



# TOOWOOMBA FOOD FORUM

**Thursday 11th August, 9.30am - 5.30pm**  
**Armitage Centre, Empire Theatre**  
**56 Neil Street Toowoomba.**

Let's start a conversation about how food, farming and tourism can build solid economic foundations in rural and regional areas. Join us for a full day forum with special international guests Anthony Flaccavento from SCALE in the United States and Kathryn Scharf from Community Food Centres in Canada and our own local identities from both the Hampton and Felton Festivals and local producers, while we discuss, present and question what might be possible for our regions.

This event is for growers, industry, Government and consumers who want to start discussing what our food future may look like.

There will be a special launch at 5pm from YWCA REAP Program, supported by OzHarvest.

TIME	WHAT	PRESENTED BY	LENGTH
9.30am	Welcome	Josie Townsend	5 mins
9.35am	Welcome to Country	Local Aboriginal Elder	10 mins
9.45am	Keynote address - Food Hubs in the US: Lessons, Enablers, Opportunities	Anthony Flaccavento (SCALE - Sequestering Carbon, Accelerating Local Economies in the U.S. - <a href="http://www.ruralscale.com">www.ruralscale.com</a> )	40 mins
10.30am	Morning tea	Local produce	30 mins
11.00am	Local producer stories	Greg Dennis (TBC) aka Farmer Gregie	30 mins
11.30am	Local Food Tourism Panel	Linda Tillman (Australian Regional Tourism Network, Tilma Group), Wendy Allen (Hampton Food & Arts Festival), Helen Lewis (South West QLD Regional Food Network), Councillor Geoff McDonald (TRC), Mary-Clare Power (Southern Queensland Country Tourism). Facilitated by Josie Townsend	60 mins
12.30pm	Lunch		60 mins
1.30pm	Community Food Centres in Canada: Beyond Foodbanks	Kathryn Scharf (Community Food Centres, Canada - <a href="http://www.cfccanada.ca">www.cfccanada.ca</a> )	30 mins
2pm.	Food Hubs and Economic Development Panel	Kathryn Scharf, Anthony Flaccavento, Linda Tillman, Sally McCreath (Felton Food Festival), Sarah Pinchbeck/Gopi Krishnan (OzHarvest), Rob Pekin (FoodConnect). Facilitated by Josie Townsend	45 mins
2.45pm	Sum-up and Thank you	Josie Townsend	15 mins
2.50pm	Reap Project	Sarah Pinchbeck/Gopi Krishnan (OzHarvest)	10 mins
3pm	Invite attendees to see markets	My Local Feast Farmers' Markets	2 hours
5pm	Launch of YWCA REAP Program	Foyer of Armitage Centre	30 mins

## EVENTS INCLUDE:

### **A LOCAL FEAST (Wednesday, 10th August - 7pm)**

Intimate locally grown, two-course dinner with Kathryn Scharf and other local foodies at Preston Peak Winery

**\$85.00 (+A\$4.25 fee)**

### **TOOWOOMBA FOOD FORUM (Thursday, 11th August - 9.30 to 5.30pm)**

A full day program of keynote speeches, interactive panel discussions and networking.

**\$110.00 (+A\$5.50 fee)** Please contact the organisers for group bookings of 10 or more.

## SPEAKERS:



### **ANTHONY FLACCAVENTO:**

Anthony Flaccavento, farmer, author, trainer and social entrepreneur, of SCALE - Sequestering Carbon, Accelerating Local Economies - is our keynote speaker from the United States. His new book, Building a Healthy Economy from the Bottom Up: Harnessing Real World Experience for Transformative Change, is being published in the United States this month.



### **KATHRYN SCHARF:**

Kathryn Scharf, Chief Operating Officer for Community Food Centres, Canada, is our keynote presenter from Ontario. Kathryn spent six years working with Nick Saul at the Stop, which became famous for transforming the foodbank model from one of charity and dependence to a place of empowerment and dignity. She is now working with government, philanthropy and business to take the Community Food Centre approach to the national level through the national network of Good Food Organisations.

**For more information on this National Tour go to: [www.eepurl.com/b4LymH](http://www.eepurl.com/b4LymH)**

### **FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:**

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\*This program was correct at the time of publication and is subject to change without further notice.