



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE
MESSAGE DU PRÉSIDENT
...page 2

NOUVELLES / NEWS
...page 3

RESEARCH
RECHERCHES
...page 6

PUBLICATIONS
...page 9

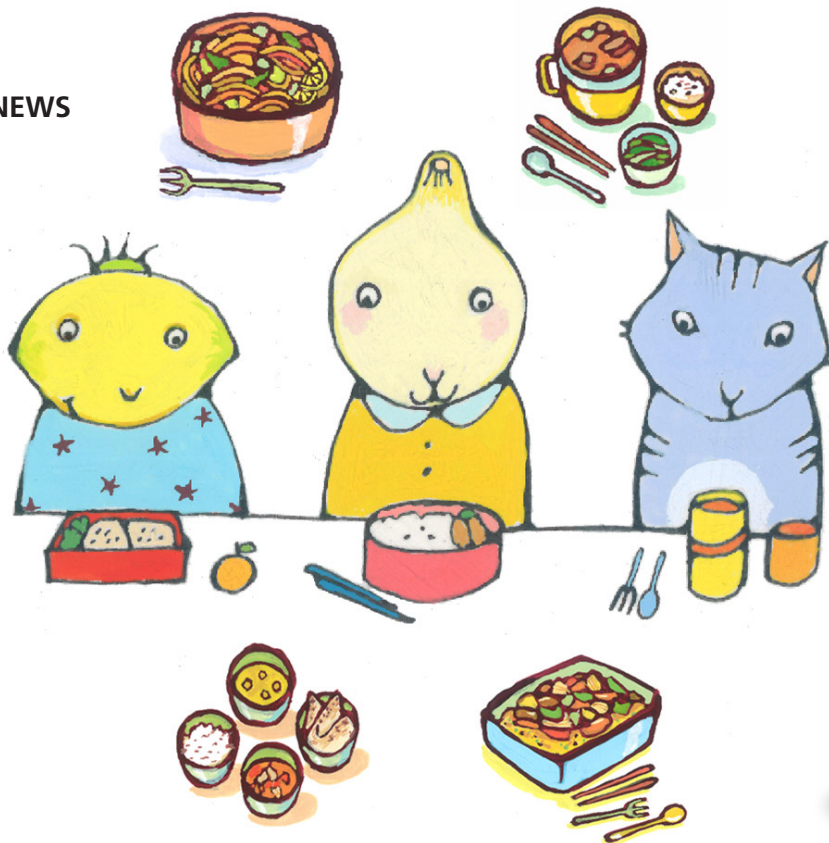


illustration: Sae Kimura
(see page 14)

Hello CAFS members!

Though many of us are no doubt weary under the weight of cascading crises—ongoing racial injustice, climate change, COVID-19, labour precarity—food studies, broadly defined, continues to be a dynamic, robust, and invigorating field of teaching, research, and action. The temptation within this context may be to do too much. The chorus from the students, scholars, and community partners I work with on a regular basis is in near unison: Everyone is tired. I don't mean to belabour this—but it is worth underscoring that, at this point, we might consider exhaustion a structural condition of our particular labour. This is front of mind for me as the new CAFS Board embarks on its two-year term—moving forward with urgency and gentleness.

The outgoing Board left us with an inspiring vision consisting of three areas of emphasis: (a) racial justice



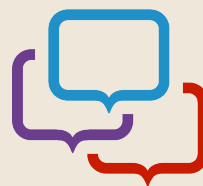
Michael Classens, CAFS Board President

and decolonization, (b) (anti)austerity, and (c) knowledge production and accessibility. More substantive detail can be found in a [collaborative commentary recently published](#) in *Canadian Food Studies*. You'll hear more from us on these vitally important issues in the months ahead.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

MESSAGE DU PRÉSIDENT

of food systems students, scholars, and practitioners. Additionally, I am pleased to announce that in 2022, the annual CAFS conference will once again be held in conjunction with the Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences. The Board is cautiously optimistic that the Federation's recent and planned activities with respect to equity, diversity, inclusion, and decolonization signal a meaningful shift in the right direction. You can read more about these activities [on the Federation website](#).



FEDERATION FOR THE HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Congress will be held virtually between May 12th and 20th. You'll hear more from the Board on the conference in the coming weeks. In the meantime, if you are interested in being a part of the Coordinating Committee this year, [please get in touch with me](#).

