Our Winnipeg Plan response:
Presentation to Executive Policy Committee of Council

The Winnipeg Food Policy Working Group is made up of volunteers from a diverse range of organizations including: the Aboriginal Council of Winnipeg, the Canadian Community Economic Development Network, Food Matters Manitoba, Food Secure Canada, Resource Conservation Manitoba, North End Community Renewal Corporation, University of Manitoba, West Broadway Development Corporation and the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority.

Together with City of Winnipeg staff, we have been working toward the establishment of a Winnipeg Food Policy Council in order to achieve a just and sustainable food system in Winnipeg. The Winnipeg Food Policy Working Group has actively contributed to the SpeakUp Winnipeg process through written submissions and through direct participation in the food security forum.

We are pleased to see the Draft Our Winnipeg include Direction 8 under "Vitality:"

"working through community partnerships, respond to food needs as identified by communities."

The Winnipeg Food Policy Working Group believes a structure needs to be put in place to carry out the enabling strategies that have been identified in the draft plan to meet this important direction. To that end, ***the Winnipeg Food Policy Working Group recommends that the City of Winnipeg establish a Food Policy Council***. The Council would provide a mechanism through which the City of Winnipeg can work through community partnerships to respond to food needs as identified by communities.

More specifically, a Winnipeg Food Policy Council would act as an advisory body comprised of stakeholders from all aspects of Winnipeg's food system. It would meet regularly to raise and discuss food-related challenges and opportunities, and to develop and recommend policies, programs and services toward the creation of a just and sustainable food system. A Winnipeg Food Policy Council would provide a hub to coordinate municipal work on food security, foster cooperation between municipal departments on food issues, encourage citizen involvement in the food system, and provide key knowledge and expertise to improve food security in Winnipeg.

Several Canadian municipalities have successfully established Food Policy Councils and Winnipeg should be no exception. Over 35 organizations support our call for a Winnipeg Food Policy Council. These include, Social Planning Council of Winnipeg, Institute for Urban Studies, Winnipeg Harvest, and Farmers Market Association of Manitoba. A complete list of endorsing organizations is provided in our package of materials.

The Winnipeg Food Policy Working Group appreciates the opportunity to contribute to the planning process and looks forward to partnering with the City as we all work towards achieving a just and sustainable food system in Winnipeg.

For more information:

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Winnipeg Food Policy Council Endorsing Organizations

Organizational Supporters	Contact Person
A Rocha	Jen Kornelson
Aboriginal Council of Winnipeg	Damon Johnston
Aurora Farms	Louise May
Campaign for Pesticide Reduction*	Kristle Calisto-Tavares
Canadian CED Network-Manitoba	Kirsten Bernas
Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives-Manitoba	Shauna McKinnon
Chemical Sensitivites Manitoba*	Kristle Calisto-Tavares
Child Nutrition Council of Manitoba	Norma Alberg
Community Financial Counselling Services of Winnipeg	Paula Keirstead
Daniel McIntyre-St Mathews Community Association	Robyn Webb
Dietitians of Canada	Corinne Eisenbraun
Farmers Market Association of Manitoba	Dianna Mae Hocaluk
Food Matters Manitoba	Paul Chorney
Food Secure Canada	Glen Koroluk
Fresh Options Organic Delivery	Marnie Feeleus
Harvest Moon Society	Robyn Webb
Healthy Start for Mom and Me	Davorka Monti
Institute of Urban Studies-University of Winnipeg	Karina Cordova
IRCOM	Jim Beckta
Klinic Community Health Centre*	Kristle Calisto-Tavares
Landless Farmers Collective	Coral Maloney
Manitoba Eco-Network*	Anne Lindsey
Manitoba Migrant Worker Solidarity Network	Jennifer deGroot
Millenium Gardens	Darlene Karp
Organic Food Council of Manitoba	Janine Gibson
Point Douglas Residents' Committee	Chris McCarville
Pregnancy and Family Support Services Inc.	Cassandra
Resource Conservation Manitoba	Josh Brandon
Social Planning Council of Winnipeg*	Donald Benham
St Mathews Anglican Church	Cathy Campbell
St Norbert Arts Centre	Louise May
The Children's Health and Environment Partnership of Manitoba	Kristle Calisto-Tavares
UNPAC	Jennifer deGroot
Wahbung Abinoonjiiag	Patty Parsons
West Broadway Development Corporation	Molly McCracken
Winnipeg Harvest	Donald Benham

*Members of Children's Health and Environment Partnership

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