

## Communications Office

Peterborough County-City Health Unit  
10 Hospital Drive  
Peterborough, ON K9J 8M1  
(705) 743-1000, ext. 391  
[www.pcchu.ca](http://www.pcchu.ca)



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# Health Unit Adds More Food Handler Training Courses

*Courses Offered Free of Charge to Local Residents from February 15 to March 31*

**Thursday, February 3, 2011, Peterborough**

The Peterborough County-City Health Unit is encouraging as many local residents as possible to attend their Food Handler Training and Certification Course by offering additional courses between February 15 and March 31 at no charge.

"The province has partnered with us to increase the number of training courses in advance of the proposed bylaw requiring food premises to have at least one certified food handler on staff at all times," said Tom Cathcart, Manager of Inspection Services. "This is also a great opportunity to build the overall skill and knowledge level related to proper food handling and safety in our community."

Last month, the Board of Health endorsed a draft bylaw which calls for restaurants and other food premises to have at least one person who has taken this course present at all times when food is being prepared. The draft bylaw will go to City and County Councils for review shortly.

The Food Handler Training and Certification Course is taught by a Public Health Inspector and covers topics such as basic microbiology, safe food handling techniques, personal hygiene and cleaning and sanitizing. The goal of the course is to provide students with the knowledge necessary to prevent food borne illness. The course concludes with an exam. Successful participants receive a certificate in safe food handling which is valid throughout the province for five years.

A full listing of upcoming courses is provided below. Students are especially encouraged to take advantage of the courses running during March Break. All courses run at the Parkway Banquet Hall located at 1135 Lansdowne Street West. Courses are offered free of charge and include course manual, morning tea and coffee and free parking. Students can bring their own lunch or lunch can be preordered from the Parkway Banquet Hall for \$9.00 and includes soup, sandwich and a drink. Maximum number of participants is 30 people per course.

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To register for the course, please call Brenda Moore at the Peterborough County-City Health Unit at (705) 743-1000, ext. 232.

### Food Handler Training and Certification Course Schedule

**\*Each course takes place at the Parkway Banquet Hall, 1135 Lansdowne St. W.**

- Tuesday, February 15, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Wednesday, February 23, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Thursday, February 24, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Thursday, March 3, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Friday, March 4, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Saturday, March 5, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Tuesday, March 8, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Tuesday, March 8 and Thursday, March 10 from 6 to 9 p.m. (two evenings = one course)
- Wednesday, March 9, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Thursday, March 10, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Tuesday, March 15, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Wednesday, March 16, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Course dates may change based on minimum registration and new dates will be added in March to accommodate demand. Please check [www.pcchu.ca](http://www.pcchu.ca) or call (705) 743-1000 for updates.

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**For further information contact:**  
Chris Eaton, Public Health Inspector  
(705) 743-1000 ex. 225