With warm regards,

Michael

For now, two brief updates: Michelle Ryan, a PhD Candidate in Sociology at the University of Ottawa, has been hired as the CAFS Social Media Specialist. Michelle's work will help us expand our reach, and engage a broader and more diverse group



Michelle Ryan,
CAFS Social Media Specialist

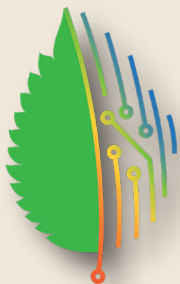
NOUVELLES / NEWS

Greenhouse Technology Network

Access to government funding, project applications, and intake process ongoing

The [Greenhouse Technology Network](#) (GTN) is a consortium of research-focused centres led by Niagara College that help southern Ontarian greenhouse-technology (and related) businesses extend their R&D capabilities and solve challenges. Each of the member research centres—[Niagara College](#), [University of Guelph](#), [Vineland Research and Innovation Centre](#)—can gain access to GTN funding to de-risk eligible technology projects.

Funding can match up to one-to-one on eligible contributions by the business, to a maximum of \$100K matching funding per project. Each research centre has expertise and specialized facilities to support innovation for businesses in controlled environment agriculture. Businesses that are eligible to apply include those developing technologies to support value-added sustainability, market growth, or optimized production in controlled environment agriculture. Applications for funding are now open with ongoing intake. Projects must be completed by April 2024. For more, [email the GTN Project Manager, Rita Sterne](#), or call her at 905-984-0486.



Greenhouse Technology Network

Funded PhD Opportunity

Gender Equity & Agricultural Development in Cuba

This project is funded by the [International Development Research Centre](#). A team of partners from Haiti, Cuba, and Canada will be using participatory action research to address the question, *In what ways can gender-inclusive agricultural research and innovation contribute to the development of equitable, sustainable, and productive agrifood systems that can serve as levers to drive broader economic and societal transformation?*



The PhD position is for someone who can contribute specifically to the Cuba-based research activities, including examination of the gendered dimensions of agroecology and community development programs, and analysis of policies and practices in Cuban agricultural research and education as they relate to gender and inclusion. The work will involve active collaboration with Cuba's National Institute of Agricultural Sciences (INCA) as well as the Agrarian University of Havana and the University of Pinar del Río.

Candidates must have an MA degree in Sociology, Anthropology, Development Studies, or a related field. They must also have strong Spanish language skills, including oral and reading comprehension as well as speaking ability. Experience with participatory or community-engaged research and/or work in Latin America as well as familiarity with issues of gender and agricultural systems are assets. Strong French language skills are also preferred.

The selected candidate can pursue this work through the University of Guelph's [Sociology PhD program](#) (application deadline Jan. 15, 2022), with the option of an [International Development Specialization](#). Alternatively, they can conduct the work as part of a [PhD in Social Practice and Transformational Change](#) (application deadline Jan. 5, 2022). For either program, the work will be supervised by Dr. Erin Nelson.

For more information or to apply for this position, [please email Erin Nelson](#). When applying, send a copy of university transcripts, a CV, a brief letter of intent, and contact details for two references. The selected candidate will then need to apply to their preferred program by the January 2022 deadline.



Lake Superior Living Labs Network

Climate Justice Across the Lake Superior Watershed

In August, the [Lake Superior Living Labs Network](#) hosted the [Climate Action Field School](#), a week-long

experiential training program consisting of virtual workshops, site visits, and events in coastal communities across the Lake Superior Watershed. Field school events, activities, learning and sharing took place within four hub cities in Thunder Bay (Ontario), Sault Ste. Marie (Ontario), Houghton (Michigan), and Duluth (Minnesota), using hybrid virtual and on-site design.

The keynote event, Climate Justice Across the Lake Superior Watershed, [is now available online](#).

The panel showcased stories and perspectives from folks engaged in climate justice across the Lake Superior watershed and beyond. Chúk Odenigbo (Future Ancestors) kicked off the conversation with a keynote address, followed by Shadiya Aidid (Fossil Free Lakehead), Shelby Gagnon (Indigenous Food Circle), and Candace Day Neveau (Baawaating Water Protectors), who shared experiences of their work in climate justice.



