntelliHEALTH ONTARIO. Date data last refrereshed (January 2012).

# North Bay Parry Sound District Statistics

- Total Aboriginal population of 9,230 or about 7.6 % of district population
- 66% of the total Aboriginal population live offreserve

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Diabetes rates are 3 - 5 times higher in First
Nation population<sup>1</sup>
North Bay Parry Sound District
Health Unit

Background on the Diabetes Prevention Strategy

- Funded by the MOHLTC.
- It is now in its 5<sup>th</sup> of 6 years of funding
- <u>Purpose</u>: To implement community-based primary prevention initiatives to address modifiable risk factors (healthy eating & physical activity) associated with type 2 diabetes

## Recommendations

- Prioritize food access programming (good food box programs, gardening)
- Use social media to engage target population
- Promote programming without labeling as diabetes or chronic disease prevention
- Work with local establishments to increase access to healthy food choices
- Increase participation in physical activity programming

## The Good Food Box

- To promote healthy eating, a Good Food Box program is currently running at 5 sites across the district
- This monthly programs increases access to nutritious vegetables and fruits to over 200 people across the district



## **Getting started**

- One year to move from an idea to an operation
- Start-up supplies: packing boxes, weigh scales, bags, calculators



## Local Needs, Local Solutions

Parry Sound

•North Bay

Sudbury



## EatRight, DrinkWater + GetActive

Onions

### Onions- Veggies with lots of flavour, few calories and plenty of uses.

Begin by choosing onions that are dry on the outside and firm to the touch. The outer skin should be paper-like. One of the easiest ways to keep onions fresh is to store them in the mesh bags they're sold in. The mesh bag allows air circulation. If kept cool, dry and in the dark, onions should last for one month. There are many different colours of onions including yellow (cooking), red, white and green.



Uses for Onions- it's all about flavour! So add yellow, red or white onions to:

- Salads (pasta, bean or greens), sandwich fillings, sandwiches, grilled sandwiches/paninis and burger toppings
- Soups, stews, stir frys, slow cooked casseroles
- Slow roasted beef, pork or moose cooked with sliced or quartered onions
- Sautéed onions in side dishes of veggies: potatoes & onions, cabbage & onions, green beans & onions
- Spaghetti sauces, tomato salsas, relishes and scrambled eggs
- Caramelized onions in soups, dips, quiches/egg dishes and as a pizza topping

stir to lightly coat in the oil. Continue to cook on a medium heat stirring occasionally. They will soften and change colour to become a dark golden. If they begin to stick to the pan add a little water and keep stirring. This may take 30 minutes to 45 minutes. These slow cooked golden onions add colour and a sweet but savory flavour to foods. Store refrigerated in an air tight container, use within several days.

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How to Cut Onions - those natural layers make chopping and dicing easy, once you have got the cutting method.

Peel away the papery layers then slice off the top end. Slice in half from the top end to the root end. Place flat side down, hold at root end and make a series of parallel cuts from the top end to just above the root end using a small, sharp knife (1). Turn 90 degrees and make several close cross cuts to produce finely chopped onion (2, 3, 4).



3

2

## Packing the Good Food Box



Packing Day at the North Bay Friendship Centre with Health Promoter, Shannon Gesualdo, from the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit

## Next Steps...

GFB manual and workbook

• Transfer the ordering component over

Evaluation



## **Community Kitchens**

- June 2013 survey helped to choose the focus of the workshop
- Community kitchen sessions were facilitated at eight different sites in the fall of 2013
- Nutritious take-home meals were prepared, a community meal was prepared together, and each participant received a slow cooker, recipe book and food thermometer

# In action...





### Parry Sound Friendship Center

**Dokis First Nation** 

# **Take Home Meal Stations**



### Slow Cooker Basics

Slow cookers are great for cooking recipes that need a long time to cook at low heat. They can make tough meat tender or cook dried peas and beans. You can put the ingredients in the slow cooker in the morning and come home from work to a well cooked meal. Slow cookers are great for making big batches of food that you can freeze for later or share with family and friends.

- They are usually two main pieces, plus the lid:
  - 1) The metal outside casing/base
  - The ceramic container that fits inside of the metal casing



- The metal outside casing has the electrical coils inside of it that heat up and cook our food. Slow cookers come in many sizes and are usually round or oval shaped. They use a very small amount of energy, so you can safely leave them on when you are away from home.
- The slow cooker has 2 temperature settings:
  - 'Low' setting: usually 200°F (90°C)
  - 'High' setting: usually 300°F (150°C)

One hour on the 'high' setting is equal to about two hours on the 'low' setting.

### Turkey and Wild Rice Soup

Cooking for 4	Cooking for 8	Cooking for 16	Ingredients
1 tsp	2 tsp	4 tsp	Vegetable oil
1⁄2 lb	1lb (500g)	2 lbs	Lean ground turkey
1/2	1	2	Medium onion, coarsely chopped
1/2	1	2	Celery stalks, coarsely chopped
1/2	1	2	Medium carrot, coarsely chopped
1	1	2	Clove of garlic, minced
¼ cup	1 <sup>1</sup> ∕₂ cup	1 cup	Wild rice, uncooked
2 cups (500mL)	4 cups (1L)	8 cups (2L)	Low sodium turkey or chicken broth
2 cups (500mL)	4 cups (1L)	8 cups (2L)	Water
¼ tsp	½ tsp	1 tsp	Each of the following: sage, savory,
			thyme, marjoram, parsley pepper

- In a frying pan, heat the vegetable oil over medium heat. Brown the turkey and break up with a spoon, for about 8 minutes or until no longer pink. Drain off excess fat.
- 2. Transfer turkey to slow cooker and stir in all remaining ingredients.
- 3. Cover and cook on high for 4-5 hours or until rice and vegetables are tender.

## **Follow-up Surveys**



<u>Results</u>: All respondents reported using their slow cooker with **89%** using it more than 4 times since the workshop

Participants from Henvey Inlet First Nation

## Next Steps...

- 2014-2015 year will focus on designing modules that health educators can facilitate themselves
  - Making Soups
  - Healthy Eating on a Budget
  - Quick and easy Meals



- Based on feedback from the Fall 2013 workshops
- Topics are chosen and the Diabetes Prevention Strategy working group is working on them

# Social Marketing/Health Messaging Campaign

Drinking water instead of sugary drinks can help reduce our risk of developing diabetes.

Diabetes is not part of our traditions but neither are sugary drinks. A can of pop has about 10 teaspoons of sugar. An energy drink has about 15 teaspoons of sugar. Reducing our intake of sugary drinks can help keep us healthy and diabetes free.



### Healthy eating can help reduce our risk of developing diabetes.

Diabetes is not part of our traditions but a healthy balanced diet is. Eating vegetables, fruits, and lean meats can help keep us healthy and diabetes free.



### Being active can help reduce our risk of developing diabetes.

Diabetes is not part of our traditions, but today Aboriginal people are 3 times more likely to get diabetes than non-Aboriginals. Being active can help keep us healthy and diabetes free .



### Walking regularly can help reduce our risk of developing diabetes.

Diabetes is not part of our traditions but leading an active life is. Our ancestors walked long distances, hunted, fished, and enjoyed the outdoors. Being active can help keep us healthy and diabetes free.



### Drinking water instead of sugary drinks can help reduce our risk of developing diabetes.

Diabetes is not part of our traditions but neither are sugary drinks. A can of pop has about 10 teaspoons of sugar. An energy drink has about 15 teaspoons of sugar. Reducing our intake of sugary drinks can help keep us healthy and diabetes free.



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