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1-29-2007

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University Relations, "Rescheduled - Collin Peterson to sponsor The Home Grown Economy conference at UMM" (2007). *Campus News Archive*. 910.

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Rescheduled - Collin Peterson to sponsor The Home Grown Economy conference at UMM

Summary: To be rescheduled, possibly in April.

In an effort to address and explore how local foods can be an economic development engine for rural communities, Congressman Collin Peterson has announced that he is sponsoring a conference called The Home Grown Economy: Foods from Local Farms as an Economic Development Tool.

(January 29, 2007)-To be rescheduled, possibly in April.

(WASHINGTON, DC) – In an effort to address and explore how local foods can be an economic development engine for rural communities, Congressman Collin Peterson has announced that he is sponsoring a conference called The Home Grown Economy: Foods from Local Farms as an Economic Development Tool.

“We’re seeing a demand for more locally grown foods available in grocery stores, and also for consumption in restaurants, schools and hospitals,” Peterson said. “There are opportunities to keep our local economy strong by using farmers to supply their neighbors with food direct. Localized supply chains, or new value chains, can provide opportunities for profit for rural entrepreneurs and main street businesses that want to participate in processing and distribution of food. My goal in sponsoring this conference is to provide an opportunity to learn about and explore how these new value chains can become an economic development engine for our communities.”

The conference will be held on February 26 at the University of Minnesota, Morris, and is being held in conjunction with the University of Minnesota, the Minnesota Institute of Sustainable Agriculture, Northwest and West Central Regional Sustainable Development Partnership, U of M Morris, U of M Extension Service, and the West Central Research and Outreach Center.

For more information about the conference, or to register, go to [Regional Partnerships](#).

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