University Curriculum Development Study

Instructor Input Wanted

The purpose of this study is to determine what approaches university instructors use to develop and update their course curricula. We are trying to understand the influences, tools and resources, motivations, and barriers that are involved in both the creation and updating of individual course plans. You will be asked about your experiences and the tools you use when developing courses, and any other factors that have an impact on your course development process. If you have taught one or more university-level courses in Canada in the last five years, please participate in [this 10-to-15-minute, anonymous online survey](#). Those who complete the survey can opt to be entered to win a \$50 gift certificate from the retailer of your choice (chances of winning are 1 in 20).

The project is coordinated by Christine Mishra and Shoshanah Jacobs on behalf of the University Curriculum Development Study Team at the University of Guelph. For more information, [please contact the team via email](#).

Étude Développement de Curriculum Universitaire

Contribution des instructeurs/trices recherchée

Le but de cette étude est de déterminer quelles approches les enseignant(e)s universitaires utilisent pour développer et mettre à jour leurs programmes de cours. Nous essayons de comprendre les influences, les outils et les ressources, les motivations et les obstacles qui sont impliqués à la fois dans la création et la mise à jour des plans de cours individuels. Si vous avez enseigné au moins un cours de niveau universitaire au cours des cinq dernières années, [veuillez participer à ce sondage anonyme en ligne](#) d'une durée de 10 à 15 minutes. Ceux qui complètent le sondage peuvent opter de participer au tirage au sort d'un certificat-cadeaux d'une valeur de \$50 chez un commerçant de votre choix (1 chance sur 20 de gagner).

Sondage coordonné par Christine Mishra et Shoshanah Jacobs de l'University Curriculum Development Study Team à l'University of Guelph. Pour plus de renseignements, [veuillez contacter l'équipe via courriel](#).

The logo for the University of Guelph, featuring the word "UNIVERSITY" in a large, bold, serif font, with "of" in a smaller, cursive font, and "GUELPH" in a large, bold, serif font below it. The entire logo is set against a white background with a thin black border.



RESEARCH / RECHERCHES

What's in your school lunchbox?

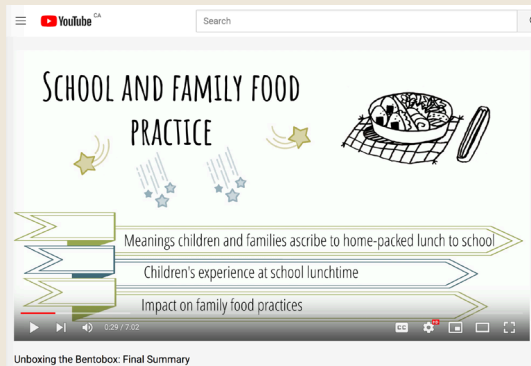
Food has profound symbolic values that shape one's cultural identity. For immigrant families in Canada, food often plays a crucial role to maintain their emotional ties to "home" and preserve their culinary identities across generations. But school food environments shaped by dominant food norms can produce a feeling of shame and embarrassment for children whose food practices are not in tune.

Lunchbox Shaming: Asian Immigrant Families' Perspectives on Canadian School Food Environment is an arts-informed research project that explores how children, youth, and their families from three Asian visible minority groups (Chinese, Indian, Filipino) describe their experiences at school lunch time in Canada. The project is led by [Dr. Yukari Seko](#) at Ryerson University, and is funded by the Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada Insight Development Grant (2020–22).

The team [had a busy summer interviewing youth](#) about their school lunch experiences when they were

young, with 23 people having joined the study since July 2021. We are currently looking for 5 to 10 more participants, especially those who identify with Chinese culture. If you know anyone who may be interested, [please pass on our recruitment info](#).

The write-up of the pilot for this project (with Japanese immigrant children and parents), "[Unboxing the Bentobox](#)," is part of the current issue of *Canadian Food Studies*. The study used an arts-informed participatory design to explore the experience of school-aged children (6 to 12 years old) of Japanese origin bringing Japanese food to school in Toronto. Check out the [paper abstract](#) and [video summary](#)!



Diversity by Design

Emergent agricultural technologies for small-scale farming

This project, led by Dr. Kelly Bronson (CRC, [uOttawa Science & Society Collective](#)), aims to better understand how emergent technologies in the agri-food sector might be used to foster a diverse agricultural food production landscape, as well as their limits in terms of application and ethical issues. This includes technical and policy adaptations that would be needed to facilitate uptake of these technologies. Innovation in big data, artificial intelligence, sensor technologies, and drones are often advanced as ways to help address challenges such as global food insecurity and climate change. Yet the development and use of many such tools raise challenges of their own, including high prices and the



benefiting of some food system actors over others. Other concerns relate to the ownership of farm data (collected by machinery) and the infrastructure and skillsets needed by farmers to operate such systems. A further issue regards how technology interrelates with equity-seeking groups such as women in agriculture, as well as with extant claims to land by Indigenous peoples.

[Diversity by Design](#) takes a participatory approach, using qualitative research methods including design workshops, webinars, qualitative interviews, and farm visits. We aim to create a space for engagement among farmers and technology developers, policymakers, and researchers. These engagements have the potential for various interest groups to better understand if, how, and what kind of (digital) technologies can best serve small-scale farmers in their agricultural practices.

Part of this research involves [an online survey of Ontario and Québec farmers](#). Participants will receive a \$10 gas station gift card once they finish the survey. For more information, [go to the project website](#).

Collaborators: Kelly Bronson, Olivia Doggett, Mascha Gugganig, Sarah Marquis, Jason Millar, Irena Knezevic, David Szanto

Preparing for food security after COVID-19

Strengthening equity and resiliency in future emergency response in Toronto

This SSHRC-funded partnership brings together scholars from [X University's Centre for Studies in Food Security](#) (CSFS) and the City of Toronto's [Poverty Reduction Strategy Office](#). It aims to enhance the existing capacity of the municipal government in assessing

Building Back Better: Centering Community Voices in Toronto's Food Security Response, Present and Future



Centre for Studies
in Food Security
Faculty of Community Services



how vulnerable neighbourhoods and food security organizations responded to the initial and residual impacts of COVID-19. It also seeks to bridge gaps in local and expert knowledge, necessary for developing an emergency preparedness strategy for future food-system shocks and for upholding the city's resilience and equity goals. Specific objectives of this research are to:

- investigate the responses of communities and organizations, to address heightened food insecurity during the outbreak and recovery in the City of Toronto
- assess emergency response preparedness in food security practice in other cities to evaluate how equity and resiliency concerns are considered
- broker local and expert knowledge on the impacts of the COVID-19 response on the resiliency and equity of Toronto's food systems
- inform and strengthen food-system practice and policy in future emergency response

On October 14, 2021, our team delivered a community-centred knowledge mobilization event "Building Back Better: Centering Community Voices in Toronto's Food Security Response." The event highlighted the prelimi-

nary findings from the project and placed a spotlight on work led by community-based organizations and initiatives across the City of Toronto. The event included breakout sessions that focussed on discussions surrounding self-determination, community food sovereignty, the funding landscape, and equitable and resilient food futures. The event hosted over 100 participants, most of whom

were community-based leaders who had been involved in community-based food programming, before and throughout the pandemic crisis. Recordings of the event will soon be available through the [Centre for Studies in Food Security](#).

Contributors: Sara Edge, Jenelle Regnier-Davies, Mustafa Koç, Joseph Nasr, Nicole Austin, Melanie Hoi, Ashante Daley, and the The Poverty Reduction Strategy Office, City of Toronto. For more information, go to [the project web page](#).

Seeking Co-conspirators

This year's food studies mega-conference reminded us that it's never *just* about the food. Whether socio-cultural, materio-semiotic, or historico-political, food *does things*. But the reverse also holds true. Outside of food studies context, it seems that *everything but the food* is discussed and analyzed.

I'm thinking specifically of microbiome studies, which attempt to map the consortia of microbes in and on individual bodies. Studies about microbial ecologies

move away from biomedicine's longstanding practice of targeting a singular causal agent to examine complex ecologies. [A recent study published by high-profile names](#) in microbiome research found that eating high-fiber foods (as prebiotics) and fermented foods (as probiotics) can boost immune responses and decrease inflammatory responses. While this confirms what people in many food cultures have known for centuries, this study quantifies what to consume: 0.6 servings.

"What the heck is a serving?!" you may ask. A dig into the supplementary materials shows that the range of foods that can be consumed include yogurt, kefir, and kombucha. But some of the questions left out are: Who made it? When? How? And how was it cooked or prepared prior to consumption? Was it eaten with fats or alcohols? This move to abstraction is an opportunity for food scholars to do what we do best: work across disciplines.



As I chomp my way through the literature and conference CFPs, I'm calling for what might provisionally be called "critical microbiome studies." This means

better integrating social theory and food studies, to understand the connections between human ecologies, microbial ecologies, and the interdependent social practices from which 'being well' emerges. I'm looking for co-conspirators who might be interested in presenting at future conferences, putting together funding proposals, or gathering as a working group. If there's one place where I have hope for this to happen, it's with food people who understand the valences of both "it's never just about the food" and "it all comes down to the food." If you are interested, please [get in touch with me via email](#).
—Maya Hey

PUBLICATIONS

Ecolabeled Seafood and Sustainable Consumption in the Canadian Context

The concept of sustainable consumption is a much-debated practice that has been seen as an outcome of the emergence of *ecological citizenship*—a concept that brings together the citizen and the environment in a framework that is underlined by social justice considerations and incorporates a vision of citizenship that involves both the private sphere and the public sphere of human activity. This study examines Canadian consumer awareness and uptake of certified sustainable seafood. We introduce the concepts *ecological citizenship* and *sustainable consumption* as a way of framing our research. Seafood ecolabels may be a valuable tool in translating general environmental concern about the marine environment into more sustainable fisheries practices. We conducted an on-site consumer survey in the Greater Toronto Area and a nearby city. Our findings showed that in contrast to high levels of aware-

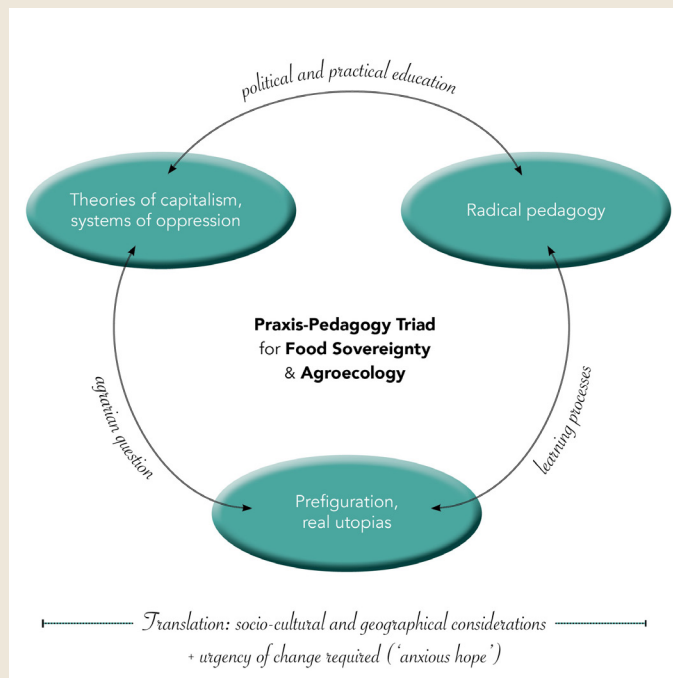
ness of the importance of the marine environment and the sustainability of seafood, consumers had a limited understanding about the meaning of sustainability in the case of seafood, and little knowledge about actual ecolabels found in the Canadian marketplace. Attitudes towards the marine environment and sustainable seafood, understanding of the meaning of seafood sustainability, and purchasing behaviors of sustainable seafood were significantly different by some socio-demographic characteristics. Positive attitudes towards the marine environment and sustainable seafood and better understanding of seafood sustainability were significantly associated with the increased purchasing of ecolabeled seafood. Lack of understanding of ecolabels, limited information about product sustainability, and lack of in-store guidance were identified as key barriers to purchasing ecolabeled seafood products.

Winson, A., J.Y. Choi, D. Hunter & C. Ramsundar. "Ecolabeled seafood and sustainable consumption in the Canadian context: issues and insights from a survey of seafood consumers." *Maritime Studies* (Sept. 2021). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40152-021-00245-y>

Food Sovereignty and Agroecology Praxis in a Capitalist Setting

The Need for a Radical Pedagogy

This article analyzes the potential for anti-capitalist politics to 'translate' among food sovereignty proponents in Canada. I argue that a crucial tool for advancing food sovereignty and agroecology in the country will be radical pedagogy—and specifically political education efforts that advance both critical analyses of capitalism and prefigurative (post-capitalist) socio-economic arrangements. I offer a vision of a 'praxis-pedagogy



triad' that illustrates how instances of agroecological prefiguration may relate to critical theories of capitalist political economy and the agrarian question, as well as radical pedagogies that will help a counter-hegemonic food sovereignty translate in a capitalist context.

Dale, B. 2021. "Food Sovereignty and Agroecology Praxis in a Capitalist Setting: The Need for a Radical Pedagogy." *The Journal of Peasant Studies*, pp. 1–28. <https://doi.org/10.1080/03066150.2021.1971653>

Tipping the Scales

Across the many realms that food entangles, the issue of scale plays a critical role. When we overlook it in scholarship, food issues tend to become siloed, problematizing our outcomes and understandings. Playing



with scale is a way to queer our view of the normal, usefully revealing new ways of perceiving reality. In this photo-assemblage, I attempt to prompt such re-imaginings. Accompanying haikus offer my own take on what I see, but are also intended to invite speculative difference. The images come from a multiyear history of research-creation projects focused on a range of food themes. Together, they form a metonymic echo of a research trajectory, while also suggesting the long, long timelines of food knowledge creation.

Szanto, D. 2021. "Tipping the Scales." [Gastronomica: The Journal for Food Studies](#) 21(4), pp. 82–83

Bridging Agrarianism

The Potential of Value-Added Craft Cider Production to Support Rural Livelihoods in the Pacific Northwest

Against the decades-long trend of aging farmers and farmland consolidation in the U.S. and Canada, value-added farm production has been pitched as a lifeline to provide viable rural livelihoods for younger

generations. How do producers perceive the possibilities and limitations of value-added craft production in supporting agrarian livelihoods? This article draws on in-depth interviews and ethnographic data with cidemakers in the Pacific Northwest. I find that while craft cider has helped buffer some producers against the volatility of selling raw fruit to large commodity markets, the benefits of this niche market do not widely support continued primary production or farm succession. I underscore the emergence of a livelihood strategy I refer to as "bridging agrarianism" among young cidemakers who wish to maintain a connection to agriculture but are shifting away from full-time farming due to lifestyle preferences and economic constraints. Bridging agrarianism is manifest in modest forms of on-site production that carry great symbolic weight. This study provides insight into how current generations of agriculturalists are developing new strategic responses to the political-economic challenges of farming.

Weiler, A.M. 2021. "Bridging Agrarianism: The Potential of Value-Added Craft Cider Production to Support Rural Livelihoods in the Pacific Northwest." *Rural Sociology*.

[Read the article.](#)



Photo by [JK Sloan](#) on Unsplash



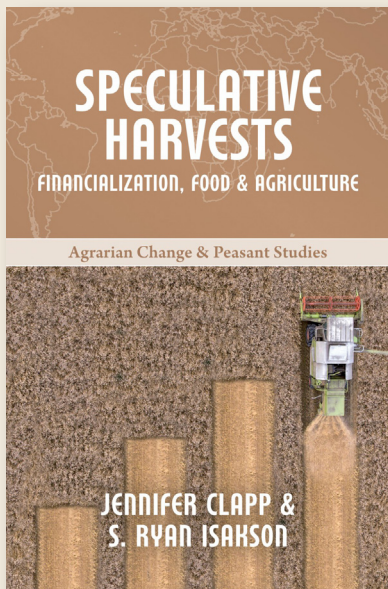
On the Cover

Toronto-based Sae Kimura is an artist of Japanese heritage who created these illustrations for Yukari Seko's Lunchbox Shaming research project. Kimura is also the co-facilitator of a series of bento box art workshops, conducted with children, which form part of the Lunchbox research. To see more of Kimura's art, go to her website at esalalamu.com.



Speculative Harvests

In *Speculative Harvests*, Jennifer Clapp and Ryan Isakson investigate the evolving relationship between the agrifood and financial sectors, paying particular attention to how the contemporary process of financialization is reshaping agrarian development and food systems. Understood as the growing prevalence of financial actors, markets, motives, and profits in an economy, financialization is a defining feature of modern-day capitalism that is reconfiguring the distribution of wealth and economic power in a variety of contexts across the globe. In a clear and accessible manner, Clapp and Isakson explain the character and ramifications of these changes for the world food economy and systematically detail how different elements of agrifood provisioning—including commodity trading, farmland tenure, the management of agricultural risk, and food trading, processing, and retailing—have been reconfigured for financial purposes. Clapp and Isakson highlight the importance of confronting the financialization of



food and agriculture, identify the challenges of conventional approaches to food system reform and consider innovative alternatives. *Speculative Harvests* is essential reading for food scholars and activists who not only seek a better understanding of the problems inherent to the contemporary food system but also are also in search of effective interventions towards its positive transformation. *Speculative Harvests* was republished in 2021 and is [now available as an open access ebook](#).



CFS/RCÉA is pleased to announce some additions to the Editorial Collective, complementing the existing team:

- Management Staff: Alyson Holland and Alexia Moyer
- Co-Editors-in-Chief (shared role): Rachel Engler-Stringer, Charles Levkoe, and Marit Rosol
- Associate Editors: Élisabeth Abergel, Mary Beckie, Melanie Bedore, Jennifer Brady, Maya Hey, Philip Loring, Ryan Phillips (Book Review Editor), Sherry Pictou, Elaine Power, Shailesh Shukla, Martha Stiegman, and David Szanto

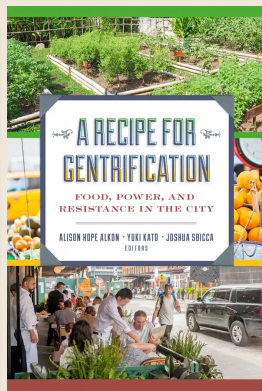
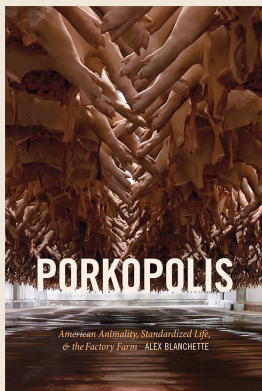
To submit a commentary, article, review, audio-visual piece, interview, or other research outcome, [go to the journal website](#).

Check out the latest issues of *Canadian Food Studies!*

[The imperative to transform global food systems](#)

(Vol. 8 No. 3)

This issue features an editorial by Philip Loring, a Commentary by the CAFS board of directors, a Perspective on fenced community gardens, book reviews of *Porkopolis* and *A Recipe for Gentrification*, and an Interview with the great Wayne Roberts. Five new research articles round out the issue, focused on Japanese families' experiences during school lunch-time, food pedagogy and social change, student food security and perceived health, Canadian school food programs, and food insecurity, shame, stigma, and social exclusion among women in high-income countries.



[FLEdGE Partnership](#) (Vol. 8 No. 2)

The Food: Locally Embedded, Globally Engaged (FLEdGE) SSHRC-funded Partnership has deep roots in relationships developed over time among academics and community-based practitioners. FLEdGE emerged from community-driven research in Ontario on food hubs and community resilience dating from 2010. From there it expanded to include seven research nodes across

Canada and three thematic international working groups, with over 90 researchers, students, and community partners involved in the project. The nine papers in this FLEdGE-themed section provide an opportunity to reflect on and question the Good Food Principles, the co-evolution of the food landscape in Canada, and accompanying research.

[O is for open](#) (Vol. 8 No. 1)

Much as we might like to think of the academy as an enlightened domain of pure knowledge creation, it is inextricably linked to financial and corporate influences. The business of academic publishing is a complex ecosystem of actors, processes, expectations, and perversions. Many of us have encountered—indeed, reinforced—such entanglements. But when we start to unpack this system, it can present some pretty nefarious effects. Within the morass of issues, advocates for Open are trying to imagine another way of doing things. Open education and open educational resources (OER), open publishing, and open distribution are all part of the ecosystem of open knowledge.



DE L'ÉQUIPE DE L'INFOLETTRE FROM THE NEWSLETTER TEAM

Merci à toutes celles et ceux qui ont contribué à ce numéro de l'infolettre. Bonne continuation de vos recherches !

Thanks to everyone who contributed to this issue of the newsletter. Keep up your good